**Minutes of Grove RFC Board meeting held 16/02/2015.**

Present: -, Chris McCarthy, Martin Stalder, Paul Walsh, Adrian Amies, Phil Connolly and Storm Dinsey (deputising for Niki Dinsey)

Apologies: -, Niki Dinsey John Sevier, Craig Burrows

1. **Minutes of previous meeting approved and signed off**.
2. **Treasurers Report.**

The treasurer reported that at the current time the club has a balance of approximately £7.9k. However, it has outstanding bills of around £14k. (Payment for showers being the main component of this along with the expected ground rent from the parish council.) This is an improvement on last month, mainly due to two good weekend takings from the bar, but there is certainly no room for complacency.

Invoice for work on showers to be asked for along with time to pay.

No more development /refurbishment to be started until finances improve.

It was agreed that there should be no application for a credit card to help tied us over.

A separate meeting must be planned to discuss next year’s budget. Particular attention to be placed on membership fees and what we can and cannot afford with regard to playing expenses.

**No payments for expenses or purchases that are in excess of £50 can be authorised by BM’s without either a phone call or e-mail to PW first.**

**Action: -** JS to organise a games night for 13th March to help raise funds.

1. **Report from the Director of Rugby.**

No report from D of R.

However, the board congratulate the 1st team on 2 superb games.

The first a good win over league leaders Chippenham and the second a solid performance in the cup against Chinner 2’s

It was brought to the attention of the board that Chinner played an illegible player in the cup game.

This was highlighted to the Oxfordshire officials after the game.

The response from the officials was that if we wished to make a formal complaint then they would look into it and if upheld Chinner may be thrown out of the competition.

The board considered this an unreasonable request by Oxfordshire officials and would only be seen as “sour grapes”.

**Action:**- CM to write to the officials and point out that, after being made aware of the illegible player , it is their responsibility to decide what action should be taken and not up to us to make an official complaint.

1. **Report from the Director of youth/junior Rugby.**

All the junior and youth teams are running well, with the U16’s getting some great results.

U9’s are the problem team this year with numbers still dropping

A meeting needs to be arranged between the U16’s, U17’s, and 1st year colts managers/coaches to agreed how the teams will operate next season, especially as there is an U17’s league planned for next season.

An incident occurred during the Colts game on Sunday 15th Feb where a parent of one of the Bicester players came on the pitch during the game and allegedly assaulted a Grove player. After the match the Bicester parent was very confrontational to the Grove coach when he asked for his name. This very nearly led to a second incident. Also after the game the Grove coach was heard to be making some very abusive comments regarding the referee. Neither of these incidents reflects well on either club.

**Action:-** CM to talk to Grove Coach and an apology to the ref is expected.

MS to write to Bicester Rugby club to complain of the incident. Statements from the people involved will be attached. MS to make it clear that no Bicester player or coach was involved in the incident.

1. **Review of the functioning of the reduced board and the ways to move forward.**

The board structure and titles have now been agreed and this will be published before the next AGM

The Job Description for each Board and management position was reviewed

All board members were asked to examine the descriptions, and to revise as required, those positions that head into them. All requests for changes to be received by 1st march in order that the descriptions can be published

1. **Membership.**

A discussion was held regarding membership fees for next season.

The board was split regarding the issue, some wishing to raise fees, others to lower them. It was agreed that PW would look at budgets and costs and each BM would come back with their recommendations along with reasoning so the subject could be discussed in full at a separate meeting as mentioned in point 2 above and arranged by PW.

1. **AOB.**
2. Grove RFU Darts teams. 2 teams are to be entered in the WDDL summer league this season. The Rugby club will pay the membership of £25 /team. However this is on the understanding that each week half the takings from the football card are given to the rugby club to help with the food expenses. It will be the responsibility of the darts teams to organise the food preparation each evening.
3. Electronic till. The purchase of the tills is still to be formally agreed, but bearing in mind PW’s restrictions on spending a financial justification needs to be presented. ND to provide estimated costs. (As the use of the tills is tied in with membership and discounts it was felt that we need to be able to provide relevant data at the membership review meeting).
4. Folk Festival. The Grove Folk Festival is scheduled for 14th to 16th August. Final arrangements to be confirmed at a later date. (late opening ect.)
5. AGM. The date for the AGM has been set for Wednesday 20th May, 7.30pm start.
6. The Challengers tournament. Football tournament set for 4th and 5th July.
7. Senior football tournament set for 11th July.

Date of next Board Meeting -Monday 16th March 2015.

**Time – 7.30pm** Location -Grove Rugby club