



**NEWPORT COUNTY AFC SUPPORTERS' TRUST BOARD MEETING – REDACTED NOTES FOR PUBLICATION**

**THURSDAY 14 MARCH 2019**

**MERLIN HOUSE, LANGSTONE BUSINESS PARK, NEWPORT**

**ATTENDEES:** Shaun Johnson (Chair) (SJ), Colin Faulkner (CF), Bob Herrin (BH), Gavin Foxall (GF), Ryan Courtney (RC), Mark Crook (MC), Mike Everett (ME), Kevin Ward (KW), Guy Price (GP), Nigel Stephenson (NS)

**APOLOGIES:** Peter Madigan (PM)

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING**

1.1. The minutes of the Trust Board held on 17 January 2019 were approved as an accurate record.

**2. ACCOUNTS & FINANCE**

2.1. NS highlighted key aspects in relation to monthly management accounts, cashflow and debtor reports.

2.2. It was noted that revenue was ahead of budget, and that the positive variance was due to income derived from progressing to the fifth round of the FA Cup.

2.3. Academy budget was now showing a positive variance, and NS expected to show surplus at end of year.

2.4. GF noted that the operating culture of the Academy had also changed positively, and noted that Danny Elliott has been doing an outstanding job.

2.5. It was noted that season gate receipts were behind budget, and although fixtures against Lincoln, Oldham and Bury should improve receipts, the end-of-year outturn is likely to be behind budget.

2.6. It was noted that the £250k EFL prize for FA Cup progress was expected at the end of March.

2.7. NS confirmed that he was about to transfer the bulk of FA Cup revenues to a deposit account. SJ requested that tax advice be obtained in relation to liability against this year's profit and previous year's losses.

2.8. The club's cash position was reviewed.

2.9. There was a discussion about future stadium arrangements and Rodney Parade. SJ to organise a stadium strategy session.



2.10. SJ reiterated that the club should be preparing a two-year fixed budget on players.

### **3. MEMBERSHIP**

3.1. CF updated the board on Trust membership. Positive progress continues to be made across engagement, process and administrative matters.

3.2. It was reported that 825 people had changed to monthly packages (340 Bronze, 341 Silver, 125 Gold, 9 Platinum, 10 ExPats). There are also three members of the new Corporate scheme.

3.3. It was noted that members on monthly packages are generating £7.5k per month. The Trust is therefore approaching the target of raising £100k pa from supporters via Trust donations.

3.4. SJ to arrange Trust AGM.

### **4. ACADEMY**

4.1. GF provided a general update on Academy performance and development.

4.2. Confirmed that Academy Manager role has been advertised. It was agreed that this is a vital appointment, and it is critical that the successful candidate understands the nature of the Trust and the Club.

### **5. COMMERCIAL**

5.1. GP noted that a full commercial update had been provided by AE at the Club Group meeting the previous week.

### **6. EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & SAFEGUARDING**

6.1. NCAFC will support the British Transplant Games by promoting the event at one of the remaining 2018/19 home fixtures.

6.2. It was announced that Dan Butler has been awarded the EFL League 2 Community award for his work with County in the Community.

6.3. The upcoming Cheltenham fixture to be allocated as NCAFC's Level Playing Field Weeks of Action game, with David Cotterill attending the game to speak about mental health issues in sport.

6.4. NCAFC has organised the Newport Walk for Dementia in partnership with Newport Live on Sunday 7 April. CF requested that as many NCAFC and Trust staff, volunteers, players and directors as possible take part in the walk. BH confirmed that the NCAFC shop will open as a water station. RC confirmed that there will be an after-party in Bar Amber.



6.5. BH had attended an EFL safeguarding training event for club directors. He reported that the EFL is investing heavily to continue to improve EFL and clubs' safeguarding policies, procedures and actions.

6.6. It was noted that the club's SCR needs competing, and that a full set of policies needs to be brought back to the main board as soon as possible.

### **7. TRUST ISSUES—ELECTIONS & BAR AMBER**

7.1. There was a discussion about upcoming Trust elections, and the timetable for implementing them.

7.2. It was decided that the election process would be launched as part of the next Trust open meeting, and the timetable for the elections would flow from this. The elections would take place in the close season to avoid destabilising the end of the current season.

7.3. RC to produce Bar Amber income and outgoings budget as per template.

### **8. AOB**

8.1. No items were raised.

**Next meeting: Thursday, April 18 at 5.30pm.**