

Fairford RFC Minutes

Date: 07/09/2026

Time: 1930hrs

Location: Fairford Community Centre



In attendance: Lorna Pugh, Megan Wood, Sandra Lewis, Richard Lewis, Keelan Little, Justin Oon, George Ellis, Daisie Cox, Wendy Button, Pete Mason, Anthony Little

Apologies from: Louise Little, Helen Jones, Colin Spour, Charlie Rymer, Daniel Pugh

Introduction

The minutes from last month will be published on the website. All further minutes will have 48hrs to be checked by the committee before being published on the website.

Finance Report

Main Account £11,109.72

Develop - £20,848.44

Youth - £36,125.00

Total - £68,083.16

Upcoming invoices to pay: SSE Energy, Youth Coaching (Youth Account), Ernest Cook Trust (Fencing around youth pitches, Youth Account)

It was suggested that certain roles within the club would benefit from being a paid position. E.g. Youth Communications and Cabin/Chair. This person would manage the cabin, organise the volunteers, and make overall improvements to the youth section.

This paid position is a short-term solution, until a parent volunteer is found. There is a current parent who is interested in an administrative role, which would keep costs down. This parent is going to be approached by the committee within the next few days, with a specific list of duties and responsibilities, to see if there is further interest.

There was also a discussion about the potential about funding coach positions. This would be around £1000 a season, for one coach, which could be sponsored by local businesses. The committee was reminded about the grant held within the youth account, which could help to pay for this.

The committee voted on a short-term idea for paid coaches, until volunteer coaches and administrative roles are confirmed and in position.

There is an order due from Macron – A replenishment of the youth cabin for the 26/27 season.

Club Development

It was discussed there are communications between FRFC and the Football Association (FA) regarding usage and costs of the 3G Pitch. There are concerns from the FA about the commitment that FRFC have agreed to. However, FRFC have already committed to the SLA, which states that we have agreed to all Vixens, Seniors, Youth training and matches, plus the occasional Friday Night League and Cup games, for £5800 per year. Cricklade, Minety, Cirencester and Supermarine RFC have all showed positive support and interest in usage of the 3G pitch. The SLA needs to be agreed to by all parties, before the build starts.

There are also conversations going on between FRFC and the RFU regarding what facilities are necessary for the multi-sports centre planned for Farmor's Sports Hall.

Vixens

There are regularly 15-20 players at training, with new players coming each week from the RAF base and also from other local clubs. There is a worry for numbers due to 25/26 season injuries.

First game is 27th September. There is a friendly planned with Grove on the 20th.

Youth

The first youth training session was on Sunday. There are new players, but still a gap within the coaching side.

There were few players within the u11s team. This is a significant concern going forward and the future of the team is to be reviewed at the end of September.

Thursday evening training is going to be trialled on a Thursday evening, for u9s, u10s and u11s. This will be a mixed session with the three age groups, focusing on rugby skills, and will start on 17th September. Vixen's and Senior men's players should still volunteer on Thursdays and Sundays.

The committee discussed an opportunity to visit Hartpury RFC, taking the youth section to do a 45-minute session with the Hartpury coaches, then participating in a Guard of Honour, watching the game, with the potential of a BBQ after.

Youth section (Players and Coaches) free, parents £10 entry.

Potential dates:

Friday 2nd October.

Sunday 8th November

Richie Lewis to contact Hartpury regarding the organisation of this opportunity.

Seniors

Numbers are good, around 20-28 at each training sessions. There are new players coming over from the RAF base, and regular enquiries from the social media. The seniors have retained the majority of the 25/26 season players alongside the new players, creating a bigger squad.

The majority of the Seniors have registered and paid the £25 membership fee.

The Mumbles Tour was successful, with a competitive game against an experienced side. There are talks of organising another visit for next summer.

The Senior's priority now is to create a player pathway from Colts/u17s up to the Senior squad. It was discussed going into local secondary schools, such as Burford, Farmors and Deer Park, would be advantageous for this pathway.

Walking Rugby

Good numbers, around 12-14 with new players coming each week.

Looking currently at the organisation of games this season.

Sponsorship

It was discussed that there could be more sponsorship within the club. E.g. facilities. Keelan Little has agreed to take on the responsibilities of finding new potential sponsors.

It was also discussed that a new playing kit supplier for the 27/28 season could be beneficial for the members. 'Akuna' are currently being explored. There are also options of a shirt for the Walking Rugby team, and the youth section with this supplier.

Sponsors for the new 27/28 seasons kit are being looked into. It looks to be around £6000 for sponsorship of both the Seniors and Vixens playing kit. It was also discussed that it could be beneficial researching sponsorship for coaches' kit.

The committee discussed having a vintage shirt given to a member upon player sponsorship, in replacement of the voucher codes given for the Macron store. This takes away the administrative duties of the voucher codes. This shirt will be worn as post match attire at away fixtures for the Seniors and Vixens in the 26/27 season. The committee have voted in favour of this.

There are currently 24 player sponsors found for the Seniors – 8 more left to find.

There are currently 18 player sponsors found for the Vixens.

Comms, Media, Publicity

Nothing to report.

RugbySafe

All actions have been completed for the 26/27 season.

It was confirmed that a 'Proactive' report needs to be done before any training or matches.

It was discussed that a lockable box should be purchased for the cabin first aid kit, to stop unnecessary usage.

There are no reported injuries at the current time.

Safeguarding

It was discussed that the audit is currently being completed, between Sandra Lewis and Louise Little.

It was confirmed that all coaches need a DBS, and in order for this to happen, the RFU safeguarding course needs to be completed. Also, the 'Headcase' course should be completed.

All coaches also need to complete the 'Play it Safe' course, which can be delivered at FRFC by Jon Poulton (Cirencester RFU). Sandra Lewis to organise.

It was reminded that all RFU ran courses expired on 01.08.2026. If any coaches or members completed a course before this, it will need to be redone before the start of the 26/27 season.

Socials

Nothing to report.

AOB

Nothing to report.

Next meeting – 5th October 2026 - 1930