

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF  
LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBYFOOTBALL UNION  
HELD AT TYLDESLEY RUGBY CLUB ON 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

President Gill Burns MBE welcomed everyone to the meeting.

There was a minutes silence in memory of David Matthews former Lancashire President who had passed away.

1. Apologies

David Herriman, Margaret Herriman, Carol Baker, Robbie Jones, Bill Chappell, Margaret Chappell, John Huyton, John Morgan, Fred Swarbrick, John Bradbury, John Dewhurst, Noel Atkinson, Trevor Hulmes, Kate Benetta, Dave Crank, John O'Brien, Bill Hopkinson, Gary Chester, Phil Mahon, Steve Blackburn, Frank Morgan, Brian Minor, Ken Andrews, Ann Andrews, John Greenwood.

2. Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at Liverpool St Helens FC.

All minutes have been circulated and they are on the Lancashire County RFU website.

3. Matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

4. RFU Representatives Report.

Chief Executive's Report

The report had been circulated and it was not the intention to read the report to the members, however there were some points to be noted:

Bill Sweeney the new CEO had 'hit the ground running'. He was a North West man and a rugby man so had some understanding of the issues involved. His aim was to get round as many clubs as possible and to see as many clubs as possible. He has already set out his plan which included:

- Refresh the RFU strategy.
- Look at the Broadcasting revenue, there had been a 30% reduction. Problem caused by different countries having different options. World rugby was currently putting together a plan for a World Nations League but no decisions made as yet.
- Ongoing Board meetings because of the current situation,
- Discussion about ring fencing the Premiership – again nothing has been agreed, but they have been told that there is no more money available eg if they went to

13 team leagues.

- Tyrells Premiership, currently tendering process is ongoing but the people to talk to would be Gill Burns and Helen Duggan as they are closely involved in what is going on with that process.
- Lots of concern about Yorkshire Carnegie and what the outcome is going to be there, there is a possibility the RFU may take it over but again nothing decided so need to keep a close eye on developments.
- Paid Players. The forms for this need to be submitted by the end of June. The advice to clubs is to go back and check that the forms have been submitted.
- Ongoing problems with Leagues which is not confined to the North West, still ongoing arguments about the number of teams in a league/travel etc. The intention is to set up another Competition review looking at all areas.
- Concerns that the DOC structure is not working, intends to look at how the DOC works but again it is not just the North having these problems, it is the same in other parts of the country.
- There was a query about the safety of 3G pitches and the injuries that some players had suffered, the reference in the report though is about professional players, as the community game was not played at the same level. There is no suggestion that the AGP pitches will be banned but the situation is being closely monitored. Sometimes injuries may occur if the pitch is not maintained properly.
- There was then a query from the floor referring back to the money that could be raised from Broadcasting and the possibility that the RFU were not perhaps maximizing their opportunities. RB assured everyone that all that could be done was being done in an attempt to ensure that the RFU got the best deal.

#### 5. Committee Reports.

These had all been circulated in the Annual report. There were no comments.

#### 6. Playing Reports.

These had all been circulated in the Annual Report. There were no comments.

#### 7. Election of three members to the Disciplinary Committee

John Ransom                      Proposed by B Stott. Seconded by J Greenwood.

Steve Blackburn                Proposed by B Stott. Seconded by J Greenwood.

Tommy Hughes                  Proposed by B Stott. Seconded by J Greenwood.

#### 8. Election of Chairman and five members of the Cup and Competitions Committee

Chairman                          Mike Cornelia    Proposed by B Hurst. Seconded by C Smail.

Secretary                         Brian Hurst       Proposed by JT Hughes. Seconded by C Smail.

Bill Lowe                          Proposed by B Hurst. Seconded by C Smail.

Brian Minor Proposed by B Hurst. Seconded by C Smail.

Tommy Hughes Proposed by B Hurst. Seconded by C Smail.

Dave Clarke Proposed by B Hurst. Seconded by C Smail.

9. Election of four members to the Club and Community Rugby Committee

Kate Benatta

Gary Morgan

Jayne Dolloway

Steve Blacburn

All Proposed by MJ Worsley and seconded by R Heptonstall.

