

Minutes of Blues Trust board meeting

held at 3 pm on Monday, 12th February 2018 at Anthony Collins Solicitors

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

Consulted via email: Karim Adab (KA)

1. Minutes

The minutes of the 18/12/2017 meeting were approved.

2. Noted items, discussed and agreed by email

- a. PB, MD, CH and RS are registered in the EFL Trusts Private Area on the SD website.
- b. PB, MD, CH and RS will meet with KA on February 24th at noon in the Old Crown.
- c. CH and RS will attend the Quarterly Supporters Forum on Tuesday 27th February.
- d. It was agreed by an email vote that Blues Trust should not associate with FanBet or other gambling businesses. CH has replied to the FanBet message.

3. Reports

a. Chair's report

CH reported that he had written to Dong Ren, received a reply from Rachele and did not expect to get a direct reply from Dong Ren. Blues Trust and Blues 4 All had written to the club offering to run a community day. Ian Dutton, in declining the offer, said that the club "are planning various levels of activity (that I can't disclose at this stage) that have more of a unique concept and engages with the community and the clubs supporter base in a different way."

b. Treasurer's report

The report for 1st June to 31 January 2018 was accepted. PB said that there is still a deficit, we have not yet received the invoice for room hire for the AGM and membership had increased by one. MD reported on her efforts to get a invoice for room hire .

c. Website report

Having agreed not to accept advertising of gambling businesses on the website, it was agreed that the trust board would be consulted before any commercial advertising was put on the site. Notices and advertising from Blues fans group can be put on the site.

d. Secretary's report

MD had circulated a brief report on the webinar on engaging members and reported that it was a good way of communicating useful information. She said that she thought the trust needed to rethink the way it does newsletters. PB had registered for the General Data Protection Regulation Guidance webinar on 13 February.

MD had ordered a table with 12 tickets for the Cabaret evening, at the Botanical Gardens, on Friday March 23, 7 pm to 2 am, in support of the Geoff Horsfield Foundation. She will make arrangements to sell some of these and give away others as prizes and will advertise it on the website.

We received a letter from Hartlepool United Supporters Trust (HUST) about a 6-a-side tournament that they are organising. CH will try to see if it is possible to get a team to take part in this.

4. SD council election

It was agreed to vote for Antony Wilkinson, Michael Green, Geoff Bielby, Roger Titford and Neil Le Milliere.

5. Survey and seven-year plan

It was agreed that the survey and plan would need to be considered alongside the communication from Daniel Ivery and that we would discuss it further at the informal meeting at noon on February 24th in the Old Crown.

6. Decide questions for Quarterly Supporters Forum.

There was some discussion on the questions drafted by CH and RS agreed to work on them.

7. Newsletter

It was agreed that we might need to make newsletters less wordy and easier for busy people to read and that we might make these changes after consultation with KA. If the system is not changed in the next couple of months, RS will write the March newsletter and MD will write the April newsletter. CH will write an extra letter about the HUST 6-a-side tournament.

8. Any other business

The possibility of moving MD's personal blog onto the Blues Trust website was discussed but no decision was taken.

It was decided that the trust would pay £1 for each honorary membership so that honorary members could vote.

PB reported that he had almost completed setting up a website to sell old programmes.

There was some discussion on Daniel Ivery's proposal about action that fans could take. It was agreed that MD would reply to him.

9. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be at 3 pm on March 12th.

The meeting finished at 4.50 pm.