



Cardiff City Supporters' Trust Board Meeting
Tuesday December 4th 2012 at 6.30pm. Venue - Pantmawr Inn

Present:

Tim Hartley (TH - Chair), Brian Mertens (BM), Geraint Jones (GeJ), Jonathan Day (JD), Keith Morgan (KM), Phillip Nifield (PN), John Isaacson (JI - Notes)

Apologies: David Craig (DC), Nigel Turner (NT)

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the Board meeting of November 7th were approved as a true record.

2. Action Points

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

2.1 **KM** to produce a Trust budget for 2012/13.

2.2 **JJ/GeJ** to schedule a 10-minute talk by Alex Bird on the Co-operative movement at a future Board meeting.

2.3 **All** to consider suitable candidates for election to the board.

2.4 **GeJ** to send the completed FSA return to all board members.

2.5 **All** to consider how we might encourage membership renewals and advise JJ.

2.6 **BM** to check with supplier of the office cabinet about getting another key.

2.7 **JJ** to review the standing agreements document, to check the agreements are included in the Business Plan.

2.8 **JJ** to propose a timetable for the AGM and Board Elections with GeJ.

2.9 **JD** to progress the issue of cycle racks with the club, linked with public transport options for fans.

2.10 **JD** to include safe standing in a survey of members in the new year.

2.11 **KM** to provide a breakdown of how members pay.

2.12 **JD** to arrange for the signed shirt resulting from Scott McLachan's walk to be auctioned in the same way as the rail tickets, via PN.

2.13 **TH** to get the shirt and arrange for a picture of it.

2.14 **TH** to arrange meeting between local MPs and the Board, using Jon Darch's early day motion as the focus.

2.15 **GeJ** to draft email for TH to send to all South East Wales MPs.

2.16 **BM** to sound out Margaret V re Trust membership.

2.17 **All** to consider ways of improving the Memorial Garden.

2.18 **BM** to pass details for Kevin Dupi to GeJ.

2.19 **KM** to obtain more details from Wayne Nash of putting fans' pictures on the Memorial Gate.

2.20 **KM** to approach Wayne Nash about extending fold down seats to other concourse areas.

2.21 **TH** to take up the principle of displaying flags at the next meeting with the club.

2.22 **GeJ** to provide a copy of the Share Certificate in order to release the money from paypal.

2.23 **GeJ** to check European Championship dates don't clash with provisional AGM date.

2.24 **BM** to check with other Championship clubs what their policy is with regards to an away kit and what happens in practice.

2.25 **KM** to check the football league's policy on clubs' away kits.

3. Matters Arising

There are fold down seats opposite the bar in the Grandstand concourse area.

4. Correspondence

4.1 The club has issued a statement backing the Football Supporters' Federation's (FSF) call to further explore the concept of safe standing.

4.2 TH has written to Simon Lim requesting a meeting with Vincent Tan and TG for Trust members.

5. Chair's Update - TH

5.1 TH reported that the visit to Chasetown provided a great welcome to the city fans who attended their game on December 1st. It was an excellent example of Friendship through Football. We were presented with a plaque, which will be hung in the Trust office, and a full size flag linking the two clubs.

5.2 TH attended the "Games without Frontiers" meeting in Glasgow.

5.3 TH attended the Supporters Direct (SD) Council meeting. SD will be sending out guidance on Clubs' Supporter Liaison Officers. Cambridge United has set up an on-line history site, with fans' experiences. If we were to set up something similar, GeJ reported that he has a contact for producing Vox Pops. TH also attended the FSF AGM on behalf of SD.

6. Finance Report - KM

KM provided an analysis of the Special and Bonus Funds, which each are credited with 25% of any membership income above the £12 annual fee.

The Special Fund stands at £1,629 (after providing £3,727 for the office and £1k towards the memorial garden). The Bonus Fund (for events, etc) stands at £4,107. Total cash at bank as at 24 October 2012 is £20,259.

