



BWFC Supporters' Trust

MEETING NOTES

Subject: Board Meeting

Venue: Toughsheet Stadium & Zoom

Meeting Date: 25 07 2024 @ 6.30pm

Present: Ian Bridge (IB) – Nominated Chair
Paul Wood (PW)
Mike Smith (MS)
Shane Stopforth (SS)
Sue Higson (SH) (Via Zoom)
Ian Pegg (IP)
Alan Houghton (AH)
Martin Parnell (MP) (Via Zoom)
Robin Fletcher (RF) – Acting Secretary

Apologies: Maggie Tetlow (MT); Terence Rigby (TR)

1. Matters Arising from the previous Meeting

- a) RF has scheduled the quarterly Structured Dialogue meetings with the Club at 10am on the first Friday of the month – 4th of October 2024, 10th of January 2025, 4th of April 2025 and 4th of July 2025. The Board Meeting will take place at 6.30pm on the Wednesday before - 2nd of October 2024, 8th of January 2025, 2nd of April 2025 and 2nd of July 2025.
- b) The 1923 medal was unveiled earlier in the day by Neil Hart, Phil Mason and John McGInlay of BWFC with IB, RF, AH and MS in attendance from the Trust. IB proposed a debt of gratitude to AH and MS, who have been at the forefront of bringing this project to a successful fruition, which was unanimously endorsed by all present.
- c) The email to shareholders encouraging them to subscribe £10 per annum to be sent out next week with a link to some of the more recent achievements made by the Trust including the 1923 medal, video of a person using sign language for the hard of hearing, Lower concourse accessible car parking bays.
- d) RF did speak with Bryan Lomax to improve the website layout, and whilst there have been some work done, this will be an ongoing project.
- e) TR, MS and IP attended a Breakfast Club meeting with the intention to canvass for sponsorship of the Trust. MS advised that by the time the guest speaker had wrapped up there was little time to get 'work the room'. IP did engage with a couple of companies but neither have come back with anything positive.
- f) **MS** still intends to make a banner/display board but probably after more sponsors have been secured.
- g) Youth involvement was discussed at greater length during the course of this meeting. SH did advise that there was no need for the Trust to have DBS checks as we would not be dealing directly without supervision vulnerable minors.
- h) The Board unanimously approved the purchase of the Fan Zone Cabin as the capital cost would be re-couped in less than two years rent.
- i) IB will speak with Steve Jame regarding a wrap to the interior of the Fan Zone Cabin.
- j) The Accounts have been posted to the FCA. The FCA, however, appear to have not received them. **IB** to follow up.



- k) SH, MP, IB and RF have completed a review of the Model Rules, Code of Conduct and Election Policy and their report and proposals were issued yesterday evening. **TR, MT, MS, IP, SS, PW & AH** are asked to approve/comment by the 22nd of August 2024.
RF briefly gave some of the key points of the Review
- Adopt the latest version of the Model Rules 2022.
 - The three Officers (Chair, Treasurer, Secretary) be elected from the Board and rotated every 12 to 18 months.
 - Encouragement of wider base of enthusiastic supporters to partake in the day to day working of the Trust by joining the Trust Consult Group.
 - IB be made Honorary Secretary to the Board.
- l) RF advised that he had followed up with Mike Egan for confirmation MP, MT and RF were now signatories to the Bank Accounts, however currently awaiting a response.
- m) **MP** is to liaise with Mike Gethin and together make contact with Simon Marland to investigate what memorabilia is in store. In the long term it was agreed the Trust should propose to the Club the memorabilia be on permanent display in a Museum/Hall of Fame.
- n) A future podcast has been discussed with NH and he suggested it also includes Chris Markham. To be followed up.

2. Status on non-subscribing members and representation of the wider fan base

- a) RF explained how in the Model Rules it states in the event of a member failing to make their annual subscription a notice to do so should be issued to the member. If the subscription remains un-paid the membership may be terminated. MS suggested that some members may not realise that their subscription is due and perhaps we should send out invoices to the non-subscribers. After discussion it was agreed to re-consider after the email to supporters (re. 1(c) above).
- b) RF asked the Board give consideration to our position regarding representation of all the fans of BWFC, with particular regard to being a Community Benefit Society.

3. Subscription, Sponsorship and the Raising of Working Capital

- a) The long term issue of having a regular income from subscription of less than £700 whilst having out goings of circa £8,000 was discussed. The income from our Sponsors, Bolton At Home, Bernstein Kitchens & Dawson Pies has over the years made up the shortfall. **PW** to form a Working Group to target potential sponsors.
- b) IP suggested that prior to attending a future Breakfast Club meeting we research the nature of businesses attending, which may make a cold introduction a little easier.
- c) At the next informal meeting with NH the event with IE, pencilled in for October/November to be arranged

4. Youth Involvement

- a) A number of schools have been contacted to gauge their interest in putting forward students to make up a Youth Advisory Board(YAB). There already is sufficient interest to create a Board of 11.
- b) MS asked **IB** make contact with Schools outside of the Borough including Leigh, Astley etc. where there is a traditional BWFC base. RF asked how will this work if there already exists enough candidates. A Consult Group would be formed to involve the wider youth base. It is envisaged this Consult Group would be a way of introducing students through to the YAB.

5. Any other business

- a) At previous meetings SS has suggested a JV with Club, Bolton at Home to set up a food in the Fan Zone.
- b) SS also suggested Gall event with Bolton Lads and Girls Club including 'meet the player', 'beat the goalie', etc.



- c) The Loyalty Survey prepared by the Board has been sent to NH for his approval. NH has also been requested to distribute to the Club's database.
- d) CIC accounts to be filed by the end of the year.
- e) The back-up for Bryan Lomax (IT Consultant) to be progressed.

6. Next meeting date

6.30pm at the Toughsheet Stadium on the

2nd of October 2024

8th of January 2025

2nd of April 2025

2nd of July 2025

