



NEWPORT COUNTY AFC SUPPORTERS' TRUST

BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 11, 2018.

MERLIN HOUSE, LANGSTONE BUSINESS PARK, NEWPORT

ATTENDEES: Shaun Johnson (interim Chair) (SJ), Mark Crook (MC), Colin Faulkner (CF), Bob Herrin (BH), Gavin Foxall (GF), Peter Madigan (PM), Kevin Ward (KW), Mike Everett (ME), Ryan Courtney (RC)

IN ATTENDANCE FOR AGENDA ITEMS 1 & 2: Michael Flynn (MF), Lennie Lawrence (LL), Guy Price (GP), Ethan Foster (EF)

APOLOGIES: None

REDACTED NOTES FROM THE MEETING FOR PUBLICATION

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

1.1 The minutes of the Trust Board meeting held on September 9, 2018, were approved as an accurate record. Matters arising were all covered in other agenda items.

2. FOOTBALL UPDATE

2.1 MF, LL and EF gave an update on player contracts ahead of the January transfer window.

2.2 The Board was reminded of the agreed periods and salary contribution for our current loan players and the EFL rules surrounding further loan signings.

2.3 The Board reiterated its full support for the football management team and its wish to meet the manager's ambition providing this could be done within budget and SCMP rules.

2.4 MF and LL were asked to provide the Board with figures for player retentions/signings in the January window, so it could understand the budget impact and had a target for revenue generation and/or Trust donations.

3. WRU UPDATE

3.1 PM said the Memorandum of Understanding, relating to the Rodney Parade safety certificate, had now been signed.

3.2 Further meetings were planned with Mike Davies, the Dragons' managing director.



4. FINANCE/COMMERCIAL

- 4.1 Preliminary discussions had been held with Alex Eagle, previously the lead account manager with the FAW's commercial and marketing team, regarding the vacant Commercial Manager role.
- 4.2 The latest management accounts were received and approved, along with an updated list of debtors and creditors.
- 4.3 There followed a lengthy discussion around cash flow and the approach to secure payments from debtors of six months and more. GP and Nigel Stephenson are to put a plan together for improved cash collection.

5. TRUST MEMBERSHIPS

- 5.1 The September 20 supporters' meeting had been generally well received. There now appeared to be a general acceptance and understanding among Trust members than increased donations were needed from the Club's majority owners.
- 5.2 It was agreed that ownership of each membership package should be allocated between directors.
- 5.3 There is still some work to be done around IT to ensure it is easy to become a member and to swap between membership levels.
- 5.4 Generally, we are in good shape for the November 1 launch of the new membership packages.
- 5.5 Phil Burgess is now in the club shop every Friday to deal with membership queries.
- 5.6 We have committed to producing a monthly newsletter for Trust members. KW to produce this. The first edition to focus on the new membership packages, our first new corporate member (RW Cole opticians), and the new opening hours for Bar Amber following our successful application for a premises licence.

6. EQUALITY

- 6.1 ITV Wales News ran a story on County in the Community's We Wear the Same Shirt, on the back of which AMs Jayne Bryant, Jack Sargeant and John Griffiths attended the Macclesfield game to discuss the work around Mental Health the Club is involved in. The Club has made a commitment to support a project Jack is working on and they will come along to a CitC session in the near future.
- 6.2 Autism Directory are working on a social story for us to aid attendance to games.
- 6.3 A support group for fans who are informal carers in partnership with Newport City Council will be announced later this month.
- 6.4 We are meeting with Newport City Council, Jayne Bryant AM and Newport Live to discuss an event for Alzheimer's Society to be staged next year as part of our commitment to being a Dementia-friendly organisation. It will also be supported by Jessica Morden MP.



7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 **County Lottery.** This was now ready to launch.

7.2 **Club Shop.** It was agreed that ME would begin negotiations with the Kingsway shopping centre to extend the lease period. Footfall and revenue had both improved significantly since the shop relocated.

7.3 **Poppy kits.** 200 had been ordered.

7.4 **Future Board meetings.** It was agreed that meetings would now take place later each month, enabling up to date management accounts to be presented.

Next meeting: Thursday, November 15, 2018