

SWANSEA CITY SUPPORTERS TRUST

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Board Meeting held on Monday, 18th August 2014 at the Liberty Stadium, Swansea commencing at 5.30pm.

Present:

Phil Sumbler, Stuart Macdonald, Will Morris, Huw Cooze, Duncan Thomas, Ron Knuszka, Viv Williams, Jim White, Viv Brooks, Nigel Hamer. (Secretary).

Apologies: Ian James, Alan Lewis, Dai Little.

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 16th June 2014 were approved.

Appointment of Officers:

NH conformed that the following had put their names forward for the positions of:

Chairman - *Phil Sumbler*

Treasurer - *Stuart MacDonald*

Secretary - *Nigel Hamer*

Associate Director – *Will Morris*.

The above will serve for a period of one year. Nominations approved.

Confirmation of Board Members:

The following will serve for a period of two years from the 1st August 2014.

Viv Brooks, Ron Knuszka, Alan Lewis, Duncan Thomas, Viv Williams.

Duncan Thomas has filled the vacancy of an elected Board Member.

Confirmation of Nominations for Co-opted Board Members who will serve for a period of one year from the 1st August 2014.

Barbara Cook, Cath Dyer, Andy Godden, Gwyn Hughes.

The four Co-opted Board Members joined the meeting.

Chairman *Phil Sumbler* welcomed our new Co-opted Board Member *Gwyn Hughes* to the meeting.

Jim White was re-appointed Vice Chairman by the Chairman.

Supporter Director Report:

HC reported:

1. Promote and link ourselves with Overseas supporter groups.
2. Community Events – Manager had been contacted about the *Ten Pin Bowling Night*, dates to be considered for October/November.
3. The film premiere of *From A Jack To A King* will take place at the *Empire, Leicester Square* on *Friday, 12th September*, the eve of the away fixture with *Chelsea*, guests to be invited. The film will be shown at the *Odeon Cinema Swansea* on *Sunday 14th September*, *Trust Board Members* are invited.
4. *Jumbotron* screens are fitted at the *Stadium*, *Board Members* viewed them after the meeting.
5. *Stadium expansion*. *Club Board* considering Debentures over a 3/5 year period.
6. *Stadium Tours – Landore and Fairwood*, Looking into this as a result of it being raised at the recent *Fans Forum*.
7. *Ticketing Issues* – we had submitted a letter to *Andrew Davies, SSMC, Manager* where the Trust are being heavily criticised when the issues are not of our making but are taking the brunt of supporters anger.
8. *The Club* have taken over an unit at *Cwmdru Industrial Estate* for *Academy* use.. A Ladies team is being formed, the Club have appointed their first Full Time coach.

9. *Old Players Association* had been approved by the *Club Board* for *Trust* involvement through **HC**. **NH** and **SMacd** had agreed to look after the running of the Association.

Treasurers Report:

SMacd suggested that we consider Community funding for exceptional charity events which could be sport related. The upcoming *London Fans Forum* could choose a sporting charity in advance, from the interest we earn from our Building Society accounts. The **AGM** will take place on the 20th October. 2014

TBM125/08 Centenary 2012 & TBM162/13 History of the Swans Trust

HC reported that book sales were ongoing.

TBM 127/08 Disability Issues:

IJ had given apologies for absence, therefore no report. **HC** confirmed that the *DSA* will hold it's *AGM* at the *Liberty Stadium* on the 2nd September.

TBM 142/11 Wall Of Fame

NH confirmed the date of the unveiling as the 20th September the day of the home fixture against *Southampton*. **NH** was due to send invites out to the nominated players. The event will commence at 12.30pm at the *Wall Of Fame*. Arrangements to be made for sandwiches, tea and coffee in the Stadium from 1.30pm, the guests will then watch the match.

TBM 154/12 Riverside Lounge Memorabilia

VW is hoping that this work will be completed in October, **AG** and **WM** agreed to work with **VW** on progressing this project.

TBM 169/13 Website Upgrade.

DT had nothing further to report.

TBM 171/13 Marketing Sub-Group:

JW had nothing further to report.

TBM 172/14 Membership Renewal 2014/15.

The sub-group had discussed *Gold Membership*. It was agreed that every effort should be made to make contact with our old members.

TBM174/14 Fans Forums.

WM reported on a well attended *Fans Forum* at the *Liberty Stadium* on the 14th August. Over 200 plus attended with a variety of questions directed at *Club Chairman Huw Jenkins, Manager Garry Monk, Club Ambassador Lee Trundle, and Supporter Director Huw Cooze*. **WM** is in contact with *Port Talbot Town Football Club* for a *Fans Forum* probably in October.

The *London Fans Forum* is pencilled in to take place on *Friday, 5th December* the eve of the away fixture with *West Ham United*.

TBM 175/14 Annual Mailing & Newsletter.

VW had obtained advertisers for the *Newsletter*. **HC** to check on cost of a *Hospitality Box*, maximum cost £500. *Newsletters* should arrive with recipients week commencing 18th August, almost 12,500 will be sent out which covers season ticket holders and non-season ticket holder members. Vital that we keep in contact with our membership via e-mails, *Facebook* and *Twitter*. **PS** re-iterated that we should set a membership target with each Board Member encouraging Supporter friends to join. **HC** suggested that we should consider resurrecting the *Trust TV* idea. **WM** and **AL** to look further into this project.

A.O.B.

GH introduced a topic on *Racism at Football Stadiums* which had been highlighted recently in a *Sunday Times* article. It was a thorough discussion, covering *Race Inequality* and *Tader Idris*, to *Kick It Out* and *Show Racism the Red Card*. **HC** suggested that he contact the *Club Board* to consider **GH** as the *Club Race Relations Officer*.

NH suggested that we should continue our interest in an *International Players Honours Board*.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 7.45pm.

Next Board Meeting, Monday 22nd September 2014 at 5.30pm at the Liberty Stadium.

