

**Our mi MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC PART OF THE TRUST BOARD MEETING HELD ON 30 September 2021 at 7pm at Adams Park**

Present: Nigel Kingston (NK) (Chair)

Bob Massie (BM) Vice Chair, Communications, Fundraising and Commercial

 Peter Lerner (PL) Trustee of WWSET and Community Liaison

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

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

 John Jewell (JJ) Fundraising

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

 Lisa Bowker (LB) Volunteers

 Emily Isaac (EI) – Ambassador for WWFC Women’s Team

 Chris Harvey (CH) FALL Director

 Russell Jones (RJ) Membership

Apologies: Martyn Broughton (MB) Trust Treasurer, FALL Director

David Roberton (DR) WWWFC

Plus 5 Trust members present and 12 online Trust Members.

**Items outstanding from last Meeting.**

1. Trust Membership Survey – full feedback still to follow and apologies not happened yet.
2. Meeting with Holmer Green FC – meeting with NK and Chairman and also Beaconsfield Town FC meeting both completed for Women’s Teams to train and play on their pitches.
3. Drummer – discussions have taken place and things are better than they were but discussions will continue.
4. Strimming Weekend – this has not happened and NK will follow up.

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

**Agenda**:

Reports below are available

**Trust Fundraising Report: Circulated to Board and on Trust Website.**

**WWFC Women & Under 18 Teams**: **Circulated to Board and on Trust Website.**

**WWSET Report**:  **Circulated to Board and on Trust Website.**

**Community Update**. **Circulated to Board and on Trust Website**

**Membership Renewal:** New Terms published which take effect from 1 October. RJ sent out emails and also on website. Headlines prices frozen or reduced (U12 now only £1). Pay annually or monthly. Some people have already signed up to the new Gold Tier. **Life Members do not need to renew.** If members have Go Cardless Direct Debit already set up they do not need to do anything. Renewals are mainly for members who pay by Cash or Cheque, or who need to amend the amount on their Standing order. All details on the Website. Questions will be answered as soon as possible. NK said members friends, relations or people they discuss football with, should persuade them to join as it is a way to support the club and also get the voice of the fans heard.

**Trust Finance Summary.** **Circulated to Board and on Trust Website.**  TH talked on behalf of MB. Not a lot to report. In August total income was £3171 of which £1572 came in from Quarters Ball Draw.  Total Expenditure for the month was £1200 producing a surplus of £1970.  QBC surplus transferred to Trust Funds is £746.  As amounts increase and blue ball not drawn hopefully more people will join.  £128k on deposit with 2 banks.

**Update from Football Supporters Association: SGSA** announced that the option for licensed safe standing in England and Wales passed into official Government Policy last week. Premier League and Championship Clubs are able to apply from 1 January 2022. FSA had a Zoom meeting with Nadine Dorries (Minister for Digital Culture, Media and Sport) to discuss Fan Led Review. Support for FLR and keep level of momentum going and recommendation from review is due in October. Minister is positive and behind it.

2022 FA Cup Final is going to be held in June but not finally confirmed as yet. Premier League are planning to have a break in 2022/23 Season between end November and beginning of January due to the World Cup, but not yet agreed. FSA also held a meeting with HRH Duke of Cambridge in regard to the FLR and Grassroot sport as he is President of the FA. Interested in what is going on.

TH updated regarding discussion last month about Away Tickets and pricing. Increasing complaints about level of pricing clubs are imposing at present. “£20 is plenty” initiative which was around about 3 years ago seems to have disappeared. Prices of £35 - £43 reported that some clubs are charging and fans are complaining. The FSA are having discussions with the EFL regarding this. Clubs are also complaining that away tickets are not being made available to Home Club early enough. Protocol says tickets should be made available at least 14 days prior to game but these are not being made available until 4-5 days before game. FSA are picking this up with the EFL and Clubs generally.

iFollow streaming blackout continues to generate a lot of discussion. No real general consensus about what happens and there is a feeling of unfairness of overseas fans being able to access this and not home fans. Should this blackout go altogether. Younger fans feel the blackout for local fans is outdated relic with regard to streaming and other media alternatives. Suggestions to be feasible for limited number of passes so each club can benefit sheltering supporters who have previously had season tickets. Might be feasible to produce combined season ticket to enable watching at club or at home if unable to attend.

Economically it may adversely affect smaller non-league clubs if Premier and larger Clubs stream games; then fans may prefer to stay at home rather than attend Grassroots football.

PL on behalf of the DSA said they are lobbying the Football League and Sky regarding confirmed supporters who cannot buy tickets due to disability or mental health issues for away games.

**Club Update**: TS regarding on field position. Everyone happy with 6th in table and played 4 of the 6 top teams already. R Dobson was on Marlow FM on Sunday which is worth a listen. Still have players bedding in and longer they are here the better they will gel with the rest of the team so exciting times forecast ahead.

New Chief Commercial Officer – Darren Henderson joined from Exeter City. Has football and music background. Hospitality Manager – Kelly Rossiter from Reading where she was for 18 years. Neil Peters is now Operations Manager. Steve Copp Club Safety Officer and Martin Wengler as Maintenance Manager report to Neil.

New Club Secretary - Tom Holder who was assistant Club Secretary at Watford.

Relationships with RC and Trust going well.

TH says little to report on finance side. RC, PC were determined to ensure that the Club was income generating to cover the cost of the new hires. Accounts are showing that spend per head per game is significantly up at present. Hopefully this will continue. Level of merchandise purchased across the Football League appears to be significantly up and suppliers, including O’Neill’s are stretched to meet delivery times.

TH would like to thank Pete Brown regarding helping with the Drummer to moderate the noise,. It appears to be working - early days - but the Trust will keep an eye on it.

TS said that RC is looking at the Derby situation, but no further information at present.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**:

Women’s Football Teams are looking for a new secretary, details have been posted on Club and Trust websites. Not dramatically demanding but busy at start of season. If anyone interested please let NK know. nigemart2019@gmail.com

Volunteers – lot of volunteer activity going on and Club have asked the Trust to help with another opportunity. Operation Womble – looking for maximum of 12 people working in teams of 4. Each team to work every 3rd game. The task is to litter pick the stadium after home matches. It should take about 3 hours on a Sunday or Monday. Request put out to volunteers and Trust website. Exciting reward for participants of being invited to the Ignite 3rd Dressing Room next to the Tunnel for one match. See players going out to practice and start game, half time and full time. Referees as well. With full hospitality. If interested please contact georgina@4everblues.com

**QBC Draw:** There are 789 balls in the draw tonight. Guaranteed prize is £631.20. Rollover pot is £868.80 for the Quarters Ball. Ball Drawn by Lizzie Lowe and number drawn was 329. Jacky Cox of Widmer End is the winner. The QBC ball was not drawn so the prize money rolls over.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FROM TRUST MEMBERSHIP**

Thanks, from SE London to the Trust for putting the meeting on Zoom.

Meeting finished at 7.35 pm.

Tina Davis

Trust Minute Taker for Part 1.