

Minutes of the BGS PA Meeting 7th November 2018

Present :

Jim Tullie, Claire Hanafin, Dannielle Armour, Andrew Rattle, Jean Pine, Sarah Bowmer, Kevin Huby, Julie Huby, Tony Pickles, Jo Jackson, Sofina Shaffi, Godwin Eton, Amjad Mohammed, Talath Poryabani, Vivienne Cogan, Dr Simon Hinchliffe

Apologies :

Tracy Lord, Jan Tullie, Liz Ford, Sarah Thomas, Poonam Basra, Ros Dawson, Jayne Barton, Tracey Deacon, Amanda Ashby, Helen Handy, Lesley Griffith, Oliver Rogers, Gail Monnickendam.

Minutes of meeting 3rd October

Proposed: - Andrew Rattle

Seconded: - Dannielle Armour

Bid

A Bid for financial support has been received as follows from the Sports Department – Oliver Rogers, Director of Sport .

Sports Analysis Proposal

Aim

To motivate and inspire student athletes by being able to show individuals and teams what they have done well and to encourage them to work hard to master areas that they find challenging.

Why

The students at Bradford Grammar School deserve the best possible sporting provision. In order for the students to get the most from the BGS sporting pathways, we need to create a first- class sporting environment for our young athletes to develop. Students should feel motivated and inspired to challenge themselves without the fear of failure.

How

A first-class environment ensures that the athlete is at the centre of all decisions. Video analysis is a powerful tool that allows students/coaches to gain instant and post-performance feedback from training and fixtures. Through reflection, the footage can inform further planning and decision making and positively affect future performances by highlighting areas of strength and areas in need of improvement.

Vision

The vision is to video as many fixtures as possible across a range of sports and age groups, both home and away. The footage of training sessions and fixtures (these may just be selected clips) would then be uploaded to a secure cloud-based platform to be viewed and analysed by the coach and students. This will then be used to help inform future planning and increase enjoyment and performances. This type of reflection is an invaluable process to allow one to see what actually happened during the performance and then work to ensure positive outcomes are continued.

A-level PE has been reintroduced to the sixth form curriculum. As part of the course the students are marked on their performance in a chosen sport and also their

analysis of performance. The better the footage of the student, the easier it is to showcase the student's ability. We are in the process of trying to introduce GCSE PE (this has been sent to SLT for consideration). This also has an element of performance grade and often this needs to come in the form of video evidence. As a leading Independent School, I believe the students should be given the best possible opportunity to showcase their skills in a professional manner that allows them to achieve the best possible grade. This only comes from using the best possible equipment and a process that is regular and familiar to them.

I would love to start a sports analysis team : a group of students who perhaps believe that performing is not for them, but nevertheless are keen to be involved in the sports programmes at BGS. Performance analysis has become big business within the world of sport. Courses have become available as options in Higher Education establishments as a result of the number of jobs available with sports teams beyond just being a performer. I regularly speak to a few Sports Analysts to keep up with this developing area of sport, one of whom is an ex -upil of mine from a previous school.

I see the footage not only being used for player and team development but also for marketing purposes. Being able to capture first-class clips of the students from Year 7 to 13, performing under pressure across a range of sports, can really help to promote BGS and sport within the school. Regular, quality clips of the students performing can be made into motivational and promotional visuals, accessible by both current and prospective students and parents.

The hi-pod equipment could also be used by other departments within the school when not being used by the Sport Department. For example drama, music and PA functions like the spring fair.

What do we need :-

Video camera and hi-pod system - £3600

Computer capable of dealing for large file, internet and video editing software - £1600

Sports analyst platform - This is something that I would cover in the sports budget as it would involve an annual cost.

The request raised numerous questions and Ollie Rogers had advised he was happy to join the meeting should members so wish via video link.

- When would participants watch the video footage as we already struggle for time to train and time devoted to PE has been reduced from the curriculum in some year groups?

The footage will be available for the students to view through the new platform purchased by the school. The practical sessions will not be comprised or replaced. This can all be incorporated. This is not about watching full games but actually examples of what the students do well and where they can improve.

