

Minutes of Meeting

Subject: Ashford Rugby Club Committee – Web Copy
Date (Time): 5th June 2024
Minutes: John Heaver

Meeting Attendees		Distribution
John Norman (JN)	Mark Bowes (MB)	Committee
Vicky Norman (VN)	Rhys Fussell (RF)	Web Copy
Charlie Vavasour (CV)	Ian Nelson (IN)	
Chris Dengate (CD)	Lauren Holdstock (LH)	
Grant Wilson (GW)	John Heaver (JH)	

Committee Minutes

Apologies	05/06/24	John Norman
Mick Stanley (MS), Ian Foinette (IF), Tim Scrivens (TS), Aaron Bowes (AB)		
Administration	05/06/24	John Heaver
Nothing to report on admin.		
Welfare	05/06/24	John Heaver
First aid course can't be booked until we get the fixtures list for 2024/25 as there is not enough time to get them on GMS before the start of the new season. Nothing else to report on Welfare.		

Discipline	05/06/24	Grant Willson
U11s incident at Flip Out, consulted with Kent, and I have given the assaulter a four-week suspended sentence for next season. Kent disciplinary on Monday 3rd June, U18s Girls, the two dads accepted the charges and were given a two week ban for next season. The club received £100 fine for failing to control and Dartfordians got a £50 fine. Also, three £50 admin charges for those counts. U18s Boys, both coaches have been given a four-week suspended sentence for next season. The mum has been given a four-week ban. I have yet to inform her. The club received £250 fine for failing to control plus a £50 admin fee. A grand total of £750 in fines and admin fees. I believe all the other suspended cases are now clear. The other one was the complaint for the drunken Mum at Twickenham. No one has really followed up from the group involved. So, we will just let this one go unless anyone from the group follows up. What Kent did say is the match official abuse and the message to parents, coaches and players etc is not getting through to everyone yet, so the club needs to work on that next season. What they did say is we are trying to improve our record by the way we are doing things and are pleased with us on the processes that the club has put in place. So, a quick list of things I want to put in place: a coaches meeting at the start of the season so the message gets passed down and Chris had the idea of new parent meetings at the start of September to go over core values. We can use Teamo to get the message out to them all, and maybe a newsletter which can summarise last season and in this we can mention the success of the first team, all the good things that go on at the club, the dog shows etc. Also. three parents were summoned to appear in front of Kent because of their touch line discipline to highlight they can get brought up to disciplinary hearings, in which they can get find, they can get banned. Also, you don't have to be abusive to the ref to get called up, disputing and shouting about decisions can lead to a disciplinary. Also, we could add pictures and updates of the big build etc. We didn't win the ref's whistler award, we did well but we were let down by some silly things like not offering a meal after the game and maybe a drink. We should think about giving them a voucher, so they have no issues about food and drink. Maybe buying touch flags. One of the things that was mentioned, in particular, was that the U18s Boys were bad at thanking the ref post the game, so we need to improve that.		

It was agreed to let everyone know at the AGM and write into the policies and Teamo that as from next season individuals will pay their own fines etc.

Nothing else to report on discipline.

Finance

05/06/24

Charlie Vavasour

A copy of the minutes which include any finances are available behind the bar for any paid club member to review

Subscriptions

05/06/24

Vacant

JN – The accounts are about two weeks off from being completed. We should look to set a date for the AGM, so we need to discuss subs. CD – Looking at the membership, we cannot claim gift aid currently. A couple of the football clubs that I am working with have dropped their subs down to £20 per year and then parents pay a donation of between £12 to £16 depending on the club, which covers the rest over a ten month period which covers the subs to which you can then claim the gift aid back because it's under £30 and you only need the postcode for that person. It is very tenuous.

It was agreed that subs would not go up for 2024/25 and we would look at the wording to enable the subs to become a donation for 2025/26 season. It was agreed to trial this with one age group next season.

CD – We have 6 girls coming from Whitstable U12s girls who currently only pay £65, are we going to push them up to Ashford membership. JN – I think it's unfair not to be honest.

Nothing else to report on subscription.

Policies and Grants

05/06/24

Martyn Hodge

JH – Will ask TS to update the two policies on the website.

Nothing else to report on Policies and Grants.

Games Reports	05/06/24	Chris Dengate
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First of all, a thanks to the club and Vicky for the Papa John's final for sorting al the buses, hotel and meeting room. A second thanks to Lauren for sorting out the video and social media. A great coming together of the club. Unfortunately, not the result we would have loved but it's about the journey not destination.

Amanda has now gone, Tom J, Malcolm O and I are looking after everything in the handover. We are going to bring George S in for help with the U18's girls so it aligns with the ladies.

Malcolm mentioned the period poverty needs to be displayed. VN – stated we have the RFU equivalent up already.

