



**Cardiff City Supporters' Trust Board Meeting
Tuesday April 1st 2014 at 7pm. Venue – Llandaff Institute**

Present:

Tim Hartley (TH - Chair), David Craig (DC), Geraint Jones (GeJ), Jonathan Day (JD), Keith Morgan (KM), Phillip Nifield (PN), John Isaacson (JI - Notes), Jeff Mansfield (JM - Notes)

Apologies: Brian Mertens (BM), Nigel Turner (NT)

TH opened the meeting by thanking all for their work in March, which was a particularly successful month for the Trust.

1. Guest Speakers

DC has arranged for Mike Ashley to talk about the Co-operative Group in the Community at the June meeting. He will also arrange for a speaker from Tŷ Hafan for May, when we can present a cheque from sales of the hats and ponchos. GeJ commented that we need to manage speakers invited to the meetings.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the Board meeting of March 4th were approved as a true record, with the following change:

all references to Jeffrey Mansfield should read Jeff Mansfield.

3. Action Points

APs from the previous meeting were reviewed and discharged, except where included/updated below. New actions arising are also included here.

3.1 **JD** to progress signage for the stadium on match days from the Castle and the Bay with Cardiff Bus.

3.2 **GeJ** to prepare the groundwork in order to progress his proposal at the start of next season for recruiting and involving more female members.

3.3 **GeJ** to check when Norman Watson will be in Cardiff (delayed due to ill health).

3.4 **GeJ** to follow up whether Jude Jones would be interested in standing for election to the Board.

3.5 **GeJ** to arrange a meeting with Wayne Nash to discuss his proposal for developing the memorial garden (TH to provide Wayne's email address to GeJ).

3.6 **All** to consider guest speakers for future meetings.

3.7 **TH** to promote the Trust's presence at Grangetown Festival.

3.8 **KM** to check with BM about how much has been raised for Tŷ Hafan from hat and poncho sales.

3.9 **JD** to identify key points from the fan survey and circulate for discussion.

3.10 **TH** to produce a coordinated response to the survey for the AGM.

3.11 **DC** to check on progress of the Cardiff Story Oral History project.

3.12 **DC** to reply to Ashley Drake and suggest joint activities in due course.

- 3.13 **DC** to ask Steve Morris when would be the best Saturday or Sunday to stage a community 5 a side tournament
- 3.14 **DC** to ask Steve Morris for an advert we can use to ask for meet and greet volunteers for the UEFA Super Cup Final.
- 3.15 **JI** to look at producing an A4 poster advertising the Trust, based on information used in the newsletter.
- 3.16 **GeJ** to provide JI with an editable version of the newsletter.
- 3.17 **JD/GeJ** to organise entry to the OLG Q&A session.
- 3.18 **JI** to draft an appeal for volunteers to help with maintaining membership records.
- 3.19 **GeJ** to progress the Election/AGM mail out.
- 3.20 **DC** to approach the Club again to ask if they could help with costs for the annual maintenance of the Fred Keenor statue.
- 3.21 **GeJ** to set up an AGM planning meeting.
- 3.22 **All** to provide updates to NT on their Business Plan responsibilities.
- 3.23 **All** to provide status of APs to JI prior to the next meeting (by April 29th).

4. Matters Arising

4.1 TH reported on the meeting with Mehmet Dalman & his team on March 7th. KM said that the Trust had active support from the Supporters Club and Paul Corkrey at the meeting. Mr Tan was delayed, but arrived before the end of the meeting. KM felt we had made our points well.

TH had also given a presentation about the Trust to the Club Board on the 12th. He said that Mehmet and the Board now understand the need to engage with us. The Club's attitude towards the Trust is now more positive. Mehmet wants to meet with the Trust every month for the rest of the season and for us to agree joint community projects.

4.2 JD was thanked for his excellent work on the Fan Survey. There were over 1,000 responses and around 45% of members had responded. A discussion followed on the statistical significance of the survey, given the total numbers and the percentage of members responding. GeJ commented that it was good to engage as many people as possible, including non-members, which should also boost the profile of the Trust. It was agreed that we need to respond to members on what they said they wanted the Trust to do. If we cannot act on certain suggestions (e.g. why buying more shares may not be a viable option at this time), we need to inform the members.