10. Election of two members to the Financial and Finance Committee

Chris Smail

Stephen Briers

Proposed by P Deakin and H Duggan.

11. Election of two representatives to the Schools' Committee.

David Herriman and Peter Hughes BEM

Proposed by M Downs and seconded by G Morgan

12. Election of two representatives to the Mini and Junior Committee

Ian Spivey and Allen Bower, proposed by B Stott and seconded by D Clarke

13. Election of Hon County Doctor

James Widnall Proposed by G Morgan. Seconded by A James

14. Election of Hon County Legal Advisor

John Bullough Proposed by M Downs. Seconded by L Howard.

15. Election of the Hon County Team Secretary

Steve Rigby Proposed by B Stott. Seconded by JT Hughes.

16. Election of Hon Membership Secretary

Ann Marie Briers Proposed by W Nichols. Seconded by C Smail

17. Election of two representatives to the Northern Leagues Sub Committee.

Dave Clarke Proposed by I Spivey. Seconded by T Fitzgerald.

Ken Potter Proposed by I Spivey. Seconded by T Fitzgerald.

18. Election of two representatives on ERCA

David Herriman                      Proposed by JT Hughes . Seconded by H Duggan

Dave Clarke                          Proposed by JT Hughes. Seconded by H Duggan

19. Election of one representative to the NOWIRL Committee

Tommy Hughes                      Proposed by T Fitzgerald. Seconded by G Morgan.

20. Election of one representative to the Colts League Committee

Tommy Hughes                      Proposed by T Fitzgerald. Seconded by M Downs.

21. Election of Child Safeguarding Manager and two Deputy Safeguarding Managers

Carol Baker                          Proposed by C Smail. Seconded by H Duggan.

Christine Spivey                    Proposed by C Smail. Seconded by H Duggan.

Sue Hopkinson                      Proposed by C Smail. Seconded by H Duggan.

22. Election of County Webmaster

Anne Clarke                          Proposed by H Hughes. Seconded by W Nichols.

23. Correspondence

There was no correspondence appertaining to this meeting.

24. Dates of General Committee Meetings for 2019/20

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at Preston Grasshoppers RFC (Inc Financial AGM) 7pm

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at Liverpool St Helens RFC 7pm

25. Date and time of next meeting 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019 7.00pm at Preston Grasshoppers RFC

26. AOB

BS referred back to the new Assistant Secretary who would be taking over the Schools and Youth section Disciplinary during the season as part of the succession planning that was being out into place.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

**Attendees**

President                              Gill Burns MBE

Senior Vice President              Brian Stott

Past President                        Ernie Neely

Past President                        Peter Hughes

Past President	Rob Briers
Past President	Tommy Hughes
Past President	Malcolm Worsley
Past President	Dave Hodgson
Past President	Tom Fitzgerald
Hon Secretary	Mark Downs
Hon Treasurer	Paul Deakin
Chairman of Finance	Chris Smail
Director of Volunteering	Andy Kerboas
Director of Rugby	Howard Hughes
Aldwinians	C Spivey
Birchfield	E Wiles
Broughton Park	A P Marsland
Burnage	E Haynes
Burnley	M Nichols
Didsbury Toc H	C Smail
Eccles	W Lowe
Firwood Waterloo	T McClure
Fleetwood	S Doherty
Heaton Moor	D Todd
Leigh	T Hughes
Littleborough	B Hurst
Liverpool Collegiate	G Morgan
Liverpool St Helens	D Woodcock
Lostock	A James
Manchester and District Refs	John Jeskins
Manchester	T Harper
Nth Manchester	B Stott
Oldham	R Heptonstall
Rochdale	J Rhodes
Rossendale	P Makinson

Southport	B Nichols
Tyldesley	B Belcher
Typhoons	L Howard
Vale of Lune	D Hodgson
Warrington	G R Penks
West Park	C Hilton
Wigan	D Clarke
Wythenshaw	D Birchall
Women and Girls	H Duggan
U20s	H Hughes
Mini and Junior	I Spivey
Colts League	A James
Safeguarding	C Spivey
League	K Potter
	D Clarke
Finance	C Smail
Individual Members	C Smail
Individual Members	I S Brown
	A Clarke
	J Griffin