

SWANSEA CITY SUPPORTERS TRUST

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Board Meeting held on Monday, 5th August 2013 at the Liberty Stadium, Swansea commencing at 5.30pm.

Secretary Nigel Hamer opened the Meeting to confirm the Nominations of Officers to serve for the next 12 months.

Phil Sumbler (Chairman)

Stuart McDonald (Treasurer)

Nigel Hamer (Secretary)

Unanimously agreed to appoint the three Nominees for the posts of Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary.

Supporter Director and Associate Director. There were Nominations from *Huw Cooze* (Supporter Director) and *Will Morris* (Associate Director).

Unanimously agreed to the appointments of *Huw Cooze* as Supporter Director to serve for a period of two years, and *Will Morris* as Associate Director to serve for a period on one year.

Confirmation of the following Board Members to serve for a period of two years:

Huw Cooze, Ian James, Stuart McDonald, Will Morris, Phil Sumbler, Jim White.

Confirmation of the following Co-opted Board Members who will serve for one year.

Barbara Cook, Cath Dyer, Kevin Mahoney, Duncan Thomas.

Confirmation of the post of Legal Affiliate, *David Little.*

Huw Cooze acted as Chairman in the absence of Phil Sumbler.

The role of Associate Director was discussed, wherever possible it would be to support the Supporter Director. However, it was made clear that if for argument the Supporter Director was unavailable for a Club Board meeting it would not mean that the Associate Director would cover.

Present:

Huw Cooze, Jim White, Stuart McDonald, Alan Lewis, Viv Brooks, Ron Knuszka, Ian James, Viv Williams, Will Morris, Gareth James, Kevin Mahoney, Barbara Cook, Duncan Thomas, Nigel Hamer. (Secretary).

Apologies:

Phil Sumbler, Cath Dyer, Dai Little.

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 17th June 2013. had previously been circulated and approved.

Acting Chairman Huw Cooze welcomed our two new Co-opted Members, Barbara Cook and Duncan Thomas to their first meeting.

Supporter Director Report:

HC informed the meeting that the Landore Academy site was now up and running with the first team squad using the facility.

Fairwood, could be available for use in October.

The Superstore shop has now been completed providing a more open sales space.

The Premier League have arranged a two day seminar at the Cardiff City Stadium on the 8th/9th August, primarily for Supporter Liaison Officers of Premier League Clubs on the 8th, with access to Supporters Trusts on the 9th August. Due to being in Malmo for our Europa League away fixture **HC** is unable to attend, **NH** would attend on behalf of the Football Club standing in for **HC**.

Working on away supporters incentives – this became a lively topic amongst Board Members.

Confirmation that the Public address system is now fully operational especially in the East Stand.

HC had brought up that ticketing issues should be as Club statements on official sites and not using twitter.

Treasurers Report:

SMcD reported that we had received our share from the Awards Dinner, also we had received settlement from the Club of the Swansea 'til I Die book sales in the Club Shop.

It is necessary to protect our dividend investments which are currently with Swansea Building Society and in our current account at Barclays Bank. Due to the £85,000 safety cover with Banks/Building Societies it is imperative that we move our funds around to four/five institutions. **SMcD** to report back at the next meeting.

TBM 077/06 Fans Forum:

Due to Europa League fixtures and the possibility of advancing to the Group stage fitting in a Fans Forum will require some juggling around suitable dates.

TBM 082/06 Swansea City 2002 Limited:

No report.

TBM 086/07 Community Group:

VB reported that the Ten Pin Bowling evening hopefully will be in October, again the Europa League fixtures were making this difficult to arrange. **JW** would look at suitable dates for the London Forum event.

TBM 125/08 Centenary 2012:

HC was well advanced on the second book.

