DORSET & WILTS RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMTED

A meeting of the Dorset & Wilts. RFU Council was held on Tuesday, 20th December 2022, from 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

MINUTES – AGENDA

[working assumption: papers sent with or referred to in this agenda will be taken as having been read]

No Item

1.

Attendance, Inc. apologies: co-options and any introductions 2.

Mike Moysey [MM] Atte Stua		Stuart Murrow [SM]	Atte	Gerald Burden [GB]	Atte
Alison Hunter [AH]	Apol	Jane Hart [JH]	Atte	Alistair Morrison [AM]	Apol
John Constable [JC]	Atte	Darren Astley [DA]		KW	Apol
Denis Nolan [DN]	Atte	Ed Taylor [ET]	Atte	David Wookey [DW]	Atte
		Chris Burton [CB]	Apol	Sean Macey [SM]	Atte
David Stirling [DS]	Atte	Nick Elbourne [NE]	Atte	Nicola McCombe [NMc]	

Red represents Non-voting members

MM/DW updated the meeting regarding the role of Area Representative for Mid Wiltshire. MM to formally thank AM for his service to the D&W.

3. Minutes:

To note the of the Council meeting held on the 11th of October 2022

Copies available on the D&WRFU website, please <u>Click here</u>

Noted

4. Matter arising:

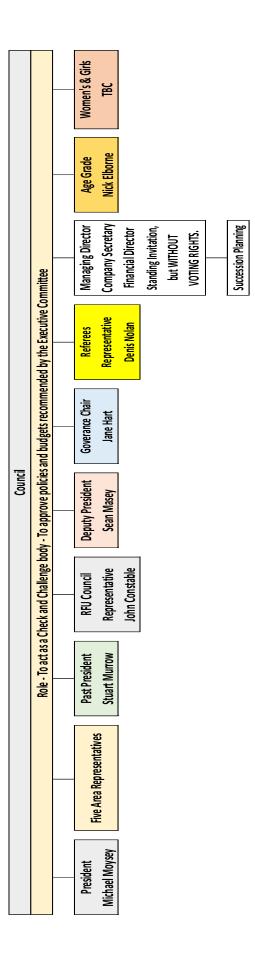
MM updated the meeting regarding the Restructuring of Governance members on the Council. JH to represent Governance on Council will JF standing in if JH was unavailable.

Please see below the revised Council and Governance Committee.

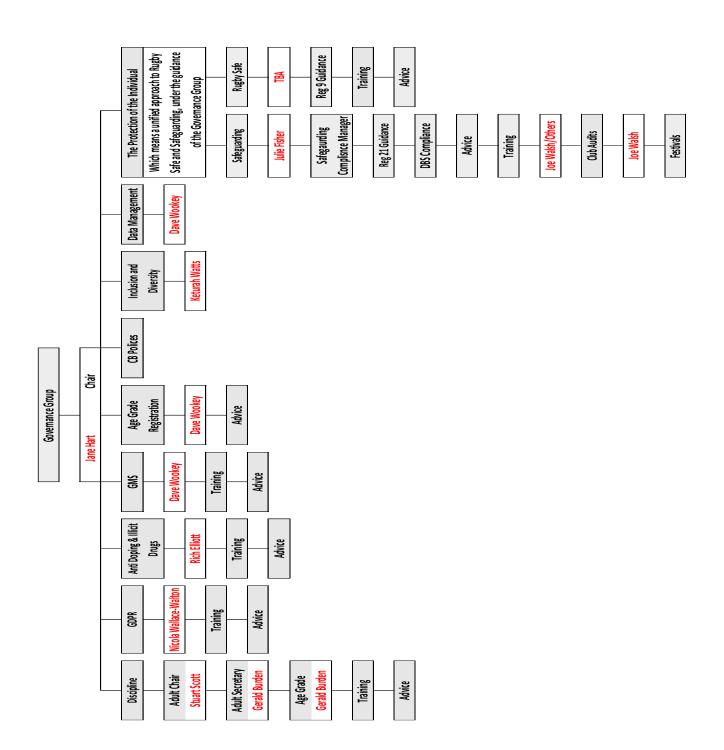


MM/GB

Lead/Action



Dorset & Wilts. RFU Limited: Registered Office: 1 Mede Close Bourton Gillingham Dorset SP8 5BL A registered society under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014, no: 30484R



Play-it-Safe courses in each huddle area.

