



## BWFC Supporters' Trust

### Minutes

**Subject:** BWFC & BWFCST Quarterly Meeting No 11

**Venue:** Toughsheet Community Stadium

**Meeting Date:** 05 April 2024 @ 10.00am

**Present:**

BWFC: Neil Hart (NH), Phil Mason (PM)

BWFCST: Alan Houghton (AH), Martin Parnell (MP), Ian Pegg (IP), Mike Smith (MS)

**Apologies:** Ian Bridge (IB), Robin Fletcher (RF), Sue Higson (SH), Terence Rigby (TR), Shane Stopforth (SS), Maggie Tetlow (MT), Paul Wood (PW)

---

**Purpose of Meeting:**

The meeting is the eleventh scheduled quarterly meeting between senior BWFC personnel and BWFCST board representatives as referenced in the Joint Memorandum of Understanding signed by both parties in August 2021.

#### 1. Previous Minutes

Minutes of the quarterly meeting held on 4 January 2024 were accepted and are available on the trust website.

#### 2. 24/25 Season Ticket Sales

NH confirmed that season ticket sales were going very well under the early bird period, passing the 10,000 mark this week. He expected a final push next week as the first stage comes to an end.

#### 3. Matchday atmosphere – Safe Standing

NH said that consultation had started with fans about safe standing and that feedback had been very much in favour. He stated that he wanted this project to be fan-led. The consultation will finish on 19 April 2024 and NH encouraged as many fans as possible to respond.

#### 4. Youth Involvement/Advisory Group

NH/PM said that a couple of possible representatives for the Young Fan Advisory Group had been identified. IP suggested BLGC might be able to provide representatives. NH suggested that two age groups, namely 14-18 and up to 21 years old, could be formed with monthly meetings held. This is an ongoing project.



## 5. Fan Zone

- Additional Canopies have been installed.
- Heating has been sorted.
- There are still some non-compliances with accessibility regulations to be tackled, in particular the accessible toilets.
- Free WiFi is not possible at the moment.
- The sale of non-alcoholic beer and wine is not possible at this time.

## 6. Level Playing Field Audit

- PM reported good feedback on the new Accessible toilets.
- PM said that there had been good take up of the new audio facilities with details now included in the match pack. The audio facilities are also available for visiting fans.
- The Northern Forum of the Unite for Access will be held at the Etihad Stadium, Manchester on 24 April 2024.

## 7. Update on the 1923 Medal

The Jack family have now given their permission for the 1923 medal to be put on display. NH said that he had been collecting some paraphernalia associated with the 1923 final and AH was asked to write the story of how it all came about.

## 8. Trust/Club Podcast

NH suggested that a podcast should be arranged soon, covering subjects like Safe Standing, Ticket Exchange and the Matchday experience. MT and SH were proposed for the podcast and potential dates will be sent to NH and PM.

## 9. Sponsorship of Players - Affiliates

Lancaster Whites, London Whites and Norwegian Whites were all sponsoring B Team players. MP asked for thanks to be passed on to Tia Davies in the commercial department for arranging the sponsorship presentation for London Whites

## 10. Trust Event – Q & A with Neil Hart and Ian Evatt

MS advised the club that the BWFCST will hold their AGM on 18 April 2024. The Q & A session with Neil Hart and Ian Evatt is now proposed for early next season.

## 11. Update on Bond Expenditure and Forthcoming Planned Projects

NH gave an overview of the accounts which were published last week and also provided details on where money has been spent on upgrading facilities at the stadium. Plans are in place to repair the stadium roof in the summer. PM said that the unprecedented rain had made the problems worse than ever.



## **12. Any Other Business**

### **12.1 Supporter of the Year**

Nominations had now closed and these were discussed. The winner will be announced at the Season Awards night on 20 April 2024.

### **12.2 EFL Awards**

PM said that BWFC had been nominated for the Diversity Award in next week's EFL awards and he said that there were two places available for BWFCST Board members. MS and IP were proposed.

### **12.3 Total Belief**

MP asked if the new book, Total Belief by Chris Evans will be available in the club shop. NH said that he would look into this and he asked for a copy of the book.

## **13. Next Meeting**

July 2024. Date to be Confirmed.

