

# **Meeting of the Steering Committee of the BRIS Trust held in The Executive Lounge, The Memorial Ground, on 27.10.2003**

## **Minutes**

**Present;** Nigel, Debs, Ian, Jake, Andy H, Gillian, Mark, Oly, Giles, & representing the Supporters Club Sue L & Mike W.

**Apologies;** Andy P, Nigel Pomphrey

### **1.Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting.**

- Minutes of the meeting held on 13.10.03 were read, approved and entered into the record.

### **2.Treasurer's Report**

- In the current account there is approximately £14,500. Donated income by means of direct debit is £677 monthly, with an additional £80 being received quarterly. Income from direct debit being received annually has increased by £20 to £250.

### **3 Secretary's Report**

- We currently have 529 shareholding members.

### **4. Matters Arising**

- Oly is currently finalising a distribution strategy for the BRIST promotional leaflet and will shortly be launching a major effort to find volunteers to assist in getting this material into the public domain. Some material supplied by the Club will also be distributed as part of this effort.
- Deb confirmed that the text of the Autumn newsletter has now been finalised. Some late revisions to the timing of this mailing have been made to accommodate the Club who have expressed an interest in including some promotional material of their own with it.
- Ian reported that he had written to John Portch to restate the principal BRIST objectives, which are; to gain supporter representation on the Club's board, and to secure a 'golden' shareholding, as he had been asked to at our last meeting. By way of reply he reported that he has received a short letter explaining that the issues it raised would receive detailed consideration by the owners at a meeting they have scheduled for early December 2003. Little or no movement toward the achievement of these objectives can be expected before then.

### **5. Discussion Items**

- Gillian suggested mapping BRIST activity using a common 'Year Planner' as means of improving medium term logistical and financial planning. A start was made by listing mandatory activity, such as the AGM and the electoral activities that must precede it next summer. Other activities will be added as the committee agrees them.
- It was resolved to press ahead with a public meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Despite having less to report than was hoped for when the meeting was first proposed. It was felt to be important

that the membership have a formal opportunity to consider such progress as BRIST has made and to comment upon it. It was suggested that Ian should invite R. Hill to speak to the meeting on the current position of the club, and to formally request those expenditures that he has suggested to the committee. In addition, Oly agreed to approach Messrs Fox and Hoskins to see if they can reprise their talk on the "History of Bristol Football Club" on this occasion. It was resolved to make this an 'open' meeting rather than BRIST members only in the hope of encouraging further membership applications.

- Mark circulated a discussion paper detailing the options before the committee in respect of the elections that must take place next summer. It was agreed that the committee members would read through this paper before the next meeting so as to be in a position to decide between the options presented at the next meeting.

## **6. Any Other Business**

- It was agreed to provide a grant of up to £50 to the Supporters Club with which to purchase a wreath to be laid at the Memorial Gates on November 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Giles noted that many of the current playing squad are without personal sponsors and suggested that BRIST should investigate ways of finding sponsors for these players.
- Oly confirmed that the idea of a Rugby Times article on BRIST was still being developed.
- The Club have offered to 'piggy back' BRIST membership renewal on the back of Season Ticket renewals next year.
- BRIST agreed to organise a bucket collection at a forthcoming home game to raise funds for a Nottingham RFC player permanently disabled by an injury sustained during a game.

## **7. Time, Date and Venue of Next Meeting.**

- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November @ 7.30pm, Executive Lounge, Memorial Ground.