



**Cardiff City Supporters' Trust Annual General Meeting
Thursday May 22nd 2014 at 7.30pm. Venue – Llandaff Institute, Cardiff**

1. Registration(7.00-7.30pm)

Apologies from David Craig.

Tim Hartley, Jeff Mansfield 1327(notes), Brian Mertens, Jonathan Day, Keith Morgan, Mike Collins 88, Geraint Jones, David Hunt, John Pascoe 1430, Wendy Lewis, Robert Lewis, Clive Mann, Heather Mann, Phil Nifield, Jeffrey Bive 1466, Phillip Lalande 1022, Dave Collins, Geraint Lewis 1428, Sion Lewis 1429, John Isaacson 1042, Rhys Price, John Yacks, David Yacks, Owen Gallagher, Fergus Gallagher, David McCarthy, Sian Branson, Nigel Turner, D Sumamook, Rick Heath, Phil Dooley 551, B Sadka. Other names illegible.

2. Chair's Welcome

The Trust Chair Tim Hartley welcomed everyone to the annual meeting and thanked everyone for attending, emphasising that their presence was very important. There was to be a Question and Answer forum after the formal business and Tim asked for contributions to be kept concise.

3. Approval of minutes of AGM May 2013

These were approved as a true record, proposed by Keith Morgan and seconded by David Collins.

4. Annual Report 2013-14

Tim presented a review of 2013-14, based on the top four priorities from our Business Plan (available on our website), which showed what we did and how we went about it.

4.1 Dialogue with the club to represent fans effectively.

We finally met with Chairman Mehmet Dalman, the CEO and his team and briefly the club's major shareholder Mr Vincent Tan. We now have a good working relationship with Tom Gorringer, the Supporter Liaison Officer (SLO), though many of our questions remain unanswered. We ask questions put to us by members and we need to keep asking about the club finances and the rebranding.

Jon Day reported on the results of the Fans' Survey. Opinions had changed since last year. Off-field issues have dominated the season, especially the rebrand and communication with supporters. 85% were against the rebrand, more than last year. Respondents were happy with the stadium and 90% were happy with the Trust's priorities and work: they want us to focus on the rebrand issue. We feel we need to communicate better and get more members (currently fluctuating between 600 and 700).

Tim reported that we had lobbied the FA and Welsh Assembly Government about the rebrand, and that we had sold merchandise and raised £500 for Ty Hafan.

Geraint Jones commented that more fans had filled in the survey this year than last, and thanked them. It seems that fans appreciate surveys. Jon Day replied that still less than half our members had replied: we'd like more to reply next time.

Sian Branson thanked Tim and everyone for support on the Return to Blue campaign. She offered to share this on social media and launch a recruitment drive, aiming for 1000 members. Tim welcomed this idea and asked her to pursue it with Phil Nifield, though he reminded the meeting that Blue wasn't our only issue and we mustn't become a single-issue organisation.

4.2 Participation – to be more involved in the club and get fan representation at board level.

We have made progress. Mr.Dalman now appears to understand that the Trust is not a threat but a critical friend, but other Board members seem less interested. Mr.Dalman has promised to invite a supporter representative to future Board meetings (only 3 per year). Mr.Tan has stated publicly that he will consider representation at Board level. The report on our shareholding was deferred to Item 5.

4.3 Community – strengthen the bonds between the club and the community.

We have brought a number of community groups to the stadium, organised events with them, are partners in an oral history project about the City and organised the successful reunion event with the 92-93 promotion side, which over 100 people attended, as well as the Q & A evening with Ole Gunnar Solskjaer which attracted 70+ people.

The Trust is sponsoring the LGBT Unity Cup and we will also have a stand again at the Grangetown Festival. We are campaigning to get Cardiff City to become the first professional club to pay every member of staff the Living Wage rather than the Minimum Wage.

John Isaacson pointed out that we do feed back to the club the lessons and experience we gain from the community groups.

4.4 Connection – with other trusts, politicians and stakeholders.

We are lobbying to get sports grounds protection as Community Assets. The FA and Football League have responded to our lobbying on major changes at clubs and fans' consultation. We communicate with other Trust groups.

4.4.1 **Brian Mertens, Trust Liaison Officer** with other Trusts, reported that he'd had 3 meetings with Supporters Direct's Premier League Trust Group, has been working on campaigns for safe standing,

away ticketing, the SLO's role and supporter ownership. Brian also works with Tom Gorrige and the Supporter Liaison Volunteers and is comparing the SLO's performance against the guidelines for SLO's laid down by UEFA. He will attend the Supporters' Summit in London and will be a panellist at a workshop on Club Identities. He invited all to visit the Trust office and shop on match days. TH thanked him for his report.

5. Adoption of annual accounts

Keith Morgan provided a breakdown of the Trust's income and expenditure for 2013-14, informing anyone who hadn't seen the accounts that they are on our website. Our income is small but we are maintaining income from members and we make a small profit. Our aim is not to build up money, just a reserve. As a Trust we don't spend much but we must meet the 'costs of democracy' such as election mailings and other necessary expenses. We only pay expenses such as travel. The Fred Keenor Statue money noted in the accounts was for a blue plaque on Stacey Road school.

Keith explained why it was not a good idea to buy more shares at the moment. We have £7k of shares in Cardiff City Holdings, which is less than 0.1%, but that is enough to give us a voice. Some members want to buy more shares, but we wouldn't have more power if we did so.

We have cash at bank and reserves. We use the money guided by our members. Members come and go and we expect to fluctuate between 600 and 700. When last in the Championship we had the second highest trust membership. Keith explained that 'deferred membership' meant that someone joining part-way through the year would have part of their membership deferred to the following year.

The accounts were approved and adopted.

6. Introduction to your new Board of Directors

There was no election as no candidates had come forward. Tim introduced the Directors: David Craig, Jon Day, Keith Morgan, Geraint Jones, Brian Mertens, Nigel Turner, Phil Nifield, He explained what each does, thanked outgoing Director John Isaacson and introduced new member Jeff Mansfield. He appealed for more members to come forward and join the board: they could be co-opted without election.

7. Any emergency business

There was none.

8. Questions from the floor

Tim opened the meeting to the floor. Several members spoke: Dai Hunt wanted to see more work done on the Internet; Sian Branson informed us that she is planning a Blue picnic event over the summer and would be happy to use it to promote the Trust. Tim thanked her and agreed to discuss this with her. Nigel Turner asked if the club would include Trust membership forms with

season-tickets: Tim thought we should ask season-ticket holders to opt out of the Trust rather than in, as they do at Swansea, if the club would allow that; Rhys Price emphasised the importance of linking up with the community and grassroots.

9. Closure of AGM

Tim Hartley thanked everyone for their attendance and formally closed the meeting. He then introduced Rob Phillips from BBC Sport Wales and Jason Perry, who held an entertaining Fans Forum.