



BWFC Supporters' Trust

MEETING NOTES

Subject: Board Meeting
Venue: Teams
Meeting Date: 22 04 2024 @ 6.30pm
Present: Terence Rigby (TR) – Chair
Maggie Tetlow (MT)
Mike Smith (MS)
Shane Stopforth (SS)
Sue Higson (SH)
Ian Pegg (IP)
Alan Houghton (AH)
Robin Fletcher (RF) – Acting Secretary
Apologies: Paul Wood(PW); Ian Bridge(IB)

1. Review of the Annual General Meeting (AGM)

- a) It was agreed the Chairs Report, the Accounts, the Election Results, and the voting on Motions will be posted on the website.
- b) The Board have endeavoured to be inclusive and transparent with the members, but agreed a renewed effort to be diligent in posting notifications, questionnaires, minutes etc onto the website for visibility, clearly accessible to users.
- c) RF proposed avoiding use of WhatsApp as a discussion / decision making tool. Following a discussion illustrating the benefits to WhatsApp for a geographically dispersed group, it was agreed the Board will be more conscious of how its WhatsApp groups are used and for what purpose; limiting formal decisions to formal meetings as far as is practically possible.
- d) RF agreed to speak with Bryan Lomax to improve the website layout
- e) It was agreed that Formal Board Meeting will be held quarterly, approx..1 week before the Structured Dialogue Meeting (SDM) with Neil Hart. The meeting will be held at a venue to be agreed with as many Board members as possible to attend in person. Informal Board discussions will be held monthly, approx. 1 week before the informal monthly chat with Neil Hart.
- f) RF to confirm with NH when the next SDM is to be held and the date of the next informal chat. Following on RF will schedule dates for Trust Meetings
- g) RF advised there was a balance of £162.50 representing cost of room hire for the AGM. RF to request an invoice from the Club.

2. Hall of Fame - 1923 Medal

- a) AH & MS progressing the displaying of David Jack's 1923 medal at the Stadium together with other memorabilia including the match day programme – target is early part of next season. The family hope David will be entered into the National Hall of Fame
- b) Hoping for a good response to the 1923 display, it was agreed the Trust would assess the feasibility of re-introducing an area in the Stadium for memorabilia/museum. MP advised Mike Gethin has keen interest in BWFC's history, and he will ask him to contact Simon Marland to investigate what would be available for display including old shirts, programmes, cups etc.



3. Increasing subscribing members

- a) Collection of annual £10 member subscriptions was discussed. **MT** emphasised with only 887 fully subscribed members; the Trust was running at a loss. It was agreed to email every non-subscribed member with a direct plea to pay the £10 fee annually. **MT** to prepare a draft email including the achievements of the Trust and benefits of being a Full Member

4. Sponsorship

- a) The Board recognised the need to renew the current sponsorship from Bolton At Home (BAH) and Bernstein Kitchens if their offers remain an option. Other local companies/organisations are to be asked to assist the Trust. **IP** stated it may be worthwhile checking with the Club if there were any companies they would prefer we do not approach. **MS** felt this was not necessary as **NH** had encouraged the attendees at a recent Business Club event to contact the Trust regarding sponsorship.
- b) **MS** is making a banner/display board which will promote our sponsors.

5. Youth Involvement

- a) **IP** and **PW** have been in contact with Bolton Lads & Girls Club to investigate ways and means of engaging with the younger fans. It was also considered a similar approach can be made to BAH.
- b) **IP** proposed a couple of potential candidates are drawn from each organisation and introduced into the working of the Trust. If the introduction is successful, they would be invited to join the Trust Consult Group & the Club's proposed Youth advisory group.
- c) **RF** asked if any checks would be required for board members engaging with young people (safeguarding, DBS etc). **SH** agreed to check.
- d) At a previous meeting **SS** suggested 2 ideas:
 - (i) Joint venture with the Club/Bolton at home/ST to have a food bank in the Fan Zone
 - (ii) A summer gala for Bolton Lads & Girls Club with 'meet the player', 'beat the goalie', etc

6. Fanzone

- a) **MT** to make contact with the cabin hire company for costs to buy cabin outright, and arrange payment for hire in the interim.
- b) S James (supporter) has offered to wrap the cabin interior in a Wanderers theme
- c) It was suggested that, at the next informal chat with **NH**, that the subject of increasing the capacity in the fanzone / having a section for away fans, is discussed.
- d) **SS** suggested that finding a larger / permanent fanzone area that could also accommodate a Hall of Fame / museum would be good.

7. Elections

- a) **RF** proposed **TR** and **MT** are co-opted onto the Board for the next 12 months as they bring expertise to the Trust. **SH** seconded the proposal – unanimously approved.
- c) **RF** will liaise with the Election management Group to issue the statement confirming the result of the Board elections.

8. Model Rules

- a) **SH, MP & RF** will review the Model Rules, Election Policy & Code of Conduct to ensure they reflect good practice.



9. Accounts

- a) **MT** will arrange for the accounts to be signed and filed.
- b) Mike Egan (Accountant) is asked to add **MT, MP & RF** to be signatories at the Bank.
- c) Mike Egan is also asked to look into options for moving to interest bearing accounts

10. Trust Podcast & future events with NH / IE

- a) Will be discussed with NH at the next informal discussion.

11. Response to planned FA cup changes

- a) The Board are supportive of the published comments from NH, Exeter City ST & others relating to the proposed changes. It appears that the FA have not consulted with the majority of its members, and the Board feel the changes go against the Football Governance Bill which is currently in it's 2nd reading in Parliament.

12. Any other business

None

13. Next meeting date

To be arranged