7. Group Reports

Updates and key points provided to the Board prior to the meeting are below.

7.1 Fred Keenor – PN for DC

7.1.1 Unveiling of the Statue took place on Saturday 10th November. All comments about the Statue, plinth and plaques have been positive. There has been wide coverage in the media.

7.1.2 The Commemorative Brochure has been a great success both with regard to the numbers sold (more than 800 to date) and the comments received about its quality and presentation. Thanks go to those responsible for its production. It is planned to sell the remaining brochures by the statue on good weather match days.

7.1.3 Negotiations are underway with the Club to ensure the Statue's safety and maintenance. Arrangements will include resetting of a CCTV camera

to focus on the Statue and a new spotlight focussing on the Statue. There is already a night security guard presence at the Stadium and regular Statue observation will be built into this. The Statue will require an annual re-patination, the cost of which is being explored with the foundry used in construction, and the Club will regularly clean the Statue.

7.1.4 The fund will be wound up at the end of the year and the remaining money ring fenced. This has been a very successful project for all concerned.

7.2 Membership - JI

7.2.1 As at the end of November, there were 613 active members, compared to 656 at the end of October.

Agreed: The Board to address the issue of falling membership.

7.2.2 The new membership leaflets have been produced, with a standing order form folded into each leaflet. 1,000 leaflets were inserted in the Fred Keenor brochures by the printer.

7.2.3 The date agreed for the event to celebrate the 82/83 promotion is Wednesday 13th February. The membership group has considered how we could contain the event costs to be comparable with those for the Leeds event. Now that the Fred Keenor statue has been completed, any raffle proceeds could go back into the Trust. The event should also be used as a membership drive and to promote the need for Board election candidates. John Sithers and Creighton have been meeting with Roger Gibbins, who is extremely keen and has been very helpful. He's been in touch with Linden Jones and Jeff Hemmerman who, like Roger, still live locally and have the date in their diary. Dave and Gary Bennett would also like to attend. Roger has also mentioned other players from that season who might like to attend. The Board was therefore asked to consider viable numbers.

Agreed: To pay hospitality for five players (plus Rob Phillips) and travel / accommodation costs for the Bennett brothers (if we can't get the club to pay).

Before every home game Roger "entertains" on Level 3 & 4 and has said that he'd be happy to advertise the event from the stage to help our membership drive if asked to do so.

(Secretary's note: the stadium has been booked for the event.)

7.2.4 In response to a suggestion of making an individual a lifetime honorary member of the Trust, this would need to be considered with regard to others.

8. Progress against Key Priorities (not reported elsewhere)

8.1 Fans' Survey. JD has produced a first draft, based on what was discussed at the Chapter session.

8.2 Trust movement.

8.2.1 The next Championship group meeting is scheduled for February 23rd, which BM will attend.

8.2.2 TH will contact the Blackburn Trust prior to this Friday's away game.

8.3 Local communities.

8.3.1 Forty people, from different communities, will be attending the home game against Peterborough.

8.3.2 The local Somali community has challenged the Trust to a friendly on December 16th.

9. AGM and Board Election Timetable

Jl has produced a first draft action plan for the AGM and Board Elections, with dates to be inserted. To trigger an election we must have more candidates than vacancies. This year there will be 5 vacancies. BM, DC, KM and TH are end of term. JD, NT, PN and Jl are in first year of term. There is a maximum of 9 Board members. Therefore we need 6 candidates to trigger an election.

Agreed: Provisional date for AGM to be Wednesday May 22nd and to be held in conjunction with a membership event.

10. AOB

The issue was raised on how the kit used by the club at away games was decided.

11. Dates of future meetings

All meetings to start at 6.30pm. (Secretary's note: the upstairs function room at the Pantmawr Inn has been booked for all agreed dates.) Dates to June 2013 are as follows:

- Tuesday January 8th
- Tuesday February 5th
- Wednesday March 6th
- Tuesday April 9th
- Tuesday May 7th
- Tuesday June 4th

End of meeting