



# 'OLD PIRATES'

## Meeting No.4 - June 2017



### MINUTES OF 'OLD PIRATES' MEETING No 4 and A **SPECIAL MEETING**- HELD AT THE CLUBROOMS ON WEDNESDAY 14th June 2017

**Present:** Big Buccaneer (BB), Heather, Gypo, Rick, Fairy Witty. The meeting was divided into 2 sections with club President Ash Peat, Club Capt. Kim Hinaki, Tiny Dean, Rex Olsen and Patron Bear Stapleton in attendance for a '**special meeting**'.

#### **SPECIAL MEETING**

Central to this meeting was the topic of the building of a new covered grandstand. Some background was given to discussions with Tiny Dean including Tiny's 'different' angle to sponsorship which is based on approaching major firms for larger contributions. In this regard, Mainfreight was raised as an example. Some of Tiny's points included:

1. Club sector coordination on fund raising is essential. Nothing is worse than confusing a potential Sponsor.
2. Professional presentation important – the club's sponsorship document needs tweaking as amounts are too modest.
3. Members of the club need to be committed to the fund-raising cause. A small group to be formed with Tiny as supervisor?
4. Look at the club's positive community profile and promote this strongly.

A wide-ranging discussion was held on the best approach to building a grandstand. The following points were made:

- Generally accepted that a conceptual plan needs to be drawn.
- Rex Olsen explained various aspects of construction and the options to pursue. He suggested that the club look at keeping the build simple but practical and to avoid expensive concrete structures.
- Seating capacity to be estimated – Rex will investigate.
- Club tradies to be alerted to the likely task ahead.
- Council compliance an essential requirement.
- Positioning / location / estimated footprint to be gauged.
- In due course, there is a need to determine what facilities might be included in the build e.g. storage and changing rooms.

Following considerable discussion, it was decided that Rex would present a conceptual plan - the following Motion was then put:

**“That the meeting approve Rex Olsen to proceed to commence conceptual planning of an appropriately sized covered grandstand with ancillary facilities to suit”**

**Moved BB / Seconded Witty**

The motion was passed with **unanimous support**. A planning time-frame of 3 months was agreed.

The meeting was also unanimous in thanking Tiny Dean for travelling from Rotorua to contribute his expertise which was greatly appreciated by all. Members also thanked Rex for his comprehensive technical contribution.



### **'OLD PIRATES' MEETING:**

Another good selection of reds appeared and were consumed in typical 'Old Pirates' fashion. Ash had brought along an expensive Pinot Noir but refused to share his bottle on the basis that he considered "no-one present has the level of wine sophistication to appreciate a good vintage".

**Apologies:** Doddsy – who has now missed 3 consecutive meetings. BB stated that a short while ago Doddsy wanted to challenge him for the BB position. He noted that since being defeated Doddsy had become sullen bordering on morose. Heather said that her cat Floppsie was having similar problems and she thought it was probable that the cat and Doddsy were both having some form of life crisis. She said "in Floppsie's case she was losing teeth but Doddsy is probably losing something else".

Apology accepted; Moved Fairy, seconded Heather.

**Financials:** Heather detailed the financial situation explaining that the Bank balance stood at \$4667.00. She noted that 99 subscriptions had been paid.

### **Correspondence Inward:**

A letter received from a netball player that was signed anonymously. The letter stated that a senior member of the club who she thought was an 'Old Pirate' had wolf-whistled at her during the netball gathering on Saturday. The letter said that she accepted that it was a rugby club however she felt that wolf whistling was intimidating and invasive.



