

A summary of the CBSC members consultation meeting held at Cardiff Arms Park on Friday 16th September 2016.

Sarah Hopkins welcomed all the members present and Richard Holland, Rhys Williams and Billy Millard

She explained that discussions with the Blues is part of business as usual for CBSC and that it was important to provide an early opportunity for members to hear from RH, particularly given the recent press reports and speculation.

RH said that having had a number of discussions with SH recently, he wanted to speak directly to CBSC members.

He explained that he was in the final stages of renegotiating a new 150 year lease on the Arms Park with redevelopment rights. This is not concluded and is subject to agreement from Cardiff Athletic Club. New investors would be required and both Cardiff Blues and Cardiff RFC would benefit.

Any redevelopment would take a substantial amount of planning time and the timeline was not certain. There are a number of options that can be considered including the development of a multipurpose indoor arena but the main priority would be that it is suitable and appropriate for rugby.

A memorandum of understanding has been agreed with CAC and a number of specifics were outlined within that, such as the inclusion of a clubhouse, museum etc.

RH stated that speculation in the press regarding a WRU buy out was not correct. Although discussions had occurred with regards to the proposals and the options of locating at the Principality Stadium during redevelopment. In addition, discussions were required to agree plans based on the affect redevelopment would have on our neighbours.

RH also commented on the decision to take British & Irish Cup games to Pontypridd and Merthyr. This was purely rugby based on the basis that this is where our players are coming from, as well as Cardiff RFC.

Sarah thanked RH for his comments and invited questions from the floor.

A question was asked about timescales for change and redevelopment. RH said it would likely take a couple of years to get mobilised assuming agreement is reached and then we should plan for playing away from CAP for 2-3 seasons. If everything goes as hoped, we'd be vacating CAP after season 2017/18.

A member asked whether provisions would be considered for existing season tickets holders to be offered seats at a new stadium first. RH said that existing members would of course be given a priority, although this was a long way off!

A question was asked regarding the requirement to seek shareholder permission

following consultation with CAC. RH said that this would be done via an EGM.

A member asked whether the designs were available. RH said that this would depend on the investment available and nothing could be shared until investment was secured.

A question was asked about the poor range of ladies wear and leisurewear in the shop. Rhys Williams said that a decision had been made by the supplier to not stock these items based on previous sales. SH commented that the poor range of merchandise had been raised by CBSC on previous occasions, including very recently and that the committee would continue to raise this on behalf of supporters. CBSC were also currently looking at a range of leisurewear. Further details would follow.

SH thanked RH, RW and BM for attending, particularly in recognition of their existing pre-match commitments.

RH said that the management were committed to consulting with CBSC on future changes and that he would be happy to host similar sessions in future.

SH thanked everyone for attending.