

SWANSEA CITY SUPPORTERS TRUST

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Board Meeting held on Monday, 20th October 2014 at the Liberty Stadium, Swansea commencing at 5.30pm.

Present:

Phil Sumbler, Stuart Macdonald, Will Morris, Huw Cooze, Duncan Thomas, Ron Knuszka, Viv Williams, Jim White, Viv Brooks, Ian James, Alan Lewis, Andrew Godden, Gwyn Hughes, Dai Little, Barbara Cook, Nigel Hamer. (Secretary).

Apologies:

Cath Dyer.

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd September 2014 were approved.

Supporter Director Report:

HC reported:

1. A website has been launched by some American based Swansea fans - www.statesidejacks.com – offering tours to come and watch Swansea City games. Three of this group are over as guests at the *Arsenal* home fixture, one is *Mark Koenig*, past President of *North Shore United*.
2. *FC Oss* from *Holland* are planning a trip over to Swansea in February to play our Under-8's and take in a home fixture, this is all in hand with *Nigel Rees*, *Academy Manager*, the *FC Oss Club* who have 1000 players and have set up a website, www.swanseaclubholland.nl Both the *Dutch* and *American* websites are promoting *Swansea City* to the hilt.
3. In conjunction with *Nigel Rees*, *Academy Manager* I have assisted in arranging our *Under-18's* participating in a tournament in *Cape Town*. Coaching sessions in the Schools and Villages will be undertaken, another opportunity to promote the Club in *South Africa*.
4. A group of 35 *Russian* school children from the *International School of Moscow* were our guests at the away fixture at *Stoke City*, they were provided with *Swans* hats and scarves, hopefully they will continue to wear them back in *Moscow*. This Group have visited Swansea previously and had a Stadium tour, it is planned that they will return in the Spring and play against one of our *Age Group* teams..
5. A reasonably well attended *Fans Forum* took place at *Port Talbot Town Football Club* on Wednesday, 1st October. The panel was made up of *Kristian O'Leary*, *Lee Trundle*, *Huw Jenkins* and *Huw Cooze*.
6. The *London Fans Forum* has been arranged on the eve of the *West Ham United* fixture, *Saturday 6th December at the London Welsh Centre*. Guests to be announced.
7. As a part of my *Supporters Liaison Officer* role at the *Club*, I will be attending a two day seminar in London on the 18th/19th November.
8. Attended a ticketing system seminar in London on the 10th October, good networking event. Attended a *Commercial Department* meeting headed by *Leigh Dineen* at the offices of *TLC Marketing Worldwide* on the 11th October. Forwarded our three books giving them an insight into our very existence and where we have come from in the last thirteen years.
9. Have been dealing with *SSMC* regarding supporter fan issues, mainly ticketing issues, crowd facing adverts which is currently being discussed with *Leigh Dineen*, *Commercial Director*, also the query over the floodlights at the Stadium. The response back from *SSMC* about the floodlights is:
"The current position of the lights is fixed, there is no scope to raise the position with the current configuration of the Stands. We are in discussion with the manufacturers, they are designing bespoke lens deflectors to the lamps that creating the issue. They are producing twelve initially and fitting them as soon as they are available. We will then know if it is a viable solution without affecting our Premier League requirements."

It is acknowledged that the upgrade of the floodlights is a Premier League requirement, but, the Trust is pleased to note that *SSMC* are working to resolve the concerns of our fans.

Treasurers Report:

SMacD reported that we had moved funds from our Barclays Bank current account into an interest earning Base Rate Reward Account. The Annual Accounts were presented to the Board in advance of the AGM which follows our meeting..

TBM125/08 Centenary 2012 & TBM162/13 History of the Swans Trust

HC reported that book sales were ongoing, Club Shop had requested further stock..

TBM 127/08 Disability Issues:

IJ had nothing to report.

TBM 169/13 Website Upgrade.

DT reported that the revamped Trust website is now fully functional.

TBM 171/13 Marketing Sub-Group:

JW had nothing further to report.

TBM 172/14 Membership Renewal 2014/15.

AL suggested that we forward letters acknowledging membership to those members who do not have e-mail addresses. Thanks to *Mrs. Becky Townsend* for completing the data input of members into our Membership database.

TBM 173/14 Racism at Football Stadia.

HC to communicate with Club Board suggesting that **GH** be considered as the *Club Race Relations Officer*.

A.O.B.

NH suggested that we should continue our interest in an *International Players Honours Board*.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 7.23pm.

Next Board Meeting date to be confirmed.