



MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC PART A OF THE TRUST BOARD MEETING HELD ON 30 MARCH 2023 at 7pm.

Present: John Workman (JH) Vice Chair and Marketing the Trust Leader (Chair)
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, Society Secretary
Alan Cecil (AC) FALL Director, Website, Twitter and Facebook supporter interaction
Lisa Bowker (LB) Assists with Volunteers
Bob Massie (BM) Communications, Fundraising and Commercial
Russell Jones (RJ) Membership Secretary (via Zoom)
Chris Harvey (CH) FALL
Emily Isaac (EI) WWW Representative
Ben Dunlop - new Trust member
Nigel Kingston (NK) Chairman of WWFC Trust Board (Chair) – via Zoom

Apologies:

Plus 17 Trust Members who joined the Zoom meeting and 2 Trust members present.

JW welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Items outstanding from last Meeting.

No items are outstanding.

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 3 March 2023 were unanimously agreed and JW will sign them on behalf of the Trust Board.

Agenda:

WWFC Women: Circulated to Board and on Trust Website. EI advised that the Survey regarding WWFC Women home games ends tomorrow morning so please complete and send this evening.

Trust Finance Summary. Circulated to Board and on Trust Website. MB reported last month briefly on March figures. Only major thing to report is that we paid £3500 to Solicitors for Interim Bill for refinancing that is currently being negotiated.

Trust Auction: LB updated on this. Auction started on 28 March and ends 1 April at 9pm. Auction is going well and up to £735 already with 48 hours to go. All items have multiple bids on. Please go and look and see whether there is something you wish to bid on. Thanks to LB for organising and those who have donated auction items.

Trust Agreement with Rob Couhig Update: NK advised discussion between 2 sets of lawyers are still continuing. As far as investment agreement is concerned there are no remaining issues and lawyers are finalising the document for signature. A few issues on the lease to be sorted. Hope by beginning of next week to be able to get the documentation together for signature. JW thanked NK and other directors for all their work in making this happen. Question as to whether the final document has to be ratified by the

Trust Members. NK said it is a decision that the Trust Board have taken following the members meeting in November. What will be signed is roughly what was sent out to members in November. The original request was agreed by the Trust members in the indicative vote.

DSA Update/Iftar: **DSA Nothing** to report but that there is an open meeting on 13 April at 6.30pm – open to anyone who has an interest in the work that is being done and all welcome. David Wheeler will come along as he is the WWFC DSA Representative and also the Environmental Officer for the PFA. Also hope to have someone from the ticketing office to show how to access the ticketing system for disabled supporters. TS said that important thing regarding DSA is that we have now received the audited report from Level Playing Field. Report is 199 pages. Identified 19 issues to be addressed and a meeting of the Buildings Group was held this afternoon and will make a list of priorities but some are only cosmetic and should all be complete by the beginning of next season. Now have a quiet room available (hopefully by Saturday) and will become a sensory room going forward. Live feed of the game in a quieter environment will be available.

There was money set aside for Box 1 project is now not required and those that contributed will be asked whether they wish for their funds to be refunded.

Iftar evening on the pitch on Tuesday 4th April with prayers and then to the Caledonian Suite for food.

Club Update: TS : Focus on last 8 games. Attitude from everyone at Sponsors Evening was positive and play offs is achievable and players are positively aiming for this. Contract Renewal negotiations are ongoing for players. Joe Jacobson has signed for another year. Some more will be announced in coming days. There is a plan going forward for Championship and another one for League One being put in place for the squad.

Final Warm Hub is taking place tonight and about 80 people are taking part. Hoping to be a Cool Hub once a month in the summer and the aim is to continue with the Warm Hub next season. All parties have been working together and it has been a huge success.

TH talked regarding Sustainability – many people have seen the report by Sport Positive Summit which ranked the EFL Clubs in how they are perceived to be doing in achieving ecological sustainability standards. WWFC are ranked joint 16th and 6th in League 1. Forest Green were ranked 1st as they are the greenest club in the world. David Wheeler is looking at different ways in which he can get the Club, Trust and Foundation to improve our ranking as he is the EFL Sustainability Champion and interested in improving our ranking.

On Tuesday the EFL and FSA Football Supporters Forum was held, which looked at matchday experience. How to combat anti-social behaviour and new ways of engaging fans. Looking at how stakeholders and clubs can work together. Try to identify ways that they can make a difference and deliver a more positive matchday experience. This has been recorded and will be on available on the EFL You Tube Channel under Matchday Experience Fan Forum.

FLR - Consultation process ongoing and EFL Executive appeared alongside Tracey Crouch and both noted frustration regarding lack of speed. Said that Premier League are trying to kick it to the grass but EFL is willing to talk about amalgamating broadcasting income with the Premier League. EFL have been having discussions with various broadcasters who have expressed an interest in broadcasting all EFL Games (1686 across the season). Sky are also still interested and other broadcasters too. How this will work with the 3pm blockage is being discussed and how it will be shared. Premier League have offered more funding to the EFL but with strings attached. Looking at how it can be distributed in Championship dependent on position. Premier League are keen to keep parachute payments in some form but EFL want to see this reduced. Carabao Cup and Football Calendar is something the Premier League are wanting to discuss in regard to this. Now talking about greater share downwards. FA want the Regulator to look at National League, Women's Game and financial distribution to grass roots. Regulator appointment has got to be approved through Parliament via the King's Speech. It is possible that political developments could delay this. Labour have said that they are in favour. No inter party issues expected. Highly unlikely Regulator will be in place before 2024/5 Season.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

1. BD asked if any Trust members would like to support Alan Cecil on Saturday at the Trust Table to contact him. Has a volunteer to erect the gazebo but could do with some more help at 12.30pm and also pack down at 2.30pm. If a charity wants to promote themselves or a Club or Community Event want advertising please bring to the Trust Table as there is a board which can be used for this.
2. Planning Application Update on Access Road. A little frustrating. Made application to Bucks Council Planning Dept who then forwarded it to the Highways Department. Planning Department have now pulled it back and will make a joint recommendation once reviewed.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FROM TRUST MEMBERSHIP

1. It has been suggested recently that the Caledonian Suite be renamed the Brian Lee Suite. TS said that it is a possibility as the Caledonian Suite was originally named via Greene King. TS will speak with Neil Peters tomorrow and put this forward.

QBC Ball Draw: Sold 1035 balls. Prize £828 and if blue ball comes out add £4150.60. Ball No. 21 was pulled out by Tina Davis and the winner is Alan Cecil.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 27th April 2023 at 7pm.

Meeting finished at 7.36 pm.

Tina Davis

Trust Minute Taker for Part A.