



# Cambourne Exiles Rugby Football Club

## Minutes

6<sup>th</sup> October 2009

7:30pm, The Monkfield Arms, Cambourne.

### 1. Apologies

Received in advance from Bob Cox, Darren Macey, Mark Griffiths, Mark Kathro.

### Attending.

Mark Lisher (Chairman), Neil Ingham (Hon. Secretary), Steve Brudenell (Fixures Secretary), Ian Manley, Ben Yeats, Henry Grain, Pete Dreuit, Paul Greaves

### 2. To review the minutes from the meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> August 2009.

The minutes were accepted as a true account of the meeting.

### 3. Matters arising / Update of Actions

No matter arising from the minutes. Actions #'s 2, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14 & 17 were completed and closed. Action #'s 3, 11, 15 & 16 remain open.

### 4. Officer Reports

#### Chairman

**ML** reported training is going well, with a good team spirit despite frustrations at losses in matches. Coaches need to direct players focus into play, not at the referee. New players are enjoying their experience and keep coming back!

#### Secretary

**NI** expressed continuing frustrating with CPC at the apparent lack of progress with the promised storage container and sports centre facilities. **NI** is also pushing CPC for clarification on pitch / court hire charges made by the village sports clubs.

#### Treasurer

**NI** reported on behalf of the Treasurer that club finances remain healthy despite the outstanding ECRU grant funds, and that the first payment of the annual subs is now due for immediate payment.

#### Fixtures Secretary

**SB** reported that the forthcoming fixture against Shelford 5's has been confirmed. The postponed Ely fixture will hopefully be rescheduled and played. **SB** reported that Ross McEwan will hopefully become the Exiles referee for CUDRRS.

### 5. Coaching

**PG** reported that good numbers are in attendance at training but there appear to be some problems in converting these numbers into weekend availability. **PG** suggested more game-orientated drill in training whilst not forgetting about individual skills. Alex Skinley (L2-trained) will be invited to coach the club.

## 6. Sponsorship

**PG** discussed fundraising opportunities for charity as well as the club. Mark Kathro will be raising funds for Cancer Research by taking part in a 10km fun run, helped by contributions from club players through wearing pink socks for the Shelford match.

**PG** and **MK** will investigate options for an end-of-season tour and sponsorship opportunities for tour shirts.

**PG** will continue to develop options for charitable fund-raising. Of the events discussed a "Row-the-Cam" race outside Morrisons seemed to garner the most support. **ML** recommended that any such events should raise the club's profile as well as raising funds for charity.

## 7. International Tickets

**NI** proposed a policy for allocation of international tickets. This was approved by those present and signed off.

### Any other Business

**BY** proposed Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup> for the club Xmas Dinner at the Monkfield Arms.

**IM** told those present he will be departing for 18 months travelling on Feb 6<sup>th</sup> and suggested a farewell drink or 12, before leaving.

**PD** asked to borrow the OXO shirts for a schools tournament. This request was OK'd.

**BY** proposed a social in Cambridge on November 21<sup>st</sup> for Georg Steffes to host a visit from his German friends.

**NI** confirmed that Peter Simpson had been offered a role as a club Vice-President, and that Peter has accepted the offer as was looking forward to his ambassadorial role.

**ML** brought the meeting to a close by saying that the club needs to regain some of its' focus. There is a need for focus and discipline right from the start of match days. The match day dress code will be reintroduced immediately and regular "man-of-the-match" awards must be made to help to encourage new players and overall team spirit.

**Next Meeting.** Suggested date – Tuesday November 17<sup>th</sup> 2009. Monkfield Arms 7:30pm.  
Minutes for this meeting prepared by **NI** (01.11.09)

After some concerns were raised about match cancellations and training, another small meeting was held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup>, with **ML, NI, MG, SB, BC** and **DM** in attendance.

**BC** allayed concerns over recent match cancellations with the news that low player numbers on some weekends was generally a result of work and family commitment and injuries.

After discussion by those present, it was confirmed that:-

**Team selection** remains the role of the Captain. The Captain will take advice from coaches before selection, but the decision on player position and team structure will be made by the Captain and the Captain shoulders the responsibility for these decisions.

**Training Sessions** will be reviewed. The membership will be polled on whether to keep to a single Wednesday night session, or to move to 2 nights a week, with Thursday nights becoming the priority session for team training and Tuesday nights focussing on fitness and individual skills.

**Coaching** will be organised as follows. Alex Skinley will coach team strategy, tactics and shape; Pete Druitt will coach Attack & Backs; Paul Greaves will coach Defence & Forwards, Howard Smith will coach Lineouts; Darren Macey will coordinate coaching and focus on fitness & skills. Sessions will be better planned and structured and depend on issues arising from recent performances, adapting to differing needs from week-to-week.