

Minutes of Blues Trust Board meeting

held at 3.30 pm on September 4th 2017 at Anthony Collins Solicitors

Board members present: Peter Bull (PB), Margaret Decker (MD), Cliff Horrocks (CH), Richard Stanley (RS)

Apology: Phil Beardmore

1. Minutes

The minutes of the of 1/8/2017 meeting were approved.

2. Reports

a. Chair's report

CH reported that he had taken part in the award ceremony for Alum Rock Football Academy and replied to the Northampton survey on Chinese owners of football clubs.

b. Treasurer's report

The Treasurer's report for the three months from June 1st to August 31st was accepted. It was noted that three new members had joined.

3. Engagement with BCFC

The board discussed how Blues Trust should react to the way that the club communicates or fails to communicate with fans. It was agreed that we should continue to try to communicate with the club.

4. AGM planning

It was noted that Lord Philip Hunt has agreed to chair the AGM on October 14th and the Bryan Green Room in St Martin in the Bull Ring had been booked for that date.

CH reported that the other two members of the Election Management Group are Ray Tomkinson and Paul Dockerill.

The board discussed whether to change the date of the AGM because it had been planned to take place before the Cardiff game on Saturday, October 14th but the Cardiff game had been selected for TV and moved to Friday evening. It might be more convenient for members if the AGM was held before the next 3 pm Saturday game, on November 18th, against Nottingham Forest.

It was agreed to send out a letter and put a post on our website to ask for our members views on this and to make the decision by Friday October 8th. If we decide to change the date to November 18th, the cut-off date for nominations would be October 14th and the notice of AGM and agenda would be sent out by October 21st.

5. Changes to Standing Orders for board meetings and Election Policy

The following changes were agreed in order to help to remove possible barriers for someone thinking of putting up for election.

a. It was agreed that the wording of Rule 5.2 of the Standing Orders for Board meetings be changed from:

"The Society Board may agree that its members can participate in its meetings by telephone, video or computer link. Participation in a meeting in this manner shall be deemed to constitute presence at the meeting."

to

"The Society Board may agree that its members can participate in its meetings by telephone, video, computer link, or email. In order to facilitate the participation of board members not available during the meeting or living in different time zones, the time allowed for voting at a meeting may be extended by up to 24 hours after the end of a meeting. Participation in a meeting in this manner shall be deemed to constitute presence at the meeting."

- b. It was agreed that the words “at least 400 words long and” be removed from Rule 6.3 of the Election Policy so that instead of reading, “Candidate statements should be at least 400 words long and no longer than 1000 words. If a candidate’s statement has more 1000 words, it will be truncated . . .” it will say “Candidate statements should be no longer than 1000 words. If a candidate’s statement has more 1000 words, it will be truncated . . .”

6. Media

The board approved the Social Media Job description but decided to wait for the response from our contact at a local college before publicising it further. MD reported that the contact would report on any responses after the hectic enrolment period was finished.

7. Forthcoming meetings

- a. CH will attend the EFL meeting on September 18th and MD may also be able to get to it.
- b. MD will attend the Fans not Numbers meeting in Coventry on September 13th and CH may also be able to attend.

8. Any other business

It was agreed to upgrade our web hosting plan with 34P to their Business plan, which costs £19.95 a month.

A letter about the possible date change for the AGM will be sent in place of a September newsletter. RS will write the October newsletter.

9. Next meeting

The next board meeting will be at 3.30 pm on Monday, October 9th.

The meeting finished at 5 pm.