

SWANSEA CITY SUPPORTERS TRUST

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Board Meeting held on Monday, 22nd September 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, Cath Dyer, Andrew Godden, Nigel Hamer. (Secretary).

Apologies:

Gwyn Hughes, Dai Little.

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 18th August 2014 were approved.

Supporter Director Report:

HC reported:

1. Liberty Stadium Fans Forum went well, we had some tricky questions especially with the teething problems we have had recently. I would like to thank *Huw Jenkins*, *Garry Monk* and *Lee Trundle* for agreeing to be on the Panel. Plenty of correspondence with fans directly via phone calls, in person and e-mail as well as discussions with *Andrew Davies*, General Manager of SSMC and *Leigh Dineen* regarding the recent ticketing issues.
2. Away Travel initiative is on-going and in the main we are looking at reciprocal deals and discounted tickets, surplus will be used on something tangible for fans.
3. The film premiere of *From A Jack To A King* had a full turnout at the *Empire, Leicester Square* on *Friday, 12th September*. We had invited the actor *Trevor Eve* to be our guest on the night. There was also a good turnout at the *Odeon Cinema Swansea* on *Sunday 14^h September*.
4. A copper plaque is being sponsored by the *Supporters Trust* to remember our fallen heroes of World War 1. It is hoped that the unveiling will take place on Saturday, 9th November before the home fixture against Arsenal.
5. A *Fans Forum* is due to take place at *Port Talbot Town Football Club* on Wednesday, 1st October from 7.30pm. The panel will be made up of *Kristian O'Leary*, *Lee Trundle*, *Huw Jenkins* and *Huw Cooze*.
6. A *London Fans Forum* is being arranged on the eve of the *West Ham United* fixture, Guests to be announced.
7. The annual *Ten Pin Bowling Nite* is being arranged where all the Management and Players turn up and become Captains of a Bowling Lane for the night, this will be the 10th Year for this successful event. Date to be confirmed..
8. *The Club* have started to look into a Transport Scheme, local to start with but there is nothing to stop us resurrecting the West Wales Transport scheme which the Club Board supported some years ago, it's a simple idea, a fee is chargeable for a pickup and drop off at the Liberty Stadium and return. Talking to some fans and the feedback is that public transport is poor and almost non-existent for mid week matches.
9. *Wouter Noor*, a Swansea fan from *Oss in the south of Holland* has set up a *DutchJack* website for supporters in the region, www.swanseaacityholland.nl it's been running for a week and 300 have joined. *Wouter* has been to Swansea three times and last May he came over with an *Under16* team that he plays for in *Oss*, they played our *Under 16's* and attended the *Southampton* game.
- 10.

The latest twenty inductees to be inducted into the *Robbie James Wall Of Fame* took place prior to the home fixture against *Southampton* on the 20th September. The Wall Of Fame evolved in 2011 at the Club's Annual Awards Dinner and marks the achievements of those who have played and been an integral role in the Swan's history. There are now sixty plaques on the wall which is adjacent to the Ticket Office. This year the inductees ranged from *Lachlan MacPherson* in 1924-29 to *Alan Tate* 2002-14. *Roberto Martinez* was also included. Former players who were

present in person included, *Barrie Jones, Keith Todd, Mike Hughes, Andy Melville, Mark Harris and Alan Tate*. Family representatives were present for *Roy Evans, Brian Hughes, Dai Thomas, Johnny King, Dave Bruton, Danny Bartley, Lachlan MacPherson, Tony Millington, Colin Webster, Jimmy Hadziabdic*. Apologies had been received from *Alan Waddle (Australia), Roberto Martinez and Colin Pascoe*. We had been unable to contact *Ante Rajkovic*.

Treasurers Report:

SMaCD reported that we had moved funds from our Barclays Bank current account into an interest earning Base Rate Reward Account.

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

HC reported that book sales were ongoing.

TBM 127/08 Disability Issues:

IJ reported the main news this month that there had been an *Open Evening* held by the *Disabled Supporters Association* supported by *Kevin Johns, Leigh Dineen, Kenji Gorre (Under21 Player), Hannah Eames (Commercial Department), and myself* attending on behalf of the *Club*. Thanks to *Trust Board Member Cath Dyer* for helping to organise the *Event* and to *Richard Haselgrove and Hannah Eames* for their input. Attendance was good with 51 people ranging from teenagers to a 96 year old. *Oona Smith, Chair of the DSA* re-iterated that the *Association* had been established to try to help enhance the matchday experience for the *Club's Disabled Supporters*, and a *Social Forum* for its Members. *Club Vice Chairman Leigh Dineen* stated that a *Board Member* would aim to attend future meetings and promised the *Club's* full support of the *DSA*. The *Club* are only one of three *Premier League* clubs who use visual headsets for their disabled fans. *Club Stewards* had all been involved in disability awareness training, and are encouraged to treat everyone at face value. *Club Disability Officer, Ian James*, said that individual queries regarding the *Club* should be directed to him. Most who attended the event joined the *DSA*, they would receive a membership card in due course, the committee also gained two-co-opted members on the evening. Any information required from the *DSA* should be sent to ***swansdsa@outlook.com***

TBM 154/12 Riverside Lounge Memorabilia

HC reported that the *Club Commercial Department* were going to decorate the walls of the *Riverside Lounge*. **VW** had met with *Leigh Dineen*, the area that is now available to us is considerably less. The Sub-Group of **VW, AG** and **WM** had revisited the *Lounge* to establish the area available to us.

TBM 169/13 Website Upgrade.

JW reported that we were experiencing payment issues on the site which were being dealt with.

TBM 171/13 Marketing Sub-Group:

JW had nothing further to report.

TBM 172/14 Membership Renewal 2014/15.

JW reported that the database of members will be completed before the end of this month. This will allow regular e-mails to be sent out to our *Standard Members*. It is vital that we keep in touch with our members by *Twitter, Facebook, e-mails and texts*. *Trust TV* to be reviewed, **WM** and **AL** to look into.

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.

VB reported that all Raffle prize winners had been notified.

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

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

Next Board Meeting, Monday 20th October 2014 at 5.30pm at the Liberty Stadium. Prior to the AGM at 7.30pm