

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC PART OF THE TRUST BOARD MEETING HELD ON 29 October 2020 at 7pm via Zoom.**

Present: Nigel Kingston (NK) (Chair)

Peter Lerner (PL) Vice Chairman and Trustee of WWSET and Community Liaison

Trevor Stroud (TS) Trust nominated member of the Football Club Board

Martyn Broughton (MB) Trust Treasurer, FALL Director

Tony Hector (TH) Trust nominated member of the Football Club Board, Legal Secretary

Alan Cecil (AC) FALL Director, Website, Twitter and Facebook and supporter interaction

David Roberton (DR) Trustee of WWSET and running of WWFC Ladies Team

Bob Massie (BM) Communications, Website, Fundraising and Commercial

David Cook (DC) Safeguarding Sub-Committee

John Derben (JD) On Governance Committee, Safeguarding Sub-Committee and Volunteers side

Lisa Bowker (LB) Assists with Volunteers

John Jewell (JJ) Fundraising

Plus 49 interested parties who joined the Zoom meeting.

At the beginning of the meeting NK introduced the members of the Trust Board above and they gave a keynote of their role on the Board.

Minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously agreed and NK signed them on behalf of the Trust Board.

**Action Points from Previous Meeting**

1. PL to have Action Plan regarding Community Project ready before the November Board Meeting.
2. Clarity regarding Gift Aid for the Shirt Auction. NK advised that this was not claimable.
3. Whether the Statement of Funds from Jumblebee will be in detailed form for the Auditors – MB advised that they would be.
4. PALS – JD advised that they are considering changing the name but nothing concrete yet.
5. AGM – NK to ensure that the date is confirmed. NK advised that 24th November 2020 is the date for the AGM and an email has been sent out to members with the date with further information to follow. **Date revised to November 25th post meeting**

**Items from the Agenda**

1. **Trust Member Renewals Update** – so far 282 people have renewed via Go Cardless and existing standing orders. Those that had standing orders will have the funds go out of their accounts on 1 November 2020 and AC will be able to give a more accurate figure once the funds reach the bank. At the moment there are 6 new members that AC is aware of.
2. **Disabled Supports Project** – PL advised that they have reached out to the Community as a Trust. The WWFC Family, the Trust, Football Club and WWSET are working together to make Adams Park a safe, welcoming and accessible place for all people and various meetings have been held with representatives from the various organisations who can help and assist with what would be required to be done for this i.e. those people in wheelchairs not being left at the front of the stand with little shelter, need for ramps and improved disabled toilet facilities. Steps marked for those with impaired vision are but a few of the discussions taking place. There is an Action Plan and the Trust will work with both the Football Club and WWSET to improve game day for all supporters with accessibility. There will be work done regarding gender equality, age issues for the elderly who may be lonely and would like to attend a match but are too nervous to try, etc. If there are any members of the Trust who would like to share any problems, they may have experienced when visiting Adams Park, please get in contact with PL via the Trust.
3. **Trust Merchandise Platform**: BM advised that eBay and PayPal are now becoming prohibitively expensive as there is no longer a non-profit status and are charging for their services. BM is looking into selling merchandise via the Trust Website using Stripe or possibly PayPal for payments. BM will update the shop page on the website once the designer is available to upload the material.
4. **Director’s Insurance**: NK advised the members that this is necessary as indemnity to protect the Club against errors that any Director may make. This is up for renewal and a decision will be made before the next meeting when NK will report back.
5. **Trust Webinar with Rob Couhig**: This will be exclusive to Trust members and a date is being finalised for w/c 9th November 2020. The objective is for RC to expand on his views regarding the EFL Championship and new structure proposed by the Premier League and to update Trust members on the changes taking place at Adams Park. There will be a Q&A Session at the end. **Date confirmed as 11.11.20 post meeting.**

**Board Member Reports**

**Football Club Feedback:** Report from TS and TH.

There were 2 ground requirements we had to fulfil to be allowed to be in the Championship: (1) Floodlights needed to be improved from 600 to 800 Lux and (2) Increase in Press Box seating.

Three of the four floodlights have now been installed but the 4th side has had problems as the Pylons over the ground are in close proximity to power lines, which provide power for the whole of the Wycombe area. On evening of 9th November the electricity company will shut off the power while the old pylon is removed and on 14th November it will be shut off again for the new floodlight to be installed so hopefully all will be completed before our next home game.

New Wi-Fi system installation will be complete early December but the new PA and Emergency System will only be installed in 2021.

The Press Area needed to be increased from 20 spaces to 40 spaces and this has been completed today.

There are new LED adverts around the ground and also a new CCTV and Radio System. The shop and reception have swapped rooms and been updated.

On the team front there have been an unprecedented amount of injuries to players. The boys now seem to have adapted to playing in the Championship and the management and team are very confident that we will be fighting to stay in the Championship come the end of the season. Certainly, the last few performances have been very promising. There is a confidence in the team with the loanees fitting in well and there is competition for all places.

Continuing to build and understand the Financial Reporting side with the Football Club. There is a new suite of Financial Reporting Systems being put in place. There are regular meetings with the Club to update. We are slightly behind on management information due to preparation time for (a) Audited Accounts and (b) New system installation. This should all be sorted out by the end of November. The audited accounts to the end of July 2020 should be available for the AGM in, at least, final Draft format.

