

Meeting of the Steering Committee of the BRIS Trust held at The Memorial Ground, on 18/02/04

Minutes

Present; Jake, Andy, Giles, Mark, Gillian, Ian, Debs & representing the Supporters Club Mike.

Apologies; Oly & Sue

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting.

- Minutes of the meeting held on 26.1.04 were read, approved and entered into the record.

2. Treasurer's Report

- No report available.

3 Secretary's Report

- We currently have 556 shareholding members.

4. Matters Arising

- Andy reported that arrangements for the Schools Rugby Festival were complete. The date is 11/04/04, 10.30 am at Golden Hill. All sponsorship monies are confirmed. Preliminary rounds will take place at the Golden Hill. The semis and final will precede the Bristol home game that day at the Mem
- Following a presentation by Jake the board voted in principle to run a lottery of its own to raise funds for BRIST.
- Deb reminded the committee that time is tight to get newsletter out in fulfilment of our commitment to a quarterly publication schedule.

5. Discussion Items

- BRIST have been invited to raise issues of concern with the managing board of the club at forthcoming meetings of that body. These presentations will last about 45 minutes. Membership of the presenting group will ideally include a representative of the wider membership of BRIST.
- Concern was expressed at the indifference the club continued to display toward BRIST. Some members of the committee declared that their own motivation was being weakened by the club's attitude. It was suggested that this attitude arose from a lack of imagination, a continuing inability to see how BRIST could contribute to the future prosperity of the club, rather than malice. Two options presented themselves; the first, to seek to change the club's attitude with a series of small scale initiatives designed to demonstrate the potential of BRIST as a resource, and the second to openly declare a lack of confidence in the present conduct of the clubs affairs under its current ownership. It was rapidly concluded that this latter course of action was not a viable option at all. However, following the former course of action was to gamble that a

change in the clubs attitude could be effected before the members of BRIST became irredeemably disillusioned.

6. Any Other Business

- BRIST trademark now registered.
- Tax advantages of BRIST status offer advantages to the club.
- Parliamentary Rugby Union group to seek equal treatment of rugby and football trusts.
- Invites to 2004 Balloon Fiesta etc already being received, we need to talk to the club about this.
- Gillian to progress Trust beers idea.
- Domain names to be moved from personal to corporate identities to facilitate transfer in the future.

7. Time, Date and Venue of Next Meeting.

- Tuesday 2nd March 2004, Executive room @the Memorial Ground.