



Aldwinians RUFC

Lockdown meeting minutes (condensed transcript) – 04 June 2020 (attendance via Zoom)

Trustees in attendance: William Thorpe (WT) – Chairman
 Trevor Hulmes (TH) – Treasurer
 Ian Wilson (IW) – Trustee, Club Member/Former Player
 Kevin Turner-Hague (KTH) – Trustee for Playing Club Member
 Katy Davies (KD) – Trustee Club Member/Ladies Team Admin
 Ian Spivey (IS) – Trustee, Development Officer, House & Grounds Maintenance/Club Member
 Alan Whalley (AW) – Club Member/Senior Fixtures Secretary
 Christine Spivey (CS) – Hon Secretary/Membership Secretary/CSO Club Member
 Tyler Gibson (TG) – Future Assistant for KTH

Contributors: Robert Palmer (RP) – Senior Player/Club Member/Admin for members Forum
 Lee Bradley (LB) – Club President/Former Player
 Chris Rushworth (CR) – Former Player/Life Member

Apologies: None

INTRODUCTIONS

GMS/BOTTOMLINE VOTE

WT Are we ready to vote GMS/Bottomline?

TH Not seen presentations in hard copy form so don't know exactly what values are. No hard copies, only been visual on screen.

RP Its all online. Sent email to everyone of presentation?

CS Didn't receive it. Was hoping would come through, but been busy doing other things. Just wanted a copy to put with minutes as record, I always do. TS says didn't receive either

RP Why has it been left till tonight? We're all busy doing other things but why for last 7 days didn't you say? Nothing in there that not already been shown to you

WT Can be done retrospectively just need to be getting on with this. Any queries with GMS?

LB Spoke to most coaches, don't really like GMS, not easy to use. RFU wants to use this but issues going back to 2014. If they haven't been sorted, raises red flags with other areas. If still probs after 6 years, don't think we should put finance with them?

TH Examples RP sent don't mention membership/direct debiting system. Going back to 2014 that's historic, not relevant. Takes 4/5 mins for payment on GMS. Back to match cards again - not relevant to direct debit.

RP/LB If it can't get basics right what RFU is supposed to do, why give them finance? Tried to push vote through and have discussed it for past month. Supposed to be deciding tonight. Why wait till now? All these questions could have been raised last 7 days.

TH What are basics? Haven't waited, you haven't produced all info. Everyone's got other things to do.

WT Said at end of last week's meeting, we'd meet this week and decide which one to use. Has gone on for too long. Need to go opposite direction from previous. Last season only 14 members paid - disastrous!

IW Reiterating what Bill said. Just need to vote.

TH Mentioned what other clubs do in Committee Meeting last July (published on website at time) that £80/£60 was very competitive. No problem Bob being involved to get it up and running but way its administered. Reiterates takes 4/5 minutes on GMS and all online. 400 clubs use GMS and 300 use it to link to their website.

WT Put it to meeting.

IS Has to be Trustees meeting. That's how it works now. This isn't Trustees meeting.

TH/CS Trustees' decision, can't vote now. This is not Trustees' meeting.