Season Ticket refunds are an issue for the Club. Members are able to ask for a refund but the Club and more information on this will be available in a couple of weeks. iFollow appears to be doing well but it is difficult to get information about how many people are logging into the games.

RC is interested in improving the disabled supporters’ facilities, which could be a major cost, not yet finalised.

The Football Supporters Association is gathering information from EFL Clubs and Championship Clubs regarding iFollow/EFL/FSA and NK has been asked to be part of the working group.

The Club shop has relocated and is being fitted out and will hopefully be open leading up to Christmas but may only be when we able to admit crowds. AC asked whether the approx. 300 programmes that have been printed could go on sale there. TS advised that there will be limited opening hours but this has not yet been finalised and information will be sent out once known.

**Finance** Report from MB.

The latest report was circulated to Board directors. One Can are receiving a share of the profits from the masks, bunting, etc. There has now been a better deal arranged with World Pay. The Play Off Shirt Auction raised around £5.5k. Once the monies have come in from the Auction and subs there should be approx. £89k in reserve. The Trust needs to accumulate funds so as to be able to meet any capital call that comes and retain its 25% share. TH advised that we should get early warning of any call but the timings and amounts are an unknown factor. RC hopes that the Club does not need to call on this but we need to be ready, so fundraising is very important.

The Trust Financial Accounts and FALL Accounts are complete and audited and will be signed next Friday and available for the Trust AGM. The Trust owns Adams Park and the memorabilia free of debt. Also own 25% of the Football Club also free of debt. The Football Club are up to date with the rent owed and all 3 businesses are at present debt free.

**Fundraising** Report from JJ:

The latest report is on the Trust website. The Trust are planning another online Auction of WWFC memorabilia and are looking for any suitable items from members so please contact him. A discussion was held around signed shirts but JJ thinks that the Club may want to use the new ones for their own fundraising.

**Ladies Football Team** Report from DR.

The latest report is on the Trust website. Amendment to this report is that the U18 team have played 4 league games and not friendlies and lost the first 3 but have now beaten Chesham Ladies 3-1.

**PALS** Report from JD. The latest report is on the Trust website and JD had nothing further to add.

**WWSET** Report from PL and DR.

The latest report is on the Trust website. It is a detailed report and demonstrating that the Trust and WWSET relationship is working well. There is a building in Green Street in Central Wycombe and we are looking into its future use with Bucks County Council. Funding will come from the Football Foundation and Premier League. Other groups are interested in the building as well and BCC will hopefully make a decision soon and can fed back at AGM.

**AGM**

The AGM will be on 24 November via a Webinar. Trust members will have to register their intent to join the meeting and will then be sent a registration log in. The minutes of the previous AGM will be approved and there will be a Chairman’s Report and Finance Report. There will be an election of Directors. TH is standing down on a rotational basis but will stand for re-election. DC and JD are also standing down but have indicated they do not wish to stand again. Nomination papers for the positions available are on the website. **AGM date confirmed as November 25th post meeting.**

**Any Other Business**

AC raised the issue of badges. Before the season started, we were committed to buying Matchday badges when we hoped to be back at games from October. So far, we have committed for 5 games but the badges are not selling very well as there are no crowds at the game where most badges were sold before. AC suggests we cancel this with immediate effect and the Trust Board agreed unanimously with this proposal. Those badges that are still available will be put on the Trust Website for anyone to purchase.

Before and during the meeting trust members were able to email their questions to the Trust.

1. Ann McClintock asked regarding the Trust matching any funding requests from the Club. NK felt that this had been covered in the meeting. There are 2 imponderables which is how much and when and at present there are no answers to these which is why we are doing fundraising projects. RC has said that he will do everything he can to avoid asking the Trust for a cash call. The money that has come in from the EFL is being spent prudently.
2. Mike – Is WWSET struggling for funding. DR advised that SET are keeping their heads above water and being well managed. If any members know of anyone with commercial interests SET have a new incentive, Friends of SET, which costs businesses £1k and at the moment 14 companies have signed up with 3 more interested.
3. Chris Hendren – Are we doing a 500 Club next year. It was agreed that there would be no 500 club this year because the cost of the season ticket went up and Trust subscriptions were increased. Events which were part of the 500 Club incentive would not be able to be held due to social distancing restrictions. When things settle/improve then the Trust will revisit it.
4. Jeff Hughes – have the Trust members reduced significantly. AC answered that we have picked up new members but also have lost a few due to the proposed increase in cost during these difficult times. This question cannot be answered properly until after 1 November when most subscriptions are renewed.
5. Stockport LMC – Where are the badges available. AC advised that Matchday badges are available from Terrys Badges and his contact details are on the website. There are still stocks available for the first 6 games. There are a few Trust badges for sale on the Trust page but the special edition promotion badges have sold out.
6. Cherry Kipping wrote and wanted to thank all volunteers for all the work they do. They are the unsung heroes of the Club. WWSET are also amazing in the range of work they are doing and the Trust should be proud.

There were no further Questions and the meeting closed at 8.15pm. These meetings will continue for the foreseeable future through this format as the Trust wish to work with the members and show transparency and put the views of the members through to the Club. The next meeting will be the AGM on 25th November 2020. Details to follow.

Tina Davis

Minute Taker for the Trust

**Our mission:**To protect the “supporter quarter” and keep Adams Park 100% Trust-owned. **Our mission:**To protect the “supporter quarter” and keep Adams Park 100% Trust-owned.