Swansea City Supporters' Trust Report to Club Board – May 2022

It has been a busy few months for the Trust since our AGM in February and the announcement of the settlement of the legal case. Nevertheless, the board are wholly and totally committed in moving the Trust forward and building and developing the essential and close working relationship with the club.

Our programme over the next few months includes:

Fan Survey – We are preparing a wide-ranging survey which will be sent to all members and available to all fans to complete. This will cover all the Trusts activities and will seek to establish what fans want and expect from the Trust moving forward.

Strategic Review – Running alongside the survey we are conducting an internal strategic review of the Trusts activities. The results of both will be shared with the club and form part of a strategy document that will be published and form the basis of our activities in the future.

Governance – in 2021 the Model Rules of the FSA covering Supporters' Trusts were updated and amended. We are currently reviewing our own rules and any changes will be put forward to the Trust Board and then sanctioned at the next A.G.M. in 2023. The updated version will be registered with the FSA and the FCA.

Fan-Led Review – We are still processing the results of our own survey into the Fan-Led review, and these will be shared with the club as soon as possible. In the meantime, the Queens Speech opening the current session of Parliament committed the Government to appoint an Independent Regulator to oversee football within the EPL and EFL. This is a major step forward but there is a long way to go yet in seeing the implementation of the full recommendations of the FLR.

Trust Board Elections – notification of our annual election for positions on the Trust Board will be circulated to members during June. The results of the elections will be published in July. The first meeting of the new board will be in August.

Safe Standing – we are very aware of the move by the football authorities to licence more safe standing areas at football grounds. We continue to have discussions with management on the implications and costs that the imposition of 'safe standing' will have at our club. This matter is not going to go away, and we need a policy to be agreed and actioned as soon as possible.

The FSA – the AGM will be held in London next month; we will have a representative from the Trust Board in attendance.

Swans Foundation – Sian Davies was recently appointed as our first permanent Trust representative on the board of the Foundation and has attended her first meeting. We look forward to working more closely with the Foundation on community projects in the coming months and years.

Former Players Association – Trust chair Dave Dalton represents us on the committee of the FPA. After a slow start it is encouraging to see more past players join up and we will be helping as much as possible to promote this important initiative.

Vetch Field Project – we were delighted to play a small part in bringing this Swansea City Council initiative to fruition. The day was a success, and it was fantastic to see football being played again on our spiritual home. We continue our work with other supporter groups and on a number of other projects and initiatives including:

- Global Swans supporter groups
- Swans DSA
- Schools Initiative, which we are hopeful to recommence at the start of the next academic year.
- Fan Behaviour
- Digital Heritage Project
- SAG – Safety Advisory Group

Sponsorship – we recently reaffirmed our ongoing sponsorship and support to local grass roots football, represented by the Swansea Junior League and Swansea Schools FA. Both organisations have had their activities curtailed during Covid but are planning a full programme for next season. We see support of these 2 groups as being fundamental in developing football within the local community.

The above is a taste of the wide-ranging activities in which we are involved. We always appreciate the support the Senior Management Team here give us, not least by one of them regularly attending the opening agenda item of our monthly Board Meetings. We publish on our website redacted copies of our monthly Board Meetings, which includes details of the regular meetings we have with the club's management.

Terry Sinnett
Supporter Director
31st May 2022