RP/CR	Happy to leave now even though was agreed last week and was minuted we were welcome in meeting.
WT	Have non Trustees present because they've presented case we're voting on but this IS Trustees' meeting.
IS/TH	Still disagree this is Trustees meeting.
TH	Zoom meeting ok, but have to meet as Body of Trustees face to face. Can't make final decision and vote as should personally to discuss. Haven't and aren't doing that now. Need to form Trustee meeting separately, socially distance in clubhouse.
RP	Was minuted and presented to members that decision will be made tonight, have to take something back to them.
TH	Not minuted - transcribed.
IW	Thought that 3 non Trustees would leave meeting for while and Trustees would vote on what system we will use tonight?
TH	Meeting still being recorded. Trustees should meet separately as normally would for proper Trustee meeting to discuss issues and I said that at last meeting.
Several more times to and fro about whether or not this is a Trustees' meeting. CS, IS, TH think not, WT, KTH, AW, IW think so. Further disagreements as to why Trustees need to sit in same room to discuss openly and not done in front of recording versus why it can't be done over Zoom openly with non Trustees leaving meeting for short while and recording switched off.	
TH	This isn't just vote on which system to use, more a vote on whether or not to replace current system that was already agreed in August last year and already in place and works.
WT	Disagrees system works as only one paying direct debit. As Chairman of Club and Chairman of meeting, took the view that a decision would be made firstly, to see what Trustees thought meeting tonight related to and secondly, to agree with system. People ready to pay and just wasting valuable time when we could be bringing in revenue. Expected decision to be made tonight.
IW	Vote on what this meeting is for. I thought tonight.
KTH, AW, WT, KD, TG,	All thought final decision would be made tonight
TH, CS, IS	All thought would discuss any issues with GMS tonight and vote would be made later date at separate meeting.
RP	You as Trustees are in your positions because of the membership and their perception of this reading the minutes is that there will be a decision tonight. If I go back and say still no decision, not putting yourselves in good light.
AW	Agreed
RP	Me looking from outside in. Clearly proves a point that why past 12 months was a disaster as you couldn't give an answer.
TH	No idea Bob, you've never been interested before and you're level of knowledge towards the club...
IS	Agreed
RP	Never been in a position to have a say.
WT	Ask for 3 non Trustees to leave and vote on which system to use.
IS	We're being railroaded in to something and we shouldn't be doing. Things going on I don't agree with.
WT	Idea of democracy is to go with majority decision, and not to move forward on one individual opinion.
CR, LB and RP leave meeting.	



NO RECORDING

PART 2

CR, LB and RP rejoin meeting.

DECISION OF VOTE

- WT** Going ahead with Bottomline.
- LB** Doing bit of maths while waiting to come back in and if everyone pays will be around £2,400 per month/nearly £30,000 per year.
- WT** Half way to paying off loans. Going forward with Bottomline but TH said quite easy to amend cards through till software and will go through it with RP/CR. Put forward to be discussed later names of who will do it etc, but will be the way it was presented by CR and RP.
- CR** Propose using 24 trialists. Couple from each group, to smooth out any issues.
- KTH** Life members will need to be discussed separately.

PREPARATION FOR OPENING

- WT** When we open how will we handle it? TH had email from brewery and would have to put order in by 21 June for it to be delivered July.
- TH** Thinks that's general to all brewery pubs but our situation is different as we're classed as hospitality sector also beer garden and being Rugby Union not having start breaks etc. Have to project properly to ensure if we remove furlough, it will be worth it. Alternatively, if we were only one of two pubs in Droylsden to open, how would we cope if we became inundated?
- WT** To our advantage that beer garden is behind club, but one option is to operate a sign in system?
- RP** Do we have to use brewery at this time or could we buy wholesale?

General discussion in relation to maybe just selling cans/bottles as opposed to draft initially and whether we can part time furlough. Would probably need to buy from brewery initially but can top up later if need be. Would need volunteers to serve if staff still furloughed which could run up to end July and then into August when we'd need to pay higher percentage.

- TH** Can only open when told safe to do so, and need to incorporate other aspects such as social distancing. All that has to be approved within our site first and Covid 19 Health & Safety regulations.
- LB** Wetherspoons prob one of first to open, so been looking at what they're doing. Bottles and cans, screens for indoor seating – we're mainly outside so probably not problem initially. Regular supplies of hand sanitiser on bars, entrances, exits; regular clean downs by staff - as one table vacates, sanitised before next people arrive. Options are digital thermometer checking people coming in. Lucky in club we can have one way system – in through club doors, 2m spacing up to bar, 2 and 3 spaces at bar all 6 ft apart. Once served, through on to pitches and no glasses are brought back, collected in and sanitise everything as well. If they were to serve, they'd only hold bottom of glass to give drink to customer, customer then drinks from top and no returns. Just stops transference.
- AW** Need plastic, not glass.
- KTH** Can't use glass, and wouldn't want to on the pitch, so have to use plastic.
- IW** Would have to designate cleaners to sanitise certain areas every hour too, toilets, tables, common areas. Volunteers pulling pints, not quite as simple as that – would need volunteer cleaners too.
- WT** Spoken to IS – need blowers either having fuses removed or taken out completely. Toilets with dispensers and paper towels and dispensers for disinfectant gel outside where people are drinking too.
- CS** Sanitiser was delivered this morning. Dispensers all ordered and paid for, just awaiting delivery for the stocks. £140 for the lot, about 6 weeks delivery. Will look for 500ml bottles to spread on outdoor tables too.
- IW** Certain other procedures that we need to consider too. Eg de-fogging and deep cleaning common areas regularly. Not just outdoors, but inside too, for staff behind bar and toilets etc.
- WT** Need further discussions to ensure that we're ready, eg portable bar, regulations, bottles/cans, RP says manned fridges to stop cross-contamination, TG says buying bulk tokens to decrease