- Who would decide which fixtures/training sessions would be videoed in the event of a conflict?

The Director of Sport will decide which game is recorded. This will be spread across the season with sports and age groups.

- Who operates the equipment at a fixture? I wouldn't like to see coaches using the equipment rather than coaching the teams.

At some fixtures we have to send 2 members of staff which would allow one to coach and one to record. I am planning on up-skilling the Sports graduates to be able to support here. I would also like to see a Sports Performance team of students be enthused by the opportunity to be involved in sport who maybe are not able to play for whatever reason. There are many jobs available for skilled professions within sport who do not go on the pitch.

- If the equipment is necessary for A level and GCSE then maybe it should be funded from budgets - the Head did tell us that there was enough money in the budgets so we shouldn't need to consider requests like this for equipment.

This is just one area that the equipment would be used. Once the footage is obtained then it can be used for multiple reasons.

- How does this sit with the letter we all received about videoing and photographing team sport? Using the equipment for talent development is one thing but I am not sure it could be used for marketing as suggested. This would appear to conflict Mr D'Arcy's letter.

We would ensure that those who have opted out of being photographed are not included. As staff we have this list and can control how it is going to be used. The footage is not like on TV where you get close ups. This takes multiple cameras and cutting.

- Who pays for repairs/running costs and upgrades etc?

School budget would pay for the repairs and upgrades from the school budget. It is the initial upstart cost that I would like to apply for.

- Is it just for BGS or away fixtures?

It is easily transportable and can be taken and easily set up home or away.

- Do other schools have this sort of equipment?

No, this is a step beyond what other schools currently have.

- How are the pupils going to analyse the activity / where does it fit in

It's a valuable tool for letting students see themselves and the team in action and it will inspire dialogue. The footage can be captioned so that you can study only specific actions e.g. short corners – set pieces that you trained for.

After the video link, the group decided that a significant but partial element of funding may be appropriate - but the Chair was asked to meet with the school to investigate why the school had not purchased with the significant investment in sports facilities this year. Findings to be emailed to those present to make final decision on spend.

Coffee Morning

Jim advertised the up-coming coffee morning on the 13th Nov – subject Mentoring and Counselling Service .

Year 7 Social

The PA are working with Year 7 to put on a parents social whilst the year 7 pupils have an Xmas Party. Details will be issued

Uniform Update – Tracy Lord

A massive thank you to all the parents who gave up their time to help out at the second-hand uniform and kit sale throughout last year - we could not have run the 5 sales without their support – with gross takings of over £9000! The next sale is at the Christmas Fair on 1/12.

This year started off with Perry's advising us that they had received an unprecedented amount of orders in the last week of the summer holidays and as a result of this delays were incurred and many of our pupils did not receive their uniform items for the start of the New Year. Therefore instead of organising a sale in September, priority was to ensure that our second-hand uniform items were made available to all these parents. So my first few weeks of term were spent kitting out pupils. This still raised the PA a lot of money, but more importantly, we supported the school and its parents when they needed us.

Things have now settled down a little, but Perry's contract comes to an end in the next few weeks, so again we will need to have our second-hand stock available to all our parents until the new uniform provider starts early in the New Year. The intention is to have sales in February, one at the Spring Fair and another at the Transition day.

Donations come in all the time, but I am always short on clothes hangers – so if anyone has any spare. Also carrier bags are always useful if anyone has any of those going too.

I personally think that the second-hand uniform & kit sales are still a very important service that the PA provides. Parents really appreciate being able to access second-hand items every couple of months at our sales – and on occasions outside of these sales too when pupils have lost items and parents are desperate! At the moment I am selling items on behalf of approx. 20% donations/80% parents wanting 50% back, so this service is also important parents selling too.

Just a final note, this is my last year on the PA (my youngest Jenny leaves next summer) so my last year also of selling second-hand uniform & kit. If this service is to continue someone new will need to take this role on from July 2019.

AOB

No other business.

Date of next meeting – TBC.