

Minutes of Blues Trust Board meeting

held at 11.30 am on 10 August 2019, in Library of Birmingham

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

Others present: Graham Powell, David Roots (DR)

Apologies: Richard Docker, Karim Adab

1. Minutes

The minutes of the 13/7/2019 meeting were approved.

2. What next report

On 17/7/2019, the Blues Trust website published the results of the survey asking members what Blues Trust should do next following the sacking of Garry Monk.

There was a discussion on how to prioritise the two items that had overwhelming support. These were

(1) finding ways to inform the owners in Hong Kong how poorly our club is being run by the BCFC directors and calling for Mr Ren to be dismissed

(2) making an effort to bring a number of the many supporters' groups together to give strength to the supporters voice

It was decided that it was not the right time to put an advertisement in a Hong Kong newspaper and that we should try writing to Xuandong Ren again and to the BSH board.

CH and PB will work together to arrange meetings with people from the supporters groups who responded to our approach.

It was agreed that the trust should continue to encourage people to write for the website in newsletters sent out.

RS has established a group to study the financial situation of the club, which will attempt to predict if the club will comply with the EFL Profitability and Sustainability (P&S) rules and to understand where the funding is coming from.

3. AGM planning

It was decided

(1) to hold the AGM on October 26, before the home game with Luton,

(2) that the Election Management Group (EMG) should consist of the same people as last year.

It was noted that the board needs to encourage people to stand for election to the board and to attend the AGM.

4. Asset of Community Value report

RS reported that St Andrew's stadium had not yet been added to the ACV list but that the Senior Solicitor of the Council had informed him that the process was continuing and he would inform RS when validation had occurred.

5. Treasurer report

PB reported that we had a surplus and RD had been added as a signatory on the bank account. The annual accounts had been prepared and copies were signed at the meeting.

It was noted that the not-for-profit status of Blues Trust makes us exempt from paying a data protection fee to the ICO.

6. Website report

PB had replaced the SD logo on the website with the logo of the new united supporters group, the Football Supporters' Association (FSA).

7. Newsletters

It was decided to send out the following newsletters:

a short note with a link to the new season post on the website,
end of August letter mentioning standing for election to board,
beginning of October letter mentioning coming to AGM.

Letters giving notice of the AGM will also be sent out.

8. A.O.B.

CH reported that the EFL have published a summary of the results of their 2019 Supporters Survey but each club can decide whether or not to publish the results for their club. He has asked Birmingham City to publish the results for our club.

CH also reported that Kirk McAtear had told him that Connect Church were expecting to have their new building ready for use at Christmas.

9. Date of next meeting

The date of the next board meeting will be after the AGM, on 9 November before the Fulham game.

The meeting finished at 1.30 pm