

# SWANSEA CITY SUPPORTERS TRUST

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Minutes of the Board Meeting held on Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2012 at the Liberty Stadium, Swansea commencing at 5.35pm.**

**Present:**

Jim White, Alan Lewis, Will Morris, Craig Mapstone, Viv Brooks, Viv Williams, Cath Dyer, Ron Knuszka, Ian James, Kevin Mahoney, Dai Little, Stuart Mcdonald, Nigel Hamer.(Secretary).  
Phil Sumbler and Huw Cooze joined the meeting later.

**Apologies:**

John Heycock, Gareth James.

Jim White chaired the meeting in the absence of the Chairman.

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> October had previously been circulated and approved.

**Supporter Director Report:**

**HC** attended a sub-group meeting during week ending the 27<sup>th</sup> October to discuss Season Ticket prices for Season 2013/14. The result was a Price Freeze for next season with payment dates once again as for this season.

**Treasurers Report:**

**SMcd** gave a detailed report of the Annual Accounts which were to be presented to the AGM following this meeting. Brief Summary of the accounts as follows: Turnover which includes Member Subscriptions, Commercial Sponsors, Miscellaneous Donations, Share Fund and Fundraising Activities increased from £19,574 to May 2011, to £31,331 to May 2012. The increase was mainly due to receipts from donors in lieu of membership fees, also proceeds for our Annual Raffle were double those of 2011 from £3069 to £6,786. The gross profit for May 2012 was £28,406 against £17,435 for May 2011. After Administrative Costs the net profit was £13,406 against £12,059 for May 2011. The free membership offered to celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> Year as a Supporters Trust for printing & postage cost £12,768. Our Balance Sheet Shows Shareholders Funds at May 2012 as £228,590 against £215,949 at May 2011. Our Fixed Asset Investment in Swansea City 2002 Limited remains at £199,999.

**TBM 077/06 Fans Forum:**

**JW** reported that there had been a good response for the London Fans Forum which is to be held at the London Welsh Centre on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November.

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

Nothing further to report.

**TBM 085/06 Website:**

No report.

**TBM 086/07 Community Group:**

**VB/AL** confirmed that the Bowling Night had once again been a success which along with the Fans Forums/Awards Dinner brings the supporters closer to the players and management of the Club. Future plans are for a Race Nite and Quiz Nite, however, for these to be successful would require Club commitment to these additional functions. There had been a few teething problems this year, these will be ironed out for next year. Ten Pin Bowling wished to retain the Premier League flag which was used at the Bowling event, agreed that they could.

**TBM 125/08 Centenary 2012:**

**HC** reported sales of the Swansea Till I Die first book were ongoing. The National Waterfront Museum will be holding an event leading up to Christmas which could help sales of the book. The Club Shop continues to offer the book for sale.

**TBM 127/08 Disability Issues:**

**IJ** confirmed the Steering Group formation, a date for the AGM to be agreed. **CD** will represent the Trust at any future meetings as **IJ** represents the Club. The Disability Policy on the Club website needs to be updated. There are no discounted tickets available for Disabled Fans as these fans have a free Carer pass.

**TBM 139/09 Memorial Garden**

No progress. This would be affected by the Stadium expansion.

**TBM 142/11 Wall Of Fame:**

**VW** reported that the cost for a further 20 names to be added to the Wall Of Fame would cost £1,250, **PS** reported that there were still funds available in the Robbie James Fund.

**TBM 150/12 Premier League Supporters Trust Group.**

**NH** had received notification that the next meeting would be in March 2013.

**TBM 151/12 Frame for John Charles Signed Shirt.**

**HC** to arrange.

**TBM 152/12 Blind/Disabled Fans**

Nothing further to report.

**TBM 154/12 Matchday Catering & Riverside Lounge**

**NH** reported that nothing further had been received from the Ospreys Supporters group.

**AOB.**

Replacement of Supporters Trust flag which had been mislaid in the South Stand 15 months ago. **CM** and **VB** to deal with. Estimated cost £100.

**KM** mentioned an ex-players Association at Everton FC. It was termed a Benevolent Association. Agreed for more details by next meeting.

Premier League Production, thanks to **CM & CD** for taking part.

**NH** noted that cars were parking on the grass verge adjacent to the pinch point at the corner of the South Stand. **WM** was concerned with the traffic chaos caused at the roundabout outside the Stadium due to the stewarding of cars entering the stadium car park. **NH** was asked to contact Andrew Davies, General Manager of SSMC.

**AL** had submitted a written report on the Launch of Position Paper at the European Parliament in Brussels on the 7<sup>th</sup> November 2012. **AL & HC** represented the Trust at the launch of a Position Paper by Supporters Direct. The gist of the report, the Heart of the Game: Why Supporters are vital to improving Governance in Football which was hosted by Ivo Belet MEP. It was a proud event for our two representatives as we had been described by Supporters Direct as its "Flagship Trust", as a result we were invited to attend this launch. The Trust invited our four Welsh MEP's to attend, two who did were Jill Evans and Derek Vaughan who gave their support to the event. Our media release on the event: *"The Swansea City Supporters Trust is delighted to be part of the launch of the Supporters Direct Position Paper on more Supporter involvement in football. The Trust is a clear example of how Supporter involvement can be a positive influence at the highest level of the modern game and we welcome the support received from Members of the European Parliament who were present at the event. The Trust acknowledges the help and advice it has received from Supporters Direct since its initial formation"*

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.25pm

Chair for the evening.....*Jim White.*

