

# **Meeting of the Steering Committee of the BRIS Trust held in The Executive Lounge, The Memorial Ground, on 10.11.03**

## **Minutes**

**Present;** Nigel, Debs, Ian, Jake, Andy H, Giles, Mark, Oly, Andy P & representing the Supporters Club Sue L. (Alan Morley representing the owners joined the meeting at 9pm)

**Apologies;** Gillian

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

- Minutes of the meeting held on 27.10.03 were read, approved and entered into the record.

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

- In the current account there is £15,412.73. Donated income by means of direct debit is £687 monthly, with an additional £80 being received quarterly. Income from direct debit being received annually stands at £250.

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

- We currently have 536 shareholding members.

### **4. Matters Arising**

- Oly reported that leaflet distribution was likely to take a little longer to accomplish than was originally anticipated in view of the number of volunteers that had come forward to help thus far.
- The BRIST/Supporters Club wreath has been purchased and will be laid at the memorial gates tomorrow as part of a simple ceremony.
- It has not been possible to obtain permission to hold a bucket collection in aid of the injured Nottingham player as yet. It was felt that a little more information about the player concerned would be useful when it eventually comes to persuading people to contribute.

### **5. Discussion Items**

- The autumn meeting is confirmed for the 3<sup>rd</sup> December in the Bristol Room of the Memorial Ground. R Hill (plus a few players), Dave Fox & Richard Hoskins ("History of Bristol Rugby") and Alan Morley have all confirmed that they are available for that night.
- It was resolved that the successor body to this committee, scheduled to take office at the AGM due in September 2004, shall consist of eleven members. Seven members shall be elected on a 'first-past-the-post' basis by the membership of BRIST in a secret ballot. It was further resolved that any member wishing to see their name on the ballot will require their nomination to be seconded by three additional members of BRIST. The remaining four members of this body will be drawn from the community of interest that centres on Bristol Football Club at the discretion of the elected members, as mandated by the constitution of BRIST. All members of this body, both elected and co-opted, will be required to join BRIST, if not already a member, as a condition of membership.

- It was noted with reference to recent match-day programmes that many players are still without individual sponsors. It was felt that BRIST should act in some way to remedy this situation, but that this activity was best held over until early in the New Year.
- Alan Morley joined the meeting at 9pm. The committee impressed upon him its view that BRIST had a vitally important contribution to make toward assuring the future prosperity of the club. In response AM expressed his regret that any anxiety arose as a consequence of the lack of news from the owners over the last few months. AM explained that the owners are only now reaching a point where they will be able to say that they have a clear understanding of the current state of the clubs affairs. The next step is to begin to shape the future development of the club to which end the owners will be meeting in December.
- Detailed discussions with AM centred about suggestions as to how the match day experience might best be improved, with a view to improving attendances on match-days, and the degree of freedom that is available to BRIST to exploit commercial sponsorship opportunities that come its way.

## **6. Any Other Business**

- It was noted that Oxford United is up for sale for £1.00. BRIST resolved to send a cheque forthwith with a view to purchasing the club. Dependant upon the successful conclusion of contract negotiations it is proposed to relocate the club to Bristol, where in deference to our hosts at the Mem' it will promptly be placed in administration.

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

- Monday 24th November @ 7.30pm, Executive Lounge, Memorial Ground.