

SWANSEA CITY SUPPORTERS TRUST

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Board Meeting held on Monday, 24th September 2012 at the Liberty Stadium, Swansea commencing at 5.35pm.

Present:

Phil Sumbler, Jim White, Huw Cooze, Alan Lewis, Ian James, Will Morris, Craig Mapstone, Viv Brooks, Stuart McDonald, Nigel Hamer.(Secretary).

Apologies:

Ron Knuszka, Cath Dyer, Kevin Mahoney, John Heycock, Gareth James, Viv Williams, Dai Little.

Vice Chairman Jim White chaired the meeting due to the late arrival of Chairman Phil Sumbler.

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 13th August had previously been circulated and approved.

Supporter Director Report:

HC presented artists impressions of the refurbished pavilion dressing rooms and pitches layout at Fairwood which is a joint venture between the Club and Swansea University. The Landore complex should be completed by the end of the year. The Club Board is undertaking a feasibility study of the Stadium expansion looking at the various costings, detailed plans should be submitted shortly. Even though the Landore complex is incomplete, the Club have been awarded Academy 2 status for this season. The Commercial Department is ahead of target expectations, overseas club shirt sales are excellent, especially to South Korea.

Treasurers Report:

Payment for our share of the Annual Awards Dinner had been received, however, it was incomplete due to the delayed payment from one of the Sponsors. A sub-group will meet to discuss the Newsletter costs for next August.

TBM 077/06 Fans Forum:

HC reported on an excellent turnout at the recent Fans Forum held at the Liberty Stadium when over 200 were treated to a panel of Michael Laudrup, Huw Jenkins with players, Nathan Dyer, Angel Rangel, Alan Tate and Ki Sung-Yeung. A provisional date of November 30th, the eve of the away fixture at Arsenal has been pencilled in for the next London Forum. Discussions on Forums at Carmarthen and Port Talbot were left on the table.

TBM 082/06 Swansea City 2002 Limited:

Nothing further to report.

TBM 085/06 Website:

No report.

TBM 086/07 Community Group:

The raffle had been on a par with last season, David Cornell made the draw prior to the home game against Everton on the 22nd September. All winners have been notified.

TBM 125/08 Centenary 2012:

HC reported that the printing of the second book would be put on hold until such time as we had sold the first printed book. Sales were slow, it was hoped that there could be demand at Christmas. The Club Shop had sold a number, however, it does need to be pushed by using the websites and media..

TBM 127/08 Disability Issues:

IJ reported that the Constitution had been completed and sent out to those Members who had expressed an interest to become involved in the Group. An AGM will be held in November. IJ had received an invitation from David Munn at Yeovil Town to discuss Disability Issues.

TBM 139/09 Memorial Garden

No progress. This would be affected by the Stadium expansion.

TBM 142/11 Wall Of Fame:

PS reported that the unveiling of the Wall Of Fame had been very well received with a sizeable crowd in attendance on the morning of the home fixture against Everton. Legends – Mel Nurse, Nick Cusack, James Thomas, Lee Trundle, Herbie Williams, Roger Freestone, Keith Walker, Wyndham Evans and John Cornforth attended. Mrs Esme Allchurch and Mrs. Harry Griffiths undertook the unveiling. PS had thanked Club Chaplain Kevin Johns for his blessing and kind words at the unveiling. The Trust Board were disappointed at the lack of attendance by members of the Club Board at the unveiling.

TBM 143/11 Business Sector:

JW to produce and send out a document on the way forward.

TBM 150/12 Formation of Premier League Supporters Trust Group.

NH reported that David Little (Legal Affiliate) will attend the next Premier League Supporters Trust Meeting in London on October 11th

TBM 151/12 Frame for John Charles Signed Shirt.

Agreed that we would donate and pay for a frame of a signed **John Charles shirt** to hang adjacent to the John Charles bust in the main foyer at the Liberty Stadium.

TBM 152/12 Blind/Disabled Fans

HC thought this an interesting suggestion and this would be looked into further.

A.O.B.

Matchday Catering:

NH was asked to contact General Manager, Andrew Davies at SSMC about Compass Catering and the current concerns with the catering facilities at the Stadium. **PS** suggested that it was sub-standard catering for the numbers visiting the Stadium on match days. The matches are all sold out, therefore the Caterers should be aware of the need to provide sufficient supplies of food and drinks.

Robbie James Bust & Wall of Fame:

PS had thanked SSMC for insuring the Robbie James bust & Wall of Fame.

Future of the Trust:

WM had undertaken a SWOT analysis from the replies received from Board Members. The results were read out to the meeting.

JW suggested that we consider undertaking a 3 month trial period sponsored by CRM employing a person with telephone skills to help promote the Trust. **IJ** mentioned that funds were available for a placement trial. It was agreed that we look further into this, however, there was a need for a renewed Membership Questionnaire to be produced.

General discussion on revisiting the provision of a supporters bar and office access for the Trust at the Stadium. It was agreed that the Pod was proving to be a good base for members to discuss issues with Trust Board members who are in attendance on matchdays. The Pod is also used by the official Travel Club which often meant that Trust officers were usually outside the Pod on matchdays.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.05pm.

Next Board Meeting, Monday 22nd October, 2012.

Chair for the evening.....*Jim White*