

Blues Supporters Society Ltd
trading as Blues Trust

Minutes of Annual General Meeting
at BVSC Centre at noon on October 26, 2019

1. Welcome and introduction
Philip Hunt, Lord Hunt of Kings Heath, welcomed Blues Trust members to the meeting.
2. Apologies for absence
Apologies had been received from Pam Allsopp, Neil Cottrell, Douglas Deans, David Frankum, Fred Greaves, Andrew Kozak-King, Daniel Ivery, Linda Magner, Kirk McAtear, Christine Street, Gabriel Sutton and Rita Taylor.
3. Minutes of 2018 AGM and matters arising
The minutes of the 2018 AGM were approved and there were no matters arising.
4. Election of board members
Since there were fewer candidates than places available on the board, there was no ballot. Clive Harris presented the candidates and the meeting approved of the re-election of Karim Adab and Richard Stanley and the election of Neil Cottrell, Richard Docker and David Roots.
5. Chair's report
Cliff Horrocks, Chair of Blues Trust, presented his report. Andy Munro asked about communication with the club's board and its financial situation. Cliff commented about the difficulties in getting replies from BCFC board members when the trust had asked questions. He reported that the board had set up a group to keep track of the club's finances and Richard Stanley, the leader of that group added some more details. Richard said that they could only use published figures so had to make some assumptions in their predictions on the financial situation at the club. There was also a discussion on the need for younger members and the use of social media.
6. Financial report
Peter Bull, Treasurer of Blues Trust, presented the financial report.
7. Financial resolution
The meeting agreed to accept the accounts of the Trust as presented and to authorise the Board to re-engage the Independent Examiner for the 2019-20 financial year.
8. Survey report
Karim Adab reported on the Blueprint 2025 Survey. He said that fans had responded with some criticisms of the club: lack of communication, parts of ground needing refurbishment, poor matchday experience, not attracting younger fans. Fans had also indicated examples of clubs they approved of such as the way Leicester City value their supporters and Burnley's financial stability. In reply to the question asking which former player they would like to see honoured, Trevor Francis received the most support.
9. Independent regulator resolution
Margaret Decker proposed that the meeting agree that it believes that the English Football League's current regulatory system is not working and it failed to protect Bury FC from unsuitable owners. And also to call upon Blues supporters to sign the E-petition asking for HMG to legislate for the creation of an independent regulator for football.

In response to a suggestion by Alex Hurley, it was agreed that the trust needs to make it clear that a better regulatory system could benefit Birmingham City FC if it ended up in a similar situation to Bury. The wording of the resolution was amended, as shown below, and approved:

This meeting believes that the English Football League's current regulatory system is not working. It failed to protect Bury FC from unsuitable owners and there is no guarantee it would protect Birmingham City FC or other clubs in the future. We call upon Blues supporters to sign the E-petition asking for HMG to legislate for the creation of an independent regulator for football.

10. Any other business

The meeting thanked Margaret Decker, who was stepping down from her role as Secretary of Blues Trust, for her work in helping to keep the trust running.

Richard Docker challenged others at the meeting to try to get two other people to join the trust as voting members.

The meeting finished at 1.15 pm