BB said that it was upsetting to receive such a letter and asked which member of the Crew was responsible. Rick said that when it came to wolf-whistling, Gypo would be an immediate suspect as “he has a background of doing that kind of thing”. Fairy said that if Gypo had wolf-whistled surely someone would have heard? Witty said that Doddsy was also inclined to wolf-whistle at times but he wasn’t at rugby that Saturday so he doubted if it had been him. BB said that in his role as a community leader he was aghast at such misogynistic behaviour and he personally would never consider such a sexist act. Heather said that such behaviour came as no surprise to her at all. She commented that she often felt uneasy with some of the innuendos and inferences made by Crew members. She said that “personally I would suspect Rick as sometimes he can act in an overly familiar manner.” She continued by saying “that between Doddsy’s roving eye and Rick’s unwelcome advances ‘Old Pirates’ meetings were not a female friendly environment”. BB thanked Heather for her observations which he said were both revealing and concerning.

BB said that Rick has grown a ridiculous Rolf Harris style beard. He posed the question “could this be an indicator of a wolf-whistler?”

Gypo said that he had enjoyed quite a few drinks that Saturday and really couldn’t remember whether he had committed the offence or not. He said that “the netball girls were really enjoying themselves and so was I.” He continued by saying.... “what if I did wolf-whistle.... is that so bad”?



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BB said that he took Gypo’s remarks as a clear admission of guilt and said that such an act threw a very dim light on ‘Old Pirates’. It was agreed that BB communicate a written apology to the netball management.

**Correspondence Outward:**

A letter from ‘Old Pirates’ to netball management stating that ‘Old Pirates’ sends its apology for one of its Crew acting in an imprudent and immoral manner toward one of their players. The letter stated that the Crew member concerned was known to have a lewd background and that he would be appropriately reprimanded.

**Minutes of Previous meeting:**

Read and approved

Moved Fairy, seconded Witty.

**General Business:**

BB raised the subject of Crew membership. He said that Lon Wheeler had sidled up to him during the Whaka game and indicated that he would be keen to become a Crew member. BB said that Lon had suggested that the Old Pirates Crew needed ‘a bit of a shake-up’.

BB said that he could understand Lon's point of view because he too thought that the Crew's performance in recent weeks had been pitiful. He proposed to move a Motion that Lon be elected to the Crew.

Rick advised a degree of caution in that he recalled that during the mid-1980's the Club had received several letters relating to Lon's behaviour on a club trip to Palmerston North. He said that even though it was a fair while ago, he could recall a letter from the Manawatu Rugby Union advising that Lon had disrupted a Ranfurly Shield after-match function by heckling the then Manawatu coach Graeme Hamer. He said that further letters associated with the same trip were received from a Motelier in the City whose wooden breakfast table was missing a leg and one from a Shell Service Station manager at Foxton who wrote complaining of an unsightly mess that was left on the Station forecourt. Heather commented that she was aghast and Fairy stated that he was appalled. Gypo said that he wished to remove himself from the discussion as he happened to be on the same trip and therefore considered that he had a conflict of interest. He said he wanted the meeting to be clear that his behaviour was exemplary and unfortunately, he knew that Lon had been "less than an angel on the described occasion."

Bear, who just happened to be at the meeting said that he too had been on the trip and remembered the various incidences including a visit to the Bulls pub where a group of Young Farmers from Flock-House were in full-cry. Bear said that apparently in the crowded pub environment Lon had passively and involuntarily inhaled a locally grown variety and by the time they reached the Cobb & Co at Taupo he was loudly and boisterously singing a popular song of the day sung by Procol Harem titled '**a whiter shade of pale**'. Bear said Lon's singing had very much upset the Cobb & Co patrons in the dining room. He added "that in his opinion the entire episode is best left in history". Those who would like to listen to 'Lon's Song' can copy the following link into Google search:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AZhLWASXDAU>

BB's Motion to elect Lon as a Crew member was put to a vote: The result was 0 in favour and 6 against. The Motion was therefore lost.

Rex Olsen had also requested to become a Crew member. He was nominated by Fairy and seconded by Heather. The Motion on being put to the vote was 6 in favour and 0 against. Rex was duly elected a Crew member. Rex commented that "I have always been a diligent, hardworking and responsible person and I have never caused any problems on away-trips." Heather said that she felt very comfortable sitting next to Rex provided he didn't come up with that "always-on-top-business."

The meeting closed at 6.10 pm

