

# SWANSEA CITY SUPPORTERS TRUST

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Board Meeting held on Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at the Fairwood Training Centre, Killay, Swansea commencing at 5.35pm.

### Present:

Phil Sumbler, Jim White, Huw Cooze, Barbara Cook, Ron Knuszka, Viv Williams, Stuart Macdonald, Cath Dyer, Gwyn Hughes, Duncan Thomas, Alan Lewis, Viv Brooks, Will Morris, Nigel Hamer (Secretary).

### Apologies:

Ian James, Andrew Godden.

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015 were approved.

### Supporter Director Report:

**HC** talked us through a number of sensitive subjects including Player recruitment, extension of current Player's contracts, fortunately most front line players are on long term contracts. Discussions with the Council on the Stadium purchase are continuing. The Stadium expansion is very much ongoing. Progress at Landore is progressing towards the aim of achieving Category One Accreditation with the Club very hopeful that the Auditors deem the progress being made meet the very high demands for Category One Accreditation. The addition of Classroom facilities onto the existing building is well advanced, land has been cleared in readiness for the indoor barn building. Building works at the Fairwood Training Centre is taking shape, buildings should be weatherproof within a month and possibly an Autumn finish date.

- *Arranged a Talk for Trust Board members with Pep Clotet, Assistant Manager who talked us through how we set up for a game and how we are always improving players, he was assisted by Analyst, Ryan Needs. Javier Garcia also gave us a good background into the training set up for our Goalkeepers.*
- *Attended a two day Seminar at the BBC Media Centre in Manchester as the Club Supporters Liaison Officer.*
- *Chaperoned a group from FC Oss (Holland) who we are building strong links with, this was their sixth visit this season a party of 25, given a Stadium tour, ten pin bowling organised before watching the Manchester City fixture.*
- *Attended the Swansea Schools Football Association for their Swansea Schools Festival evenings at St. Helens Rugby Ground on the 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> April with fellow Trust Board members who made presentations to the winners of each Age Group. Lee Trundle also at the event.*
- *The Away Fan initiative continues which has been successful in helping the fans absorb some of the cost of away travel, as usual there has been ticket reduction as well as a meal deal, free programme and for the Crystal Palace fixture a free shirt.*
- *Attended, along with Board Members Duncan Thomas, Will Morris, Cath Dyer, Barbara Cook, and Secretary Nigel Hamer, the Swansea City Community Trust Celebration event for Season 2014-15 at the Liberty Stadium on the 14<sup>th</sup> May.*

### Treasurers Report:

**SMac** reported an outstanding Sponsorship payment to *Bravehearts* there are no other outstanding bills.

### TBM 127/08 Disability Issues:

No report presented.

### TBM 172/14 Membership

**AL** reported that we currently have 1,382 paid members. There are 2,806 members in our *Facebook Group*, 1,773 Likes on the *Facebook Page* with 4,822 *Twitter* followers. **AL, JW** and **DT** to meet prior to next Trust Board Meeting to discuss Membership Renewals.

**TBM 178/15 Annual Award Dinner 2015.**

The Dinner is due to take place on the 20<sup>th</sup> May. A report of the event at the next Board Meeting..

**A.O.B.**

**JW** referred to the *Asset of Community Value*. This to be an Agenda item for the next meeting.

**VW** mentioned the time is now due to obtain adverts for our *Newsletter*. Agreed that we would produce a 12 page Newsletter for distribution in August.

**NH** was asked to write letters of congratulation to *Garry Monk* and his *Management Team* and *Players* for a successful 2014/15 season with our highest points total in the *Premier League*, the *Under-21's* for becoming the *Development League Champions* beating *Huddersfield Town* 3-2 at the *Liberty Stadium* on the 13<sup>th</sup> May,, to the *Under-18 team* winning the *FAW Youth Cup* for the sixth straight season, beating *Cardiff City* at the *Cardiff City Stadium*, the *Swansea City Ladies* winning the *FAW Women's Cup* with a 4-2 win over *Cardiff City* at *Bridgend*.

**SMac** reported that we had been invited by the *Swansea Junior League* on the 16<sup>th</sup> May to Old Road, Briton Ferry for their Finals Day. Board Members would be most welcome to attend.

**SMac** had received an invitation to attend the *Swansea Schools F.A. Presentation Evening* at the Penlan Social Club on the 21<sup>st</sup> May. Board members welcome to attend.

**NH** confirmed the **Nominees** for the *Wall Of Fame* to be presented at the Annual Awards Dinner on the 20<sup>th</sup> May.

*Jimmy Collins, Tom Kiley, Des Palmer, Brayley Reynolds, Dai Davies, Alex Ferguson, Reg Weston, Ray Daniel, Harry Hanford, Mike Johnson, Frank Burns, Trevor Ford, Sid Lawrence, John Mahoney, Tommy Olsen, Leighton Phillips, Jimmy Rimmer, Alan Williams, Brian Purcell, Dave Stewart.*

**NH** brought up the idea of a *Swansea Town/City International Honours Board*. A letter to be forwarded to *SSMC Manager Andrew Davies* requesting consideration for the Board. It was envisaged being placed alongside the *World War One Bronze Plaque* which would be in the '*Trust Corner*' which incorporates the *Wall Of Fame*, the *Robbie James Bust* and the *Ivor Allchurch* statue.

**JW** mentioned the *Ceredigion Jacks* who had contacted him about the formation of outbound groups. Agreed to look at future venues and dates.

**NH** informed the meeting that we were now members of the *Footballers Supporters Federation* which is a free membership.

**NH** informed the meeting that we had proposed our *Legal Affiliate, David Little*, seconded by the *Cardiff City Supporters Trust*, as a Nomination for the *Supporters Direct Board Election 2015*.

**NH** informed the meeting of the *Supporters Summit* sponsored by *BT Sport*, jointly hosted by the *Football Supporters Federation* and *Supporters Direct* will be held in *Manchester* on the 18<sup>th</sup> July from 10.00am. *The Football Supporters Federation AGM* will be held at the same venue on the 19<sup>th</sup> July. *David Little* will attend, a further place is available for another Board Member

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

Next Board Meeting Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 at 5.30pm, at the Liberty Stadium.