amount of cash handling - can tills could do that. KTH mentioned marquee - could be an option. RP mentioned security - would have to look into that if needed to stop all and sundry. Lots to discuss and plan as rules will be set extremely high.

BT PHONE PASSWORDS/NEW WEBSITE/CLUB APP

- RP** Need details for BT phone line. Stephen Marrow is looking into building a club app and also a new club website. Said we can get wi-fi outside. Great idea and free!
- LB** What about passwords for Pitchero? Need to know what's worth taking and what's not. TH will send.
- RP** Is there anything that we can task in the meantime? Anything that we can do to push this forward individually?
- WT** Could put a new fascia up on the outside.
- KTH** Asks for IS but appears to have left meeting.
- IW** Could ask Mike Banks to help.

MEMBERSHIP HELPING OUT AT CLUB

- ALL** General discussion re work that's been done in club recently and how much better club looks – massive thanks to all who've helped.

BUILDERS

- KTH** Have put Lucy McFarlane down as nominated point of contact for builders. She's been in touch with Bellway and Taylor Wimpey introduced herself. Bellway - basic discussions with guy called George who's their land manager only details given was that they would potentially like to rent piece of land from us to house their sales office and their teams on, so what they've really asked for is written proposals with details, redline plans which will be their critical path analysis, high level program on works, site plans and then phasing plans so we know what they're doing and when. She's had similar discussion with Nicky from Taylor Wimpey asked for same sort of info. This is what Lucy does as her day job. More info to come, looking at advertising space, land to put their site cabins. Should be coming back next week with info. All these companies got social responsibility groups too, so supporting local infrastructure etc. She's asking all right questions
- LB** Could we think about possibly asking them could we buy fencing for scrap price to fix our own?
- KTH** All part of plans in her discussions. Also asked her to consider electricity spur when they do electrics.
- CR** I know a Joiner running supplies in, could ask him to run it from main road into club.

MARKETING/PROMOTIONS

- RP** There's bit of marketing and promotions sub committee and also recruitment process that we're trying to push and couple of guys have made these posters for minis, seniors, ladies side. An idea was put forward from someone from Glossop rugby club, we should do a minis tinys and tots rugby session. Glossop do it and have had great success.
- AW** Think Mike Marrow was looking in to at one stage?
- WT** Agree with Ryan Jennings about needing to have somebody there to meet and greet these kids when they come
- RP** We've put Ian's name on the bottom of posters as contact, but we've got someone that did this professionally. Ian does what he does, but Robbo (*Rob Hope*) did this for a job and now he wants to do it for us free of charge. So if he could work with Ian, I think that would be a great idea going forward. He's there every Friday and can speak to parents as well as Ian and be say, front of shop.
- Asks for IS, who appears to still not be present.
- Ian's at club all the time, but Robbo's handy with computers, fully aware of GMS system and can work with Christine and/or Ian.
- KTH** He was Director of Minis and Juniors at Congleton