Update the content of the D&W website for referees https://dwrugby.co.uk/referees/

Update the content of the D&W website for safeguarding https://dwrugby.co.uk/safeguarding/

Update the content of the D&W website for D&I https://dwrugby.co.uk/equality-diversity-and-inclusion/

5. Area Representatives Updates:

Huddle Area – South Wilts	Date – 12 Dec 2022 Zoom		
Attendees / Clubs			
Marlborough, Pewsey Vale, Devizes, Amesbury, Wheatsheaf,			
D&W: Dave Wookey (chair), ,			

RFU: John Constable, Ben Smith

Zoom meeting as we need one before Christmas and its not fair to ask folk to drive to a club across the Plain in poor and very cold weather

Agenda Items:

 Leagues and competitions – how is it going for everyone? Anything you would like to put forward as suggestions for next season that we can ask SW ROC to consider? Wheats not happy with end of season cups and no rugby after leagues. Response was – well it was the survey response! Poss arrange local cluster friendlies to keep involved in Rugby at end of season. Do we know on Relegation and Promotion? If seconds are relegated, then third team is also relegated to make room.

I am aware of an attempt to reorganise last weekends games to this weekend, which I believe is a non-starter as its unlikely pitch conditions will improve and players will have family arrangements for last Saturday before Christmas – appeals with £50 Ron should send a letter out

Issue of the points deduction for game not played created some discussion, JC to take away to ROC potentially for next year

Women's league issues are lost games for walk overs not able to raise team. NC leagues are wide geographically and strengths. Can Game on be used more? Not applicable below NC3.

- Pitch issues apart from weather issue. any thoughts or sensible wants for pitch/crowd control to be sent to D Wookey for routing to CB facilities.
- Clubhouse issues only energy bills!
- Women's Competition Leagues and a knock out, thoughts on a points handicap to level out the levels of teams all to be discussed with Comp Committee – this to prevent walkovers as much as anything. Can't do on leagues, have to look at levels with each league. Perhaps look at CB rep players from each club.
- Walking Rugby Festival in March This will be 18 March. Currently we have Chippenham, Trowbridge, Amesbury and Salisbury?? Interested. I'm working our Amesbury WR guru, Peter King, to see if any other Wilts clubs are up and running (I hear that Westbury have folded) and whether any clubs in Dorset have managed o get up and running. Location depends on entries as I want t place a central as I can. I have Medals and Shields already. Stuart Morrow (Chippenham) is likely taking the CB role for WR.
- Age Grade issues Devizes Girls struggling for numbers. Some money available, sanitary provision will get it on application.
- RFU points from SW staff -
- GMS data tidy up -
- CB vacancies call for volunteers we need a membership Sec, a RugbySafe person, Deputy CBSM, Volunteer Coordinator and a new Area Rep to take on the Central Wiltshire group – we may have filled the Hd of Governance by the time our meeting is held,
- AOBs Struggling for Referees, call for club refs to step up, and maybe even join society From league regs - 4. Referees. RFU Regulations cover the appointment of match officials. In the Dorset & Wilts Leagues the host club cannot rely upon the referee society to appoint a match official. Where one is not appointed, or becomes unavailable, the onus will be on the host club to arrange a referee, consulting the opposition team as to whether they can assist and keeping the league secretary informed of their progress in solving the problem. Where this is not done, and where the League Secretary deems the host club has not made the

necessary effort to appoint a referee, then a league fixture will be deemed to be forfeited and will not be postponed to a later date if that is the only reason for postponement.

Actions

- Clubs to notify Chair of needs and wants for pitch issues
- JC to check up on situation with non-qualified Refs
- Marlborough working with College DofE helping them do refereeing and Coaching within the scheme, could this be used to push for YMOs Mark to be put in touch with Denis.
- Age Grade Calendar dates expect late Feb

Date of next meeting: I suggest we stay on Zoom for darker evenings. I think we should look at around Feb/March

