



Cambourne Exiles Rugby Football Club

Minutes

7th April 2010

8:30pm, The Monkfield Arms, Cambourne.

1. Apologies

Received from Alec Motts, Dan Sundler, Mark Lisher, Paul Greaves, Darren Macey.

Attending : Neil Ingham (Hon. Sec.), Mark Griffiths (Treasurer), Steve Brudenell (Fixtures Sec.), Peter Simpson, George Harrison, Ben Yeats, Bob Cox, Alex Skinley, Dave Hatrick.

2. To review the minutes from the meeting of 2nd March 2010.

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

3. Matters arising / Update of Actions

#15/23. Paul Greaves to organise 2 fund-raising events. *Action abandoned as inactive.*

#16. Bob Cox & Darren Macey to work on publicity. No action to date. *Action remains open.*

#20. Neil Ingham has received the £400 ECRU grant and organised payment of 09-10 subs to ECRU and Cambs. *Action closed as complete.*

#24. Neil Ingham arranged with Peter Dreuit to return the OXO shirts. The shirts are now with Darren Macey. *Action closed as complete.*

#25. Mark Griffiths & Bob Cox to receive payment of debts. *Action closed as complete.*

#26. Alex Skinley & Bob Cox to notify players of training change. *Action closed as complete.*

#27. Bob Cox to provide costing to equip the container for storage. *Action in progress.*

#28. Alex Skinley & Bob Cox to provide a complete inventory of club equipment. *Action closed as complete.* Inventory passed on to the committee.

#29. Neil Ingham to contact Ben Yeats on progress for End of Season Dinner. Progress report – see below. *Action closed as complete.*

#30. Neil Ingham to arrange the AGM. *Action closed as complete.*

4. Officer Reports

Secretary. NI reported progress towards a clubhouse. **NI** has contacted all Cambourne sports clubs to encourage them to send representation to a meeting with the Parish Council Leisure & Amenities committee on Tuesday 13th April. It is hoped that a working group will be set up, comprising members of CPC and the sports clubs, to investigate the possibility of developing the Great Cambourne Clubhouse independently of MCA. **MG** will attend this meeting on behalf of the Rugby Club.

Treasurer. MG reported that the club is still running at a deficit (£716) for the current season. This is mainly due to increased pitch hire costs and purchase of kit stocks. Further sponsorship funding is expected to be received by the end of the season. The final payment for 6-nations tickets is still outstanding [but was received the day after the meeting]. Match fees are currently covering pitch hire costs, but there is a need to put a proposal to the AGM to increase subs for the coming season. There was a general feeling by those in attendance that fees must be increased for 2010-11. The proposed fees options were as follows :-

- A. To increase annual subs to £80 per year, to be paid by standing order. To maintain match fees at £5 per game, or £8 per game until annual subs are paid.
- B. To increase annual subs to £60 per year, to be paid by standing order, and to increase match fees to £6 per game.

Associate membership fees (for non-playing members) will remain unchanged.

NI enquired about orders for replica shirts. **MG** confirmed that few have been received so far and **NI** agreed to ask the membership to place their order if interested [Action #31]. **MG** noted that several shirts are already showing significant wear. **NI** will contact the manufacturers in the off-season for comment [Action #32].

Fixtures Secretary. SB is attempting to confirm a fixture with Ely 3's to catch-up on missed games earlier in the season. However, as the only free date is "Final's Day" (being held at Ely RUFC), the fixtures seems unlikely. **BC** will ask the players this weekend about fielding a team at the Biggleswade 60th Anniversary Tournament in May 2010 [Action #33].

5. Coaching & Playing

AS proposed that Cambourne enter a team for the Slough RUFC 7's tournament on July 3rd and will try to put together a team for the event [Action #34]. **AS** reported that training has been a little quiet since the switch to 2 nights per week, noting some teething issues with availability on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Summertime training will likely revert to one-night per week during the off-season, and build to 2 nights into pre-season training. **GH** suggested that, going forward, if training reverts to 1 night, it should be on Tuesdays, so that players are in a position to organise other commitments. **AS** rounded off by saying that training is going well, despite the relatively low numbers and that match performances are improving. **BC** is very impressed with the spirit and commitment of the players and clubs ability to field a team with subs week-in week-out despite several players being out / injured. Strength in depth is improving and match performance is improving, albeit with occasional blips. **BC** noted the importance of picking up more new players, and recruitment remains a key issue for the club.

6. End-of-Season Dinner 2010

BY reported that the annual end-of-season and awards dinner will be held at the Monkfield Arms on Saturday 1st May. It will be a black tie event, at around £20 per head with a disco. **BY** to invite sponsors to the event [Action #35].

7. Fund-Raising. Charity & Club

In the absence of progress on the suggestions made early in the season, this action [#15] was abandoned. **GH** and **BY** will put forward some suggestions to the coming AGM for events to hold over the summer and into next season.

8. A.O.B

BY noted disappointment at the non-attendance by most players at the host side's pub and suggested that attending post-match hospitality at away games should be promoted more.

NI has contacted Cambridge RUFC youth representatives their proposed use of Cambourne facilities for their training. The club expressed reluctance to allow club-owned equipment to be used by others, due to security issues. **NI** will seek clarification of Cambridge's "intentions" [Action #36]. Discussion proceeded and it was noted that Cambourne will not pursue youth / mini's rugby within the club until the club has access to proper facilities (ie. a clubhouse) and sufficient committed volunteers to drive it forward.

NI proposed a change to club policy on international tickets to ensure that tickets are paid for in advance of tickets being ordered. The club cannot be put at financial risk by non-payment for tickets allocated by the RFU.

Next Meeting:- AGM – Wednesday May 12th 2010, 8-10pm, The Hub, Cambourne
Minutes for this meeting prepared by **NI** (11.4.10)