Agreed: Board to produce a coordinated response to members, for the AGM.

4.3 JM updated the Board on progress of the Cardiff Story Oral History project. He was concerned that it may be in jeopardy because of cuts, as there had been no notification of a planned second training session. He is following up. The Board wants the project to continue and may be able to help fund it, possibly via the Co-op's Community Fund.

4.4 DC reported on his positive meeting with Ashley Drake of the Co-op Group (paper provided). Ashley was keen to work with us in support of community activities. They can help with funding for joint activities for loosely-defined 'community purposes' but only indirectly via a third-party. They have an 'under-subscribed' community fund we could apply to, e.g. for the Oral History project.

4.5 DC reported on another good meeting he had, with Steve Morris, Cardiff Council Sport & Recreation Manager (paper provided). The Council could provide publicity and free use of pitches for a community football tournament. DC was thanked for organising this and the Co-op meeting.

Agreed: Publicise the European Capital of Sport programme of events and use the ECS logo where appropriate.

Agreed: Stage a community football tournament under the ECS umbrella, in conjunction with the Club.

4.6 The newsletter produced by GeJ, used on the Return to Blue march, was excellent. It cost £50 for 750 copies and can be turned around very quickly.

Agreed: We should produce more newsletters before home games, but only if there's something up to date worth reporting on. Decide 1 week before either Stoke or Chelsea game if a newsletter for distribution at the game would be worthwhile.

4.7 JI reported that the costs for the Unity Cup may be less than previously advised. Ali Mahoney (Cardiff Dragons) should have the final costs before the next Board meeting.

4.8 David Collins has agreed to organise the Trust's presence at the Grangetown Festival on June 21st.

4.9 The Return to Blue march was very successful.

Agreed: Maintain independence from other groups in progressing this campaign.

5. Correspondence

5.1 TH has written to the football authorities about rebranding.

5.2 PN has received an enquiry from a member about producing a fanzine.

Agreed: PN to act as a mentor; allow use of Trust logo; contribute; and ensure it includes nothing inflammatory.

5.3 KM attended an event at the Emirates Stadium, with Daniel Rose of SD. It covered Financial Fair Play and football clubs in difficulties. There was a lot of interest in Cardiff City.

6. Chair's Update - TH

6.1 TH has sent a note of thanks to Julian Jenkins for his past help, as he is leaving the Club.

6.2 TH has contacted the Club again about the issue of the Living Wage and advised them that Citizens UK Wales is organising a peaceful protest on the subject.

6.3 There is room for 100-150 people at the Q&A session with Ole Gunnar Solskjær on April 9th.

Agreed: £3 to be charged for non-members, set against membership if they join on the night.

Volunteers will be needed on the night to take money and sign up new members.

7. Progress against Business Plan

Omitted due to time pressures, but will be dealt with off line. Updates are needed for TH's annual report for the AGM.

8. Finance report

Total bankings calendar year to date amounted to £2,262 with one week to go in March. This compares with the comparative (full) 3 month period in 2013 of £2,545. The only payment of note in March was our annual EL and PL insurance of £404. This covers us for events etc. through to Feb 2015.

9. Group Reports

9.1. Fundraising - DC

DC's volunteers to help with the group have had to pull out for various reasons. He will look at how to progress.

9.2. Membership Report - JI

9.1.1 As at the end of March, there were 678 active members, compared to 676 at the end of February. This included 14 new members.

9.1.2 John Sithers and Paul Evans are continuing with the Membership database clean-up, which will result in a much more accurate database. JI reported that Paul had suggested it would be good to get one or two volunteers to help with maintaining membership records.

10. AGM and Board Elections

Notice of the AGM is due to go out by April 11th, with voting papers for the election (provided there are sufficient candidates). JM agreed to stand for election. JI will not be standing for re-election for personal reasons. NT may also not be standing again, due to work and personal commitments, but will confirm.

11. AOB

DC has met the manager of Stroud Foundry who will be refurbishing the Fred Keenor statue. He is awaiting a date.

12. Dates of future Board meetings

All meetings to start at 7pm. (Secretary's note: the Llandaff Institute has been booked by BM for all dates.) Dates to June 2014 are as follows:

- Tuesday May 6th
- Tuesday June 3rd

End of meeting