

Minutes of the Board Meeting held on Monday, 14th November 2011 at the Liberty Stadium, Swansea commencing at 5.35pm.

Present:

Jim White, Huw Cooze, Ron Knuszka, Stuart McDonald, Ian James, John Heycock, Will Morris, Gareth James, Viv Brooks, Viv Williams, Craig Mapstone, Nigel Hamer (Secretary).

Apologies:

Phil Sumbler, Cath Dyer, Alan Lewis, Kevin Mahoney.

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 26th September had previously been circulated and approved.

In the absence of Chairman Phil Sumbler, Vice Chairman Jim White chaired the Meeting.

Supporter Director Report:

HC had submitted an e-mail on the 4th November to the Trust Board outlining details of the season ticket proposals for season 2012/13 which had been discussed by a sub-group of the football Club Board. After a lengthy discussion by members, the views were that the price structure was acceptable and was not an issue, however, the Board were not entirely in agreement with the dates proposed. Other topics discussed were:

Landore Training Complex, Liberty Stadium Issues, Llandarcy Training Complex..

Treasurers Report:

SMcD gave an overview of our income as a result of our Free Membership initiative set up for Season 2011/12. We are currently receiving an average sum of £3800 per annum in Standing Orders, the target should be receiving monthly Standing Orders totalling £6000 per annum. One off donations were £6500. Our gross raffle ticket sales were £6800 which is our best since the raffle draw we had for the car some years ago. The Free Membership costings which involved postage/printing etc., amounted to £11200. There is an approximate additional cost of £1300 from UK Mail which had not been budgeted for. We had received notification that our cheque was imminent for the Awards Dinner held in May, the cheque was for £5615. The delay was the result of an outstanding settlement of Sponsorship and Ticket monies from a local Company.

It was agreed that we would discuss the continuation of the Free Membership scheme at our next Board Meeting. General feeling was that this should be retained.

TBM 077/06 Fans Forum:

It was agreed that PS would check with the Aberdare request for a Fans Forum of availability and dates.

TBM 082/06 Swansea City 2002 Limited:

Nothing further to report from last Board Meeting.

TBM 085/06 Website:

JW reported that working with AL the launch of the revamped website would be the end of November 2011. Loading of the Club database and merging with our own database. NH had received concerns from members with no computer access missing out on Trust news. It was agreed that we ask the Evening Post if we can resurrect *Trust Talk* which had been our mouthpiece to our Members in previous years.

TBM 086/07 Community Group:

VB Thad been in contact with the facility at St.Helen's Pavilion for a Race Nite, it is hoped that this will be held in February during the International break in fixtures. The Ten Pin Bowling night had once again been a very successful evening, the only players missing on the night were those away on International duty. The surplus for the evening was over £1500.

TBM 125/08 Centenary 2012:

WM reported that interviewing had taken place for the appointment of a Data Collection Controller who will undertake the financial management of the Centenary 2012 project. The appointment results from Lottery Funding through Swansea University. VB had been in touch with the National Waterfront Museum with a view to setting up a display in July/August 2012.

TBM 127/08 Disability Issues:

IJ had submitted a detailed report since the last Board Meeting. A meeting was held on the 7th November at the Stadium with Jackie Newing of Level Playing Field. Present representing the Trust were Ian James, Cath Dyer, Will Morris, Huw Cooze who also represented the Club Board. Lyn Phillips – Stadium Operations Manager, Phil Hovestadt – Ticket Office Manager, the Disabled Ticket Office representative and Phil Langford – Stadium Disability Liaison Officer. The purpose of the meeting was to plan the next stage of setting up a Forum, Jackie Newing of Level Playing Field gave an overview of how the Forum would work and the help on offer. Roles and responsibilities were unusual in that the Club did not own the Stadium. Once a date is known, all Disabled Supporters on the Club database will be contacted inviting them to a meeting, this will be early in the new year. A complaint had been made regarding access on matchdays behind the North Stand which is blocked by TV vehicles and other TV equipment.. This has resulted in no easy access to the East Stand from the north of the stadium and is an inconvenience to wheelchair bound supporters. This initial complaint was from the Stoke City fixture, Phil Langford the Stadium DLO sorted this problem albeit temporarily on the day. A meeting was held with Lyn Phillips to explain the concerns of disabled supporters, the situation was remedied for the Bolton Wanderers fixture. A letter sent to ESPN for the forthcoming fixture with Manchester United by Lyn Phillips was copied to Ian James requesting that access is made available for Disabled supporters.

TBM 139/09 Memorial Garden:

NH reported that although an e-mail had been forwarded to the Chairman of SSMC, Councillor Graham Thomas, a reply had not been received.

TBM 140/10 5 A Side Football Tournament:

No report available.

TBM 141/11 Regional Groups:

No report available.

TBM 142/11 Wall Of Fame.

NH reported that again there had been no response as per the Memorial Garden minute.

TBM 143/11 Business Sector:

VW and GJ had met to discuss the setting up of a business card which could be used by Members to obtain discounts with local firms. A charge for each business involvement was suggested, general consensus was that there should not be a charge to a business. Further report at the next meeting.

A.O.B.

Community Involvement:

SMcD suggested that as it was in our Constitution we should look at becoming more involved in Community related projects. We should look at projects and report back at the next meeting.

Easyfundraising:

SMcD believes that we should promote this scheme which is easy to register online and will help to raise funds for the Trust. Trust Member Bethan Charles from Peterborough has registered the Supporters Trust and regular cheques are received from this outlet.

Centenary 2012:

GJ proposed that we should contact First Cymru with the idea of painting a bus in Swans colours during our Centenary year. **HC** will contact the General Manager to discuss the proposal.

Mememorabilia:

RK reminded the Board that he had a number of shirts signed by the late John Charles which we need to decide what we are going to do with them.

Trust Board Bonding Evening:

It was agreed that the Trust Board would have an evening out after the Fulham fixture on the 10th December. **NH** to arrange the booking of a restaurant for the evening.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.35pm.Next Meeting, to be confirmed.

Jim White..... Vice Chairman.