



Meeting Minutes

10th July 2012

Venue: Royal George Hotel & Bar

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Present: Steve McCarthy [SM] (Chair), Margaret Decker [MD] (Secretary), Ray Tomkinson [RT] (Treasurer), Dave Farrell [DF], Lee Bradshaw [LB], Paul Collins [PC]

Apologies: Rob Hughes, Chris Sanderson, John Farmer, Andy Munro.

1. Minutes of the last meeting and Matters Arising

Minutes of the meeting on June 5, 2012 were accepted as a true record; unresolved items were carried forward.

2. Treasurer's Report

RT reported that on June 30th 2012 the Trust had assets of £1,318.48 and commitments of £345. Agreed that a clear statement of the membership fee structure should be prepared before the AGM. Two people were suggested as possible auditors and MD agreed to contact them.

3. Secretary's Report

The Terms of reference

The terms of reference for Steering Group, Interim Board and Working Groups, which are appended at the end of these minutes, were discussed and approved.

Correspondence

Agreed that MD should reply to Kevin Rye's letter, saying that we were in favour of setting up a Championship Trusts Group. Ben Shave requested that Blues Trust submit evidence to the Football Governance inquiry follow-up and Rob Hughes had written a submission.

Membership

The number of Full Members on July 10th was 189. A statement from Dean Giblin regarding repayment of money to the Trust was read and noted.

4. Other reports

Working Group

During the Week of Action, starting June 25th, members were invited to contact 5 Hong Kong-based people and ask questions about BIHL. On June 26th Peter Pannu made a

statement in response to “direct supporter feedback to the football club” and the pressure from fans was also mentioned in the Chinese press.

Website

Agreed that the quote for website design was not affordable and LB would inform person who had supplied the quote. LB will arrange transfer of domain with Andy.

Supporters Direct AGM and Fans Weekend

SM reported on the Supporters Direct AGM and Fans Weekend that he and DF had attended on July 7th. They had asked questions and suggested that, while SD educated supporters on the benefits of forming trusts, they needed to do more work with clubs to help them understand why trusts exist; David Lampitt, the new SD CEO, had said he would work on that.

5. Resolutions and Items for decision

Agreed that we reaffirm our commitment to our objectives as stated in our rules and in particular to Rule 4.5 regarding “being a positive, inclusive and representative organisation.”

6. Topics for discussion

Agreed that we should set October 20th as the tentative date for the AGM and that the Election Management Group would consist of Rob Hughes, Margaret Decker and an independent Chair. DF suggested a possible speaker at the AGM and he will approach him and ask if he is available then. There was a discussion on the sale of badges, their price and whether their sale should be limited just to members of the trust. Agreed to leave decisions to the Interim Board.

7. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

8. Next meeting

The next meeting will be at 7 pm on Wednesday 15th August.

The meeting finished at 8.10 pm

Terms of reference for Steering Group, Interim Board and Working Groups

Background

Blues Trust was established by a Steering Group of concerned fans who came together to set up the trust. Membership of the Steering Group was, and still is, open to any fan who is willing to come to meetings and help with the work.

In February 2012, the trust was registered with the FSA. In accordance with Rule 9, the first members were the people who signed the Rules in applying for registration: Rob Hughes, Lee Bradshaw, Steve McCarthy and Margaret Decker. Rule 58 states that the initial Directors shall be appointed by the first members and at the meeting on June 5th, 2012 the following Directors were appointed: Steve McCarthy, Lee Bradshaw, Andy Munro, Dave Farrell and Peter Evans. These Directors agreed that Steve should be Chair and that Margaret Decker should be non-voting Secretary.

When members of the Interim Board met together on June 21st they co-opted Chris Sanderson as a Director. They also agreed that they would continue to hold Steering Group meetings every month until the AGM. The reason for this decision was that they wished to keep as many people as possible involved in planning and decision making. They will therefore place all major policy issues before the Steering Group for comment and appraisal before making a final decision.

On June 23rd Peter Evans resigned from his position as Director and also from the positions of Minutes Secretary and Membership Secretary.

Interim Board

Although the Steering Group will continue to scrutinise policy issues until the AGM, the Interim Board has the authority to make decisions without fettering their discretion. The Interim Board will inform members of the Steering Group of their decisions and actions as soon as is practicable, usually at the next meeting of the Steering Group

Working Group Tasks and Reporting Mechanisms

Working Groups will do the detailed planning for events and activities that have been agreed by the Interim Board and Steering Group.

Their main task will be to:

- plan meetings and events
- produce statements and other materials for use as press releases, in letters to contacts, on the website and social media
- plan and arrange for production of membership forms, publicity materials etc

Working Groups will report back at each Steering Group meeting on all work done and will not commit to any financial outlay unless authorized to do so.