MINIS AND JUNIORS AGM

- WT** Need to organise some form of mini and junior AGM. We've got to do elects to office and managers and we've not done anything on that yet this year. Can do it outside, with social distancing.
- CS** Mini and junior AGM consists of all coaches agree they're moving up for next year to stay with teams and then just clarify positions of me as Junior secretary, Bob as Chair and Mike as Vice Chair and then fixtures. Will talk to Bob.
- WT** Need it in next couple of weeks because we need to have kids in and people in charge
- RP** Can pass info back to membership too
- IW** Discussing Lee Jennings and Ryan Jennings hoping to take U15s and U7s.
- CS** Few teams need players - we're down on some numbers.
- RP** If we're losing players, we need to do an audit. Robbo's sent out to find where players are needed. Memberships don't know we're down. No good us all knowing on here, get it out there.
- CS** I know you're doing it on there, but mini and juniors knew what was missing because we used to mention it in Committee Meetings, was then down to coaches to disseminate it through to parents and then wider. I know how many coaches we need, how many courses we need
- WT** CS and Robbo to liaise re coaches, players, missing numbers/teams etc.

AUDENSHAW

- KTH** Just to note, some of work we did today, had Dan Hardy at club. He's a physics teacher at Audy and was talking about trying to build some stronger relationships. Said, what they're missing is a link between Audenshaw and the club to try and get the guys playing rugby. Said he always talks about rugby so they're looking for a bit of coaching help or whatever from us to try and help them out. Obviously he's got the kids there, but not the rugby school it used to be.
- WT** Couple of rugby blokes at the school going on to PE section cause some key players have left in last 18 months. Headmistress has no interest in rugby really.
- CS** Used to have regular meetings with Chris Rose, he'd tell us what was going on

200 DRAW

- TH**
- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1st prize, no 101 | £220 - Chris Byrom |
| 2nd prize, no 32 | £130 – Chris Jackson |
| 3rd prize, no 31 | £70 – David Nolan |
| 4th prize, no 98 | £45 – Kenny Brand. |
- Confirmed beforehand that all numbers in bag are paid current players. Have 93 members contributing, so could sell to our many new prospective members?

TRAINING

- IW** Certain guidance out now saying you can train in a group of 6, fitness training. Do any Trustees have any objections if certain groups of people start to train?
- ALL** No objections
- TG** Was to speak to Danny at weekend about it, see if we can get first team/senior squad out running, do something
- TH** Can use your 4 quarters of pitch for your 4 groups of 6 training together.
- CS** Remember, if you have a coach present, that's included in your numbers, so if coach is there you can have 5 players, plus coach is 6.
- TH** Have to use the 22s, so four 22s as a 4 segment.
- IW** Have to give people an element of common sense but does anybody have any objections if people begin to do that?
- ALL** In agreement, need to be doing that, ensuring Covid 19 safeguards are in place. Discussion around restrictions on access to club, use of equipment – need to plan. Get some hazard tape, section off toilets and walkways. KTH to speak to Danny and Phil Clarke. Sooner the better.
- KD/RP** Trafford MV Ladies went back this week, posted video on facebook, they've gone back out this



week and so have Heaton Moor.

BOUNCEBACK LOANS

LB Did we find anything about loans at all?

TH Have looked into it but don't want to have loans if we don't need to. Can speak to business manager, we're holding our own at moment but obviously will give full report when we have Trustee meeting.

LB Asks for IS, appears to still not be present.

KEYS FOR CABIN AND TOOLS

ALL Discussion re keys for blue cabin. Is it only IS holds keys? CS says IS says some tools have gone missing, but not sure when or where. LB confused as to how if only one set of keys? Some members bringing tools to club and would like to be locked away but no access to keys. CS explains some tools in blue cabin belong personally to IS. TH says to ask Barry, he uses it might know where some have been put. CS explains security lock on cabin and can't get another key cut at present. KD suggests having new lock fitted or just another set keys cut. LB explains no point having club tools if can't access them. CS says will get IS to remove his personal tools and hand over keys but obviously won't be able to carry out any maintenance himself through the week.

NEXT MEETING

ALL Agree next meeting Wednesday 17 June, 7pm.