

Blues Trust Meeting Minutes

15 November 2014

Venue: 85-89 Colmore Row

Recorded by Margaret Decker

Meeting started at 11.15 am

Board members present: Steve McCarthy (SMc), Peter Bull (PB), Margaret Decker (MD), David Farrell (DF), Lee Bradshaw (LB), Chris Walker (CW)

In attendance: Mark Sutton (MS)

Apologies: Emma Hodgson (EH)

1. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 9th September 2014 were accepted as a true record.

2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising

3. Board structure

The following officers were elected:

- a. Chair SMc (Proposed MD, seconded PB, unanimous.)
- b. Vice-chair DF (Proposed LB, seconded CW, unanimous)
- c. Secretary CW; MD will hand over responsibilities and provide assistance if needed. (Proposed SMc, seconded DF, unanimous)
- d. A treasurer was not appointed but PB agreed to act as interim treasurer until someone with the appropriate expertise could be found to take this position.
- e. It was agreed that a membership secretary not be appointed but that CW, as secretary, be responsible for this with two membership officers to assist him: LB to make entries in database and provide up-to-date lists of members and MD to liaise with members. (Proposed CW, seconded SMc, 5 in favour and MD abstained.)

4. Current initiative reports

a. MPs

LB reported that he had published an article on the website encouraging people to write to their MPs to highlight the issues facing Birmingham City Football Club. The article included a link to a downloadable template that they could use to produce a letter to send. St Andrew's is in the Ladywood constituency and MPs from other areas would pass on requests to the MP for that area, Shabana Mahmood.

b. Media

SMc commended the written report that EH had submitted and said that it was a model for how such a report should be written.

c. Football League

DF reported that he has a list of possible contacts who could be useful when making an approach to the FL. The FL tends to give stock answers to allegations of misconduct but there have been indications that Carson Yeung may still be involved in the running of BIHL. Yeung has converted some of his bond into shares, which he is selling through a broker. This bond is the one he received in return for a £15m loan to the club that had no paperwork to show where the money had come from.

DF said that when we ask the FL to impose sanctions on the club, we need to be mindful of the possible consequences.

d. BIHL

MS presented a report, prepared by him and CW, on the analysis of BIHL announcements and disclosures on the HKSE website. It was agreed that MS would draft a letter regarding a possible breach of a FL regulation.

5. Branding

LB asked that his proposal on branding be put on hold.

6. Proposal on board operation

There was discussion but no vote on MD's proposal that the board reviews and makes changes in the way that it operate in order to focus on setting policy and spend less time dealing with the details of day-to-day management.

7. A. O. B.

There was discussion on encouraging ex-members to rejoin by discounting the membership fee for a limited time but it was decided not to do this. PB asked for input on the website and it was agreed that the elevator pitch should be put on the site.

Meeting finished at 1.30 pm; DF left at 1.10 pm.

Signed _____ Chair

Date _____