

CF10 RUGBY TRUST

MINUTES OF THE SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD REMOTELY ON

THURSDAY 24 MARCH 2022 COMMENCING AT 7PM

ITEM	
1	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>Board Chair, Lynn Glaister (LG), welcomed members to the sixth AGM. She thanked everyone for attending the event which was being held remotely for the second time. Thirty-three members attended (see Appendix 1). The meeting was quorate. Apologies for absence are set out in Appendix 1.</p> <p>It was noted that the event was being recorded, as previously notified, and screen shots would be taken. Members were advised to turn off their screens if they did not wish to be seen.</p>
2	<p>Progress Report</p> <p>It was noted that a detailed annual report was available in the documents section of the website for the year ending 30 September 2021.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above, LG highlighted a number of issues which he felt should be brought to members' attention:</p> <p>The annual report covers the period September 2019 to September 2021 so she is acutely aware that many members will have been personally affected by Covid. Our thoughts are with everyone who has been affected.</p> <p>She said it would be remiss of her to start the meeting without mentioning the sad loss of Neil Harris this year. Neil was one of the main people who helped form CF10 and made sure it was set up correctly as a community benefit society. He had been a supporter since 1956, he is much missed and his work on setting up CF10 will always be remembered.</p> <p>CF10 was set up 6 years ago with a number of aims and the last 18 months has been a successful one in the terms of achieving many of those goals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cardiff Blues are now Cardiff Rugby.• The colours are back to 'blue and black'.• The links between the regional team and the RFC have been restored and the acceptance that the club's history goes back to 1876.• There is now a supporter advisor on the Cardiff Rugby board. She was delighted to say that the first person to hold that post is CF10 ex-chair David Allen.• The online museum designed and built by CF10 board members is a fantastic resource.• The social media team continue to inform and challenge on Twitter and by producing blogs.

A great deal has been achieved – does CF10 have a purpose anymore? Rugby generally and club specifically face a difficult future. It is as important now as it was over the last few years that supporters' voices are heard.

The season for both Cardiff teams was decimated by Covid - even losing the ground to help in the Covid response and the Dragons Heart hospital. A plus point has been the return of Dai Young. It is clear that there is a lot of rebuilding to do and the budget challenges do nothing to help that. Dai has brought a refreshing honesty to the way he speaks on behalf of the club.

Ironically it was Covid that was to cause a major issue just before Christmas when most of the first team was trapped in South Africa. It did however bring the opportunity for the 'gang of misfits' to thrill the fans and to bring a positive media response. Clearly, since then with the exception of the Leinster win it has been a difficult return to rugby on the field.

To ensure supporters' voices are heard CF10 is part of the Joint Supporters Group which meets with the WRU - two very good sessions were held where JSG members were able to challenge WRU CEO Steve Phillips - they have not agreed to a further meeting following the bad press they received following those meetings. WRU have now said they want to time meetings with news stories.

It's a different matter with Cardiff where Richard Holland, Rhys Blumberg and Mike Brown have met with CF10 representatives monthly to discuss fans' concerns. These meetings are really useful for both parties.

Ongoing work includes:

- Working with the club to improve the environmental impact of their activities.
- Lobbying for better facilities at the ground (and who knows maybe even influencing the redevelopment scheme).
- Working for a better funding system - Cardiff Rugby still do not know next season's budget.
- Realizing our dream of an onsite museum.
- Continuing to ensure the Welsh language is embedded in the culture of the organisation.
- Joint working with other Cardiff Rugby supporters groups.

Huw Jones has been our secretary for 6 years and has decided not to re-stand this year. LG thanked Huw for the work and time he has spent on behalf of CF10 members and his support for her as Chair.

He will be long remembered by all who dare to come to a meeting unprepared or think that blinding us with strategy will work. Steve Phillips CEO of WRU will perhaps sleep easier with the thought that Huw will not be at the next meeting to question him on finance and governance. Governance and organisation may be his expertise but that is not all he is - he is supportive, challenging and innovative. He has played a full part in CF10 and will remain a member.

And finally the CF10 board always welcome observers to the board and we welcome full participation in our discussions.

