

# SWANSEA CITY SUPPORTERS TRUST

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Minutes of the Board Meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2010 at the Liberty dium, Swansea, commencing at 5.40pm**

**Present:**

Phil Sumbler, Ron Knuszka, Stuart McDonald, Huw Cooze, Meic Pickavance, Craig Mapstone.

Nigel Hamer (Secretary).

**Apologies:**

Kevin Mahoney, Jim White, Will Morris, Alan Lewis, Ian James, Viv Brooks, Duncan Howells.

**Meeting with Ospreys Supporters Club:**

We had received a request from the recently formed Ospreys Supporters Club to meet with the Trust Board to explore common ground. The Ospreys Supporters Club were represented by Chairman Mike Phippen, Vice Chairman Raymond Morgan and Membership Secretary Steve Evans. There was a general discussion which included joint use of the Riverside Bar for future Social events. It was agreed that the Riverside Bar did not exactly lend itself to a more relaxed Social event for 200 plus supporters as it was designed to cater for up to 400 on match days.

Physical presence at the Stadium was of concern to the Trust, however, the Ospreys had been

provided with a gazebo which they used on matchdays in the West Car Park. It was agreed that we would meet again in the next few months to review ideas discussed.

Chairman Phil Sumbler reported that Trust Board member Debbie Rees had stood down for personal reasons with immediate effect. **PS** requested that it be recorded how involved Debbie had been over the past years in the progress the Trust had made and wished her well in the future.

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> September had previously been circulated and approved.

**Supporter Director Report:**

**HC** had looked further into the possibility of the use of a Pod outside the Stadium in discussions with the Stadium General Manager. We ticked most of the boxes, however, there was an issue regarding planning consent as the pod would be a 'permanent' fixture. **HC** would report further information as received. The Ospreys Supporters Club had use of a gazebo on match days, **NH** was asked to contact them about possibly having use of their facility on matchdays.

**HC** reported on the current playing staff treatment room injuries.

*Gorka Pintado* – full training around the 15<sup>th</sup> October. *Mark Gower* – nothing serious.

*Dave Cotterill* – Week off. ok for Reading 16<sup>th</sup> October. *Darren Pratley* – full training on 7<sup>th</sup> October.

*Scott Sinclair* – Week off. ok for Reading 16<sup>th</sup> October. *Kemi Aguestine* – full training 7<sup>th</sup> October.

*Steven Dobbie* – Rest this week. ok for Reading 16<sup>th</sup> October. *Ferrie Bodde* – in Swansea 5<sup>th</sup> October.

*Alan Tate* – Rest this week. Ok for Reading 16<sup>th</sup> October

*Neil Taylor* called up to full Welsh squad this week.

Since the last meeting, Shefki Kuqi had joined Derby County on an Emergency Loan.

**HC** confirmed that discussions had taken place regarding Betting facilities at the Stadium. The current position is – based on specific safety concerns relating to the fire control

measures and concourse capacities, the proposal to introduce betting facilities within the Stadium is on hold. Commercial and operational complications meant the option of changing the original proposal to provide external facilities has now been turned down by the proposed provider. The Stadium Management continues to try and find a solution in order to provide this service to spectators.

**Treasurers Report:**

**SMcD** reported that the Accounts were with our Accountants for audit. Realistically we should be in a position to hold our AGM prior to our next Board Meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> November. Payment had been received for the Awards Dinner which netted the Trust £4,000. Payments due were to the Financial Services Authority - £180 as the Annual Regulatory Fee as the Society (Trust) is registered as an Industrial & Provident Society and is based on assets held in our cast the shareholding in the football Club.

Royal Mail Group - £116.55 covering our Freepost usage and Annual Registration Fee. Finally

Visions Creative - £448 printing costs for Swansea After I Die Leaving A Legacy leaflet, this cost had been sponsored by JCP Solicitors LLP of Swansea. Our account balance was £7,240

**TBM 077/06 Fans Forum:**

**PS** reported that the Forum held on the 30<sup>th</sup> September had been a very successful evening with about 115 fans present to put questions to *Huw Jenkins, Brendan Rodgers, Gary Monk, Alan Tate* and *Joe Allen*. The questions were varied and were answered with much openness. Chairman Phil Sumbler presented *Alan Tate* with a Vetch Field Box Set to commemorate his 300<sup>th</sup> appearance against Derby County on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October. **PS** thanked Board members for their attendance and assistance in putting the event together.

An invitation to hold a Fans Forum at Carmarthen Town FC

had been accepted by the Board, a decision will be taken early in the new year on a date.

**TBM 080/06 Membership:**

We are nearing the 1000 mark for this years membership. **JW** had informed by e-mail that there were 589 of last years members who had not rejoined. An e-mail reminder was sent out today. A general discussion took place about ways to increase membership umbers. **CM** reported that 100 members had logged onto the Facebook page, it was suggested that he promotes the Ten Pin Bowling Night **DH** had informed by e-mail that Leaflet Holders had been placed in a number of pubs near the Stadium having liaised with **IJ**.

**TBM 082/06 Swansea City 2002 Limited:**

Nothing further to report.

**TBM 085/06 Website:**

No report.

**TBM 086/07 Community Group:**

**VB** had reported by e-mail that Bowling Night bookings were being taken. **AL** had set up a spreadsheet allowing entry of bookings for the night. 10 lanes had been sold within a few days of being advertised.

**HC** to produce a leaflet to be place on our website, planet swans and scfc.co.uk Registration will begin

from 6.30pm. **NH** to contact *Kevin Johns* to comperre the evening.

**TBM 124/08 Trust TV:**

No report.

**TBM 125/08 Centenary 2012:**

Nothing to report..

**TBM 127/08 Disabled Issues:**

**No report available.**

**TBM 139/09 Memorial Garden:**

**HC** reported that this had been brought up at a recent SSMC meeting. Will report with further details when available.

**A.O.B.**

**CM** reported that he had further information on the suggested 5 a side football tournament at the facility at Cwmdru. Using two pitches the normal charge would be £180, but a negotiated charge to us would be £120. The charge per team would be £30, the tournament would be on a Sunday between 12 noon and 3pm. **PS** would have a sponsor for the tournament which could be in memory of former Trust member, the late *Mike Kent*. **HC** will contact Alan Curtis to have an old-Swans team take part.

**CM** reported on an incident in the East Stand involving himself at the Derby County match and the use of flags on sticks. He was approached by Stewards and reprimanded with personal details taken. **PS** agreed to speak to the Senior Steward on the East Stand at the next home match. A check will be made on the Stewards Rules & Regulations handbook to check if the flags contravene Stadium safety regulations.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.45pm

The next Board meeting will take place on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> November at 5.30pm

**Phil Sumbler**

**Chairman**