6. Non-Area Representatives Updates:

Women's & Girls

DS

- 1. I continue to disseminate information via the Facebook page "Dorset and Wiltshire Girls Rugby" on all matters and dates that are relevant to this section of the game getting feedback where appropriate.
- 2. I have had further meetings with Bath Rugby to discuss their future involvement in the girl's game.
- 3. I have attended the CSU Dorset schools rugby afternoon held at Dorchester RFC on 24th November, the first meeting planned for 3rd November was lost due to waterlogged pitches. It is hoped to hold further events in the New Year including a Dorset School's festival which I plan to attend and support.
- 4. I have found that both the U18 county team coaching set up and the Under 16 DPP programme are unwilling to share any information for wider publicity about their activities. This goes as far as the Under 18 programme not even responding to when their matches are taking place, where and who against and who has been selected. I do not believe this silo mentality is good for the game but it would appear to be the way things have always been done. I have therefore decided to leave them to continue as they see fit.
- 5. I attended the 2nd Super Cluster event at Sherborne RFC held on Sun 6th DEC. This was well attended by 12 and 14 year old's, about 20 in each group, however no involvement from 16 and 18 age groups. Future clusters are now arranged for Sun 19th Feb at Swanage and Wareham, 26th Mar at Royal Wootton Bassett and 30TH April at Dorchester. It should be noted that parents and clubs are not prepared to travel long distances to support these events and I expect the numbers to remain similar to those at Sherborne for future events.
- 6. The Girls under 18 match play opportunity at North Dorset on Sunday 23rd Oct went ahead with approximately 22 players in attendance.
- 7. In conjunction with the CSU I have offered my services to help with coaching in schools in North Wiltshire. I will be attending sessions at the Corsham School and the Lavington School in Devizes after the Xmas break. The Corsham School will be holding a North Wilts schools festival in March in conjunction with Bath Rugby.
- 8. Further work in schools is being carried out by Ceri Large, on behalf of RWB RFC, below the south side of Swindon, Tim Dunford, on behalf of Chippenham RFC at Sheldon and Hardenhuish, Jason Yarwood inviting Salisbury schools to use Salisbury RFC and Mark Banham going into school in Bridport. Gordon Horsley continues his long standing efforts in the Bournemouth area. I am sure there are others out there that I am not aware of to date. However the key point to all these efforts is whether girls are transitioning from the school into the clubs and this would appear to be a very mixed picture at this time.

- 9. I have revamped the invite list for the next women's and girls' forum to reflect the people actually involved in this sphere. The Forum in November had to be cancelled due to the lack of a Zoom host and it is hoped that a meeting can be re-scheduled for January.
- 10. My proposal for an Under 14 mini programme was rejected with the suggestion that the Super Clusters are the way forward for this age group. I did not believe this to be the case as the Super clusters are only attracting girls from a close proximity to the host club however the proposal has now been withdrawn.
- 11. I attended the D & W Competitions committee Zoom last week where approval was given to sort out some form of Women's D & W cup competition for latter on in this season. I will be working initially with Dave Wookey to put some bones on the proposal and will at the same time seek feedback from the Women's game on what would be attractive to them.

Referees.	DN
Governance	JH
Inclusion and Diversity No report submitted	KW
 Safeguarding No report submitted 	JF

RugbySafe

First Aid Training Grants 150 x £30.00 – Maximum six places per club on a first come/first served basis

Two clubs have been awarded six x £30.00 first aid grants each.

Mental Health Awareness

£850.00 x 5 Huddle Training Meetings

> Discipline

Guys Marsh Barbarians – has requested not to be classified as a non-voting member of the D&W any longer. Having spoken with Twickenham, the club will no longer be covered by the RFU Insurance etc.

Therefore, no other clubs should participate in any friendly matches against them.

They also have a Warminster player who is currently unable to play for his club, due to him receiving a Red Card against Blandford in a friendly.

Guys Marsh Barbarians has failed to engage with the D&W Discipline Process, and the case has been passed to the RFU