3	<p>Annual Account 2020/21</p> <p>The accounts were available for scrutiny on the website.</p> <p>Treasurer, Derek Redwood, who was unable to attend, had sent a note saying that CF10 was basically not about money. We were funded by generous donations from a small group of founders 5/6 years ago and are still living on that capital. Subscriptions have been set at a nominal level to attract interest.</p> <p>In terms of the 2021 accounts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Page 3 is a summarised version of the very modest income and expenditure leaving a surplus of £120. 2. A more detailed account is on the last, unnumbered page which shows that the accounts were completed without charge – and our thanks go to Steve Horrigan of DHB Accountants for that support. 3. The Balance Sheet on page 4 shows that we increased membership (shareholders) to 800. 4. The Balance Sheet also confirms that total reserves as at 30 September 2021 were £1,735 which includes an investment in 700 shares in Cardiff Blues Ltd which is recorded at original cost, although the value is rather debatable.
4	<p>Election of a Secretary</p> <p>A vacancy for a Secretary had occurred as part of the election cycle. There had been one nomination for the role, Andy Baker.</p> <p>Under the Standing Orders Election Policy:</p> <p>“If there are as many or fewer candidates than there are places, an affirmative ballot shall be held at the AGM. Each successfully nominated candidate will be put before the meeting for the approval of members. Any candidate not receiving the support of more than half of those present in person shall be deemed to have not been elected.”</p> <p>On a show of hands, Andy Baker was unanimously elected for a three year period to March 2025.</p>
5	<p>Presentation by David Allen, Cardiff Rugby Supporter Advisor</p> <p>LG welcomed David Allen to the meeting. He was attending as the newly appointed Cardiff Rugby Supporter Advisor. In his presentation he made the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The establishment of the supporter advisor role was evidence of the power of supporter organisations can have on clubs. It was a credit to CF10 that it had managed to persuade the club to adopt such a role after they had resisted the position for many years. • DA expressed disappointment that he was the only applicant for the role and no election was required. In future there was a need to look to grow potential candidates. • To date he had only had the opportunity to attend one Cardiff Rugby board meeting in January. He had been made to feel very welcome and he was able to play a full role in the discussions with no constraints. As an observer on the board he does not have a vote. He has been able to access back-papers in order to get up to speed with previous discussions. He is also involved in the board What’s App group. • There are 4 scheduled meeting per annum and the next will be in May. Although money is the board’s primary concern there is significant discussion about rugby issues. • A positive outcome from the first board meeting was the agreement to publish brief board meeting notes.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role involves significant work outside meetings as there are project groups and pre-board meetings. Also the importance of working with all supporter groups. DA explained that he has arranged joint meetings of the four supporter groups prior to board meetings in order to help shape his agenda and input to meetings. He sees himself as being very much a conduit for supporter groups to the Cardiff Rugby board. • The role was a positive step in the changing governance of Cardiff Rugby. <p>LG thanked DA for his presentation and for agreeing to have his name put forward for this important role.</p>
6	<p>Q&A</p> <p>There were only 2 questions submitted by email prior to the meeting along with 2 raised at the meeting. These are set out in Appendix 2 along with responses from David Allen and Lynn Glaister.</p>
7	<p>Concluding Remarks</p> <p>DA also wished to thank HJ for his work as Secretary over the last 6 years and for the expertise and professionalism he brought to it.</p> <p>HJ thanked DA and LG for their kind words. He said now was a good time to step down. Cardiff Rugby had changed significantly in the last 6 years and was now listening to supporters. There were some excellent people involved in CF10 and it was time to develop new areas of work. The redevelopment of CAP would continue to be a challenge as would the policies and attitude of the WRU towards the four professional teams.</p>

Appendix 1 - List of Attendees and Apologies

Attendees

David Allen; Simon Baker; Andy Baker; Simon Barry; Andrew Bold; Gareth Brown; Sally Carter; John Chandler; Karan Chandler; Andrew Collins; Stephen Collins; Theresa Collins; Steven Coombs; Frederick Davies; Rhys David; Lynn Glaister (Chair); Jonathan Hale; Marc Harries; Martin Hughes; Gareth Jones; Huw Jones; Simon Jones; Viv Jones; Sarah Kirk; Simon Kirk; Gareth Knowles; Mike Mears; Paul McDonald; Claire O'Shea; Jane Setchfield; Martyn Sloman; Graham Stanton; Raymond Stanton;

Apologies

Derek Redwood; Gabe Servini; Dan Taylor

Appendix 2 - Questions Submitted

David Allen and Lynn Glaister responded to the following questions.

Rob Peace:

I was wondering how we as supporters can best use our expertise in our everyday lives to help the club. For example, I am currently doing a PhD in cyber-psychology and cyber-security focusing on how to communicate trusted factual information to people who may be suspicious (such as anti-vaxxers), but I have a wider interest in both psychology and cyber-security for larger organisations that may be useful. Is the club open to people willing to lend their expertise to help strengthen the organisation? And if so are there any particular areas they need help with?

The club are open to ideas but they can also be strangely resistant as well. CF10 has had some success in convincing them that supporters have professional expertise and are an under-utilised resource. The establishment of the online museum is probably the best example especially as the club also uses this resource. But ironically when the same expertise was offered to develop secure electronic voting for the Supporter Advisor role, this was resisted. The recent discussions about developing a sustainability and environmental policy have been positive once they had seen the document rather than simply discussing the concept. So, the message is, come up with an idea, shape it, and we'll take it to them.

Sarah and Simon Kirk:

You spoke previously about how you aimed to get the Supporter Advisor role fully established and to prove it works. How will you measure your success?

You mentioned the "gap" between supporters and the club - how do you plan to reduce this?

We are aware of a number of season tickets holders who are not affiliated to a supporters group (and don't follow Cardiff's website) who were not aware of your appointment.

How do you plan to ensure the voices of all season ticket holders are included?

An important measure of success is whether the Cardiff Rugby board decide to extend the role of Supporter Advisor after 3 years. The person has to be seen to add value to the board's work. Also important is whether DA has any impact on the thinking of the Board and issues of concern to supporters. Quarterly consultation with supporter groups will be important to ensure that he

gathers their concerns. DA said he was content for any supporter to contact him through his specific email: david.allen@cardiffrugby.wales

Q: Are all supporter groups thinking along the same lines?

The four supporter groups have very different aims. For example, CBSC and CRSC are primarily interested in each of the two teams, their performance and organising away trips. Cardiff Blues Brothers are interested in bringing in new supporters and using rugby for mental health support. While CF10 has focused on the governance and operation of the club and pro rugby's development with the WRU.

Q: Which is the largest supporter group at CAP?

CF10 with 800 members is the largest group. It has very little need for funding each year and membership is only £1 to buy a share in the community benefit society. It's a good way of keeping up to date with what is happening behind the scenes through the various notes of meetings which are emailed to members.