TBM 127/08 Disability Issues:

IJ reported that a Disability Meeting was taking place this evening. Request to communicate through our Trust website if possible. **IJ** asked if the group could use the Matchday programme notes, **HC** agreed for the second home league fixture. Disability Parking charges – felt excessive as the charges had risen from the first year of £50 to the current £210. **HC** to discuss with Andrew Davies General Manager SSMC. **IJ** asked **HC** if a photoshoot with the Club Chairman and the DSA Management Committee could be arranged.

TBM 142/11 Wall Of Fame:

NH to provide **VW** with the 20 names for engraving. Agreed that the fixture with Sunderland on the 19th of October would be the unveiling day.

TBM 150/12 Premier League Group.

Supporters Direct had submitted Key Notes and Actions from the meeting held at St. Georges Park, Burton on the 21st June. Present at the meeting were representatives from *Chelsea, Aston Villa, Cardiff City, Norwich City, Arsenal, Liverpool, Tottenham Hotspur, Manchester United and Swansea City*. Also represented were *Bill Bush* and *Cathy Long* from the Premier League and *Kevin Miles* from FSF. The main Agenda topics were 1). Supporter Liaison Officers 2). Assets of Community Value 3). Financial Fair Play 4). Away Fans. The Full notes are available on our website under documents.

TBM 154/12 Riverside Lounge Memorabilia

VW has the two Boards ready which will be for the Lifetime Achievement awards and Supporters Player of the Season Award. **WM** to provide photos of the recipients assisted by *Jonathan Wilsher* at the Club. **NH** to confirm with SSMC to arrange fitting in the Riverside Lounge.

TBM 156/13 Supporters Trust Flag.

CM had asked the flag manufacturer to place an advert in our Newsletter to contra the cost of the flag. No response. Agreed to go ahead with the purchase of the 8' x5' flag at £148 plus VAT. **HC** to provide artwork.

TBM 161/13 August Newsletter.

AL thanked **KM** for delivering the Newsletter packages to Aldershot for posting out to our Members. Final number being sent out, 12,419. It is anticipated that delivery should be week ending 10th August.

TBM 162/13 Book on the History of the Swans Trust.

PS in a written e-mail reported that the book should be with the Publishers by the 12th August. The title for the book was discussed and reported back to **PS** for the Publishers consideration.

TBM 165/13 Sponsorship of Junior League Football.

SMcD and **HC** had met the Officers of the Swansea Junior League along with main sponsors Macron. It was agreed that we would become Joint Sponsors with Macron for one season and will hand over £2000 as a Sponsor. The cheque presentation will be at the end of August.

TBM 166/13 Community Trust:

HC has been appointed a Trustee of the Community Trust along with *Leigh Dineen*, Vice Chairman of the Club. As part of the revitalisation of the Trust, a SwansAid fund has been created for special projects within the community, the Club has made a £70,000 donation to the fund.

TBM 168/13 Discount Card Scheme

VW had circulated by e-mail a paper on this scheme. The scheme is designed to target businesses in the Swans support catchment area through our 14,000 Trust members via Season Ticket holders. A pocket size handbook will be produced giving full details of the business and the benefits to members, it will run from January 2014 to June 2015.

A.O.B.

Meeting with Cardiff City Supporters Trust.

AL briefly mentioned that he, **HC**, **WM** and **NH** had met with representatives of the Cardiff City Supporters Trust. The main agreement was the joint media statement prior to the televised fixture at Cardiff on the 3rd November which would be sometime during mid to late September.

European Football Fans Congress

Supporters Direct had invited our Trust to represent them at the 6th Annual Congress event in Amsterdam on the 21st July 2013. **AL** attended on their behalf and presented the History of our existence at one of the workshops held at the event.

General

Confirmed that future Board Meetings will be held on the first Monday of each month, unless a Bank Holiday.

RK expressed the view that we should be raising our profile more. Check on adverts on the Concourse areas etc.,.

SMcD had major concerns about ticketing issues, there appeared to be problems with online bookings.

VB mentioned that there seemed unnecessary queues into the Stadium.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15pm

Next meeting Monday, 2nd September at 5.30pm