GB

Date	Ref No	Club	Recipient	Section	Charge	Outcome	Sanction	Notes
		SCOB	Eoin Crean	Adult	9.12 - Striking	Proven	1 match Ban	
	D&W-22/002	Devizes	Craig Bryant	Adult	9.12 - Striking	Proven	3 match ban	
		Buckingham	James Temple	Adult	9.12 - Intentional Contact with Eye(s)	Proved		Passed to Bucks RFU
		North Dorset	··· ·· · · · ·	Age Grade	9.12 - Striking	Overturned		
09/09/2022	D&W-22/009	North Dorset		Age Grade	5.12 (Striking)	Proven	2 match Ban	Charge based on the video received
09/09/2022	D&W-22/005	Clayesmore School		Age Grade	9.12 - Striking	Proven	2 match Ban	
09/09/2022	D&W-22/006	Wimborne 2's	Will Spriggs	Adult	9.27 – Two Yellow Cards	Proven	1 match ban	
		Corsham	Kieran Dry	Adult	9.27 – Two Yellow Cards	Proven	1 match Ban	
17/09/2022	D&W-22/008	Melksham	Richard Carlile	Adult	9.11	Proven	4 match ban	
18/09/2022	D&W-22/010	Supermarine	Jose Mantinan	Spectator	5.12 - MOA	Proven	25 weeks	
	D&W-22/011	Poole	Club	Adult		Proven	Warning	For failing to report an incident
	D&W-22/012	Swanage & Wareham	Club	Adult		Proven		For failing to report an incident
	D&W-22/013	Mimi DeWinters	Poole	Adult	5.12	Proven	4 match ban	
24/09/2022	D&W-22/014	Sherborne	Elliot Cuff	Adult	9.13	Proven	3 week ban	
24/09/2022	D&W-22/015	Sherborne	Toby O'Loughlin	Adult	9.28 - MOA	Proven	8 match ban	
25/09/2022	D&W-22/016	Salisbury		Age Grade	9.12 & 9.28	Proven	4 match ban	Plus Other Conditions
01/10/2022	D&W-22/017	Wheatsheaf CC	Daniel Chapple	Audit	9.12 Player Abuse - 9.28 Dissent	Proven	3 match ban	
01/10/2022	D&W-22/018	Wimborne 2's	Alex Mason	Audit	9.12	Proven	3 match ban	
02/10/2022	D&W-22/019	Lychett Minster Un 16's		Age Grade	Citing	Not-proven		0
02/10/2022	D&W-22/020	Wimborne Un 16's		Age Grade	9.28 - MOA	Proven	3 match Ban	Plus Other Conditions
22/10/2022	D&W-22/021	SCOB		Club	5.12 Match Abandoned	0	0	Cross Border Hearing with an independent Chair
22/10/2022	D&W-22/022	Reading Abbey		Club	5.12 Match Abandoned	0	0	
22/10/2022	D&W-22/023	Trowbridge 2nd	William Browne	Adult	9.12	Not-proven		
22/10/2022	D&W-22/024	Bournemouth Un 18's		Age Grade	9.28 - MOA	Proven	6 match ban	
23/10/2022	D&W-22/025	Poole	Niall Taylor	Adult	5.12	Proven	See SJF	Social Media Post/Oakmeadians
00/01/1900	D&W-22/026	Fairford						Passed to GRFU - Supermarine
00/01/1900	D&W-22/027	Cleve	Coach	Age Grade	9.28 - MOA			Passed to GRFU
00/01/1900	D&W-22/028	Warminster	Jamie Varden	Adult	9.20 - b	Not-proven		
29/10/2022	D&W-22/029	Chippenham	Aaron Davis	Adult	9.12 Striking with the head	Not-proven		
05/11/2022	D&W-22/30	Newent	Jordon Devries	Adult	9.12 Striking with the head			Passed to GRFU
		Wimborne	Jack Mason	Adult	9.13	Proven	3 match ban	
		Amesbury	Kola Nalewaben	Adult	9.27	Proven	1 match Ban	
		Amesbury	James Cocks	Adult	9.11	Proven	4 match ban	
		Devizes		Age Grade	9.12 - Striking	Proven	2 match ban	
		Trowbridge		Age Grade	9.12 - Striking	Proven	2 match ban	
		Guys Marsh	Chris Lewis	Adult	9.11	0		Passed to RFU
	,	Chippenham		Age Grade	9.12	Proven	2 match ban	
		SCOB	Eoin Crean	Adult	9.12	Proven	5 match ban	
1 1 -		Melksham	Charlie Radcliffe				3 match ban	
		North Dorset		Age Grade	9.11	Proven	1 match ban	
	,	Bournemouth Un 15's		Age Grade	9.11 - 9.28	Not-proven		
		Bridport Un 14's		Age Grade	9.12	Proven	1 match Ban	
		Puddletown	Samuel Pomeroy	Adult		-		
		RWB	Joshua Rice	Adult	9.27	Proven	1 match Ban	
		Swindon	Char;ie Cox	Adult	9.12	Proven	SoS	
		Bryanston School	Scott Hobson	School	5.12	Proven	No Action	
		Corsham		Adult	9.17			
		Wheatsheaf CC		Adult	9.12			
		Bornemouth 2nd		Adult	9.28			
	D&W-22/050		Unnamed	Spectator	5.12			
07/12/2022	D&W-22/051	Bouremouth Uni	Club	Spectator	5.12			

Bystander Training

GB

The D&W is one of first CBs to be selected to participate in a new RFU course about Bystander Training.

