

CF10 RUGBY TRUST

Eighty-second meeting of The Board of Directors

Tuesday 08 October 2024 commencing at 7pm

Via Zoom – open to all members

PRESENT

Board Directors: Lynn Glaister (chair), Sally Carter (secretary), Simon Baker, Hugh Campbell, Andrew Collins, Sarah Kirk

Supporter Advisor: David Allen

Apologies: Claire O'Shea, Derek Redwood, Steve Coombs

ITEM

- 1 Chair's introductory remarks and apologies for absence

This meeting was open to all members, so Lynn introduced the meeting to the new observers and explained what we do. Questions were added to the chat to encourage discussion at the end of the meeting.

- 2 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting on the 17 September were approved as a true record and will be uploaded to the website.

- 3 Matters Arising and Actions

Election of Supporter Advisor

CF10 met with Richard Holland and are working through changes to the process for election. Cardiff Rugby have agreed to a second 3-year term because the pilot term has been seen as successful and a useful part of the Cardiff Board going forward. The 2nd term will see a bedded in version of the post.

Nominations will be launched this month and Sarah confirmed the proposed timetable. The process will take place through November and December and should be confirmed before the end of the year. There will be a 4-week period for nominations, with an opportunity to vote if it is a contested election.

Going forward, the number of terms a person can serve will be limited to two. David had suggested this be brought in, expressing concerns about someone being able to serve for long periods of time.

Newsletter

CF10 will continue to raise the issue of the irregularity of newsletters from the club and we will also aim to put out our own newsletter on a more regular basis.

- 4 Cardiff Rugby Matters

.Just before CF10 met with Richard Holland the announcement came out that the WRU wanted a 20% stake in all the clubs. We gave our view that this should not be accepted, particularly so close to our change of ownership. We also stated that there was also a real lack of detail in the WRU proposal.

The key points of discussion were:

- Members were keen to know about any current plans to develop the ground but there is nothing to announce. Cardiff Rugby said that relations with CAC are good but nothing major can be done until after the Euros in 2028. PropCo are the organisation dealing with the property redevelopment and it may be worth raising this issue with CAC at their next meeting.
- The Club were very happy with Summerfest. The focus in the future will probably be on the younger supporters which was the most successful element.
- Season ticket membership was above target but no details about what the targets were and no comparisons available to last year.

We also raised a number of other issues that had come from members - problems with the Tannoy in the north stand, the refurbishment of the Pack Bar, organising away trips for supporters and the Anglo-Welsh league discussions. Full notes of CF10's meeting with Richard have been sent to him for sign off and will be published on our website.

Attending members then raised several other issues related to the club.

- David was able to add some additional information about the strategy. Cardiff is still aiming to put together a long-term strategy by year end, but this is proving difficult when the WRU strategy has still not been published.
- The relationship between the Rags and the first team continues to improve. The teams work well together in some areas and the Rags still have a fair degree of autonomy.
- The Macron deal is still in place so there are restrictions on the shirts we can design and sell – there are plans in place for a shirt to commemorate the 150th. We were successful in getting a women's shirt created.
- Rhys Blumberg is not being replaced. His duties will be distributed among the existing team, and this is seen as an opportunity for personal development.
- Lynn agreed to check if the CAC discount is available in the Pack Bar.

The date of the next meeting with Richard has not yet been confirmed but will preferably take place after the WRU strategy has been announced.

5 JSG and WRU

The next meeting will take place on 12th December and Lynn, Sarah and Hugh will be in attendance for Cardiff.

The WRU have stated that the strategy should be completed before this meeting.

Hugh gave a brief overview of what the meetings are like and how they have evolved under the new management. The focus of the last meeting was the announcement of the strategy, and it is likely to be the same at the next meeting.

We would like to see the relationship develop into a more pro-active relationship rather than just a reporting back meeting. This also requires better organisation from the JSG to ensure that the supporter groups are all on the same page. It would be useful to meet outside the meetings with the WRU.

6 Need for a new CF10 website

Lynn outlined the problem we have with the web site and asked if there was anyone

who might have skills in this area who could help us. We are looking for something simple and can pay for the hosting, but we can't pay for development. Mart suggested approaching Cardiff Uni IT department to see if a final year student would be interested in doing this as a project.

7 Working Groups

7.1 Heritage

We still haven't had a management group meeting – dates are now being proposed so we hope to get a new meeting arranged in the next few weeks.

David reported back on progress with the book being written for the 150th and the difficulty of cutting down the material! There is also a group who are meeting to just look at the 150th events and there are many things being planned.

7.2 Communications

Our social media continues to work well. Martyn Sloman has agreed to write some short blogs for us and Lynn opened this out to all members. It would be good to have a wider range of viewpoints from members covering topics such as past memories, what it's like to go to a game etc.

8 Discussion with members present

A wide-ranging discussion followed with the members present raising issues they want us to chase and asking for further information on a variety of topics.

The lack of facilities for away members was mentioned and there was a request for more 'meet the new player' events. There was also a complaint that the bars close too early after matches.

We discussed merging supporters' groups together, an issue raised by Aled Fletcher responding to what came out of the supporter survey. There was an attempt to merge the Cardiff RFC and CR supporters' groups. It was carried at the AGM of CR but failed at RFC – a few older members are not in favour, and it is hard to get this through. Hugh made a plea for new members to join and put these views forward at the next AGM. CF10 have tended to stand apart because we deal with very different things. Some sporting organisations do have both a supporters trust for the fan experience and a trust to monitor the club, so this is not too unusual a model. It was hoped that the supporter survey would generate discussion, but this has failed to result.

Robyn asked what the owner's strategy is for future investment. Are the club utilising the site well to generate non-match day revenue? Lynn asked that if people have any good ideas for low-cost improvements, please send these through and they can be raised when we meet with Richard. We have plenty of ideas for the future, but it is difficult to move ahead until the future strategy is announced. The Commercial department does well at generating income and they use the facilities as much as possible given its limitations.

All agreed that Jockey has been a revelation in creating an attractive style of rugby and the way the players interact with fans is a credit to the club. Mart asked why he is called Jockey, but no-one knew. We need to find out!

Lynn confirmed that we will pick up all the points from this chat and raise with either the WRU or Richard as appropriate. CF10 welcome any further comms with members via email etc and members are always welcome as an observer – if they send their

details to Lynn, she will add them to the mailing list for the next meeting.

9 Other identified business

There was no additional business raised

10 Date and time of next meeting

Proposed 19 Nov 2024