Touch rugby and love rugby campaign is back, we are in some schools soon. We had twelve new girls last night due to the love rugby campaign. Touch was mainly academy and a few extras, but that will grow as the weeks go by.

Coaching, Tom has accepted the offer and is now the senior men's coach.

JN – hopefully everyone has seen the email regarding the DoR.

MB asked what are Tom's KPIs, CD – to coach the senior men and getting the first team to mid table and hopefully another cup run.

RF – Asked if the DoR would not be at all games now then. JN – He should be, but his time will be split between Saturdays and Sundays at the club. The DoR will oversee the coaches and coordinators. There are so many jobs that are not specified that the DoR will be over seeing, the key bullet points have been covered in the doc.

MB – Academy, the way it's written Chris is the lead coach for the academy. Should he not be directing the coaches, what is happening with the coaches that are there now? JN – they will still be working with Chris.

CV – What we have all recognised since the academy was formed is that there needs to be some consistency, year on year - having the DoR there will help with that.

MB – What is happening with the coaches that have just left. CD – we are trying to keep Roger and Scott involved with the club.

VN – Can I ask what is changing with the DoR role? JN – Not a lot, there are some adaptations, but it is much the same role. CV – There will be more off field activities. More involvement with the girl's academy and helping with the minis and juniors on a Sunday.

Line markings, I had a second quote in from CW Groundworks, £1,200 per month. JN - We will go with the first quote of £550 per month.

VN – Junior chair role needs clarification. He is doubled up as he is doing junior coordinator, but the potential junior coordinator wants to know what the role is before she takes on the role. JN – Yes, we do need to redefine the roles.

VN – It's been a bugbear for the last four years, but all junior age groups should be given trophies by the club, I was under the impression that every age group got three trophies. I have been told by Ollie that her age group has never had trophies. Minis went to medals. It should be three trophies per age group. It will be bought up at the coaches meeting.

Nothing else to report on games.

**Bar / Kitchen/Shop
Report**

05/06/24

Vicky Norman

Reconfiguration of the shop utilising the container has worked really well. Everyone agreed that it looks fabulous from the pictures.

The bottle store has been sorted.

The two dog shows that we have back-to-back, the caravans are staying onsite which will give us £2,250 without bar takings etc.

CD - Will the front of the kitchen be tidied up? VN – we might get a new hatch and it will get painted. Signs for the kitchen and shop are a good idea.

VN – We currently have Amber running the shop, but she is not always about. A suggestion, a responsible 16-year-old for 2 to 3 hours on a Sunday. Let's discuss with Amber.

Still awaiting Sheps to come back with the final settlement figure.

Nothing else to report.

Luncheons	05/06/24	Dylan Tomkins
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Nothing to report on Luncheons.

Development	05/06/24	Charlie Vavasour
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Not much to report on the 3G, still in contact with the ABC. We still need to put down a programme of use. CD – I have, and we are 80% full. CV – We need to work on a business plan. We have recruited Jamie BW and Rodger S to help support the business plan.

VN – Big Build - They will be working on the roof next week. They got held up slightly as the block and beam flooring had been delayed. Completion is on track, and we are looking at the middle of July.

Nothing else to report on Development.

Communication	05/06/24	Lauren Holdstock
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Something for next season which I think will help is getting someone who can be at the club on a Sunday to cover the media content that I can then put out to make it more club social.

Something Dengate and I have spoken about is getting a mini and Junior player of the week that can go up on the social chats etc.

Nothing to report on Communications.

100 Club	05/06/24	Mark Bowes
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House	05/06/24	John Norman
The bonfire site has been nearly cleared he just needs to comeback and finish off. The drain should now be fixed. Nothing else to report on House.		
Sponsorship	05/06/24	Ian Nelson
JN – Welcome Ian. I need to speak to Callum regards next season. He has passed on an update, CS - a new sigh from JPP Law and McGee Gammon accountants. And I have started chasing Dove. Nothing further to report on Sponsorship.		
AoB	05/06/24	All
VN – We have not had as much take up on the ball as we would like, and we look like we will be taking a loss for an estimate of £2,000. Do we still go ahead? It was agreed to continue. LH – Hair scrunchies I have lots of people asking me for them. It was agreed to get a price for them. MB – Kit purchase. It was agreed to get the coms out to the coaches for kit purchase so we can give it out in September. MB – Running of the kitchen needs to be looked at. GW – Setting a date for the AGM – it was agreed the AGM will be held on the 11th Of July. Notices will be sent out. JN – Adam K, International ticket sales are on sale for the Autumn internationals. JN – we still need to sort out payment. Nothing else on AOB		

05/06/24	Meeting Complete: 20:20	Sign:
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