The course, built in conjunction with a leading training provider Pearn Kandola, is Bystander training and this is aimed at giving people the tools and confidence to challenge inappropriate behaviour. This interactive course that will be delivered by RFU training staff, either in-person or through Zoom, will focus on several scenarios that many of us will face not just in the Rugby environment but in our day to day lives.

This session is a key education module that will be delivered to your clubs, and it is essential that our leaders across the game have been through the training'

Nine Names so far

- 1. John Constable
- 2. Mike Moysey
- 3. Ron Jones
- 4. Sean Macey
- 5. Julie Fisher
- 6. Gerald Burden
- 7. Alan Ottaway
- 8. Ed Taylor
- 9. Gordon Harding

10. Nick Elbourne

- 11. Jane Hart
- > GDPR

No report submitted

County Membership

Now set up on GMS, to come into enforce next year.

Age Grade

RFU Council Representative

15/12/2022 Date: Reportee: John Constable Previous month's activity: Attended several cluster meetings around D&W. • Visited Trowbridge, Poole & Sherborne. • Still part of the Adult Competition Sub Committee, recent meeting looking at RFU Cups, entries etc. Also, part of 2 Task & Finish groups looking at rewriting Reg 13 & 14 to cover the plans to get all Adult Players to affiliate (or register - wording to be decided yet) for next season to bring the game in line with Age grade. The second group is looking at areas like walkovers, structured season, game on etc. For example, with Game On- how can this be pushed more to encourage teams to buy into it to get more games played rather than 1 team just happy to take the walkover and not worry about playing. Both groups still active although outline suggestions from the first group go to CGB and Governance this week. Nov CB National call covered the Tackle height evaluation- this is still • ongoing in Age grade and some festivals are being used to help the trial. Looking at what they do in New Zealand- this is sternum height. Also looking at whether it's lowered to say naval height. (It was mentioned that in France both Adult and Age grade the tackle height is below the waist). It is clear that the correct tackle technique is key. The RFU is looking to push communications around Head Injuryprevention & management. This is to try to counter the constant bad press around head injuries, problem is good news doesn't sell newspapers! Information around what the RFU is doing to try to reduce the risks etc. is given to the press but no one wants to write about it! For example, new mouthguards are being used in certain games that record head impacts, all Premiership players should have done the Head case training and so on. The RFU is up amongst the top unions in looking to deal with the question of head injuries. One area that I think is key going forwards is that we need to try to • change the Culture within clubs, where currently some are more worried about making sure they get 5 league points rather than thinking about trying to get a game played, thus keeping players playing and revenue coming in. 'Game-On' really needs to be pushed to get more games played. Current Budget update: n/a **Proposed Activity** Continued attendance at meetings where possible. (including estimated cost) Looking to get a newsletter from me out to clubs with info from Council meetings- it seems that since Chris Cuthbertson has stood down as a

NE

Council member, Middlesex are no longer doing their 'notes' whe great way to get information out to all. Early New year continued club visits- if anyone wants to sugges visit let me know, currently looking at Colerne early Jan and Doi (alongside Ed). Looking forward players will need to accept responsibility for the GMS. We need to encourage clubs to contact the players and g access their accounts, verify e-mail if not done and enter any m conditions plus Emergency Contact. Appreciate some might not enter medical info but this is handy to have if anyone has an iss Saturday/Sunday afternoon.	st clubs to prchester eir data on get them to nedical of want to
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7. Executive Committee Update:

Other Grants

Club Infrastructure Improvements Grants

Amesbury

A AA AA AA AAAA	before grant Offer to pay subscription for ever Arrange catch-up meetings with Finalise and arrange CB Safegu Finalise CB Safeguarding audit ID dates and organise women/m	and place on website school's project with a d the project ad offer support to his I prepeat and expand th he Age Grade Forums available grants, and e ewsletter MS data cleanse and r ery D&W club to obtain a Dave Stirling/CB/NMc uarding Conference nale Vets events n newsletter	A view to offering £1K more for Huddle to initiate the same the D&W intro to Refereeing co in the New Year expand circulation to M/Y and n/y affiliations. Assessment by Pro-Active App.	CB, ASAP RWB to head up CB, ASAP CB, ASAP urse CB, New CB, ASAP W/G club leads CB, ASAP CB, January	
	Accounts report submitted				
	Outstanding Invoices				
b)	Club Support			AO	
Su	tton Benger was the victim of a b	preak in, which resulted	I in their training lights being s	tolen.	
Club Development Grants 2022-23					
Oa	kmeadians	£500.00	Travel	Agreed	
RV	VB	£500.00	Schools	Agreed	

Colts

Agreed

£1,500.00

Applications from

Oakmeadians – Changing Rooms Royal Wootton Bassett – Lighting

Club Facility Form 2022-23

Received from the following clubs

- 1. Marlborough
- 2. Salisbury
- 3. Cricklade
- 4. Oakmeadians
- 5. Bridport
- 6. Warminster
- 7. North Dorset

Honda Volunteer of the Year 2023 Update

Update on the plans for the Honda Volunteer of the Year Awards 2023, with nominations due to go live on Monday 16th January.

The awards will once again have three categories that people can nominate either an individual or group of volunteers for:

Unsung Hero Game for All Challenging Spirit

Other issues

Salisbury, N Dorset & Colerne – facilities loans & rfu loans signed off Amesbury – development of new ground at school site to increase capacity RWB – floodlighting Wimborne – club relocation Wheatsheaf – boiler issues Trowbridge – 3G & use of Brockfill Christchurch – awareness of capacity issues and search for more capacity (possibly at Grange School which is where the Playing Pitch Strategy showed development of a second 3G pitch. [the first is at Chapel Gate])

c) Community Rugby

SM

Date:	^{18th} December 2022
Reportee:	Sean Macey
Previous month's activity:	Dorset and Wilts Cup Competitions
	29 D&W teams have entered the Papa John Trophy; Regional 1 x 2, Regional 2 x 6, Counties 1 x 6, Counties 2 x 12, Counties 3 x 2, Counties 4 x 1.
	Due to the situation regarding the PJT and its mechanics it has been difficult for the Competitions Committee to arrive at definitive format for the County Cups. Invites have gone out to all clubs, covering all teams within to determine the number of entrants to provide meaningful competitions. Some clubs require chasing for their response. There is a further meeting of the

Committee planned for January, where hopefully provisions can be made for a format.
Dorset and Wilts Leagues
The 6 D&W leagues at Counties 2 and 3 have mostly operated smoothly this season. 25 games have been forfeited. At present there are no teams in immediate danger of being expunged.
Counties 3DWS has unfortunately moved from a pre season total of 7 teams to 5; Christchurch opted to move to the Hampshire Merit Tables and East Dorset Dockers II were expunged early in the season.
At just over the halfway point the respective league leaders are:
C2DWN: Marlborough II C2DWC: Corsham C2DWS: Weymouth & Portland C3DWN: Supermarine C3DWC: Corsham II C3DWS: Ellingham & Ringwood II
The recent postponements because of weather conditions is already putting pressure on the fixture list and its completion by 18 th March. This is more evident at Counties 1 and above where the league sizes are bigger. Further disruption over the winter months could require a decision from RFU/SW Rugby regarding league completion dates.
Tribute TOTM Award
The recipients of the D&W Tribute TOTM award to date are as follows:
September: Marlborough RFC October: Corsham RFC November: Bradford on Avon RFC
There is £4k available in the SW Rugby Tribute sponsorship for "stash" to be allocated to clubs. The issue this presents is finding worthwhile items, and of sufficient quantities to distribute across the clubs in the SW leagues. Rising costs have made this process even more challenging.

d) Representative Rugby

No report submitted

GB reported that the Under 20's Training evening as been cancelled on Wednesday 21st December 2022.

8. AOB:

Outstanding Vacancies

Volunteer Co-ordinator – Dorset & Wiltshire Community Rugby Co-ordinator Non-executive Director Area Representative Mid Wiltshire

For JD please <u>Click here</u> Two applications - to be interviewed

SM & AM to step away RJ willing to support the new appointee

Swindon and North Wiltshire County Rugby Sponsorship Manager Age Grade Deputy Lead Age Grade Competition Support members Senior Competition Support members Deputy President RugbySafe Lead Deputy CB Safeguarding Manager

Upcoming Dates

1. Council

20th of December 17th of January 2023 21st of February 28th of March 25th of April 23rd of May 20th of June

2. <u>AGM</u> 19th of July 2023

Training Course Update – Please Click here to view

Non-voting Affiliated Clubs to be removed from GMS

Darren Astley appointed

For JD please <u>Click here</u> For JD please <u>Click here</u>

GB/DW

Gerald Burden - Gen Sec