

Swansea City Supporters Trust - Minutes

Annual General Meeting – Thursday 20 Nov 2003, 7.30 pm, Vetch

Board	Leigh Dineen (Chair)	<u>Members</u>
	John Parkhouse (Vice Chair)*	
(* = apologies)	Roger Bell	Carol Bell
	Huw Cooze	Norman Croft
(+ = absent)	Phil Crocker *	Nigel Drean
	Marilyn Croft	Dave Morgan
	Nigel Hamer	Nick Dineen
	Dave Hannan *	Laura Croft
	Gwyn Johns	Steve Morris
	Ron Knuszka	Diane Morris
	Richard Lillicrap +	
	Paul Morris	
	Brian Rees	
	Debbie Rees	
	Ugo Vallario	
Secretary	Mike Blizard	

1 Apologies for absence – as noted above

2 APPROVED minutes of AGM of 20th November 2002.

LD

3 **Matters Arising (not dealt with elsewhere in the agenda)**

No matters arising from the previous AGM

MB

Chairs Report on Trust Activities for the Previous Year

LD

Leigh Dineen highlighted that, the previous Year, the Trust had set itself seven objectives:

4 *1. To increase Membership to above 1200*

Achieved: Membership stands at c.2800

2. To increase Shares in the club to £100,00

Achieved: Shares stand at £88,000 but will increase to £100,000 within 6 weeks of the meeting.

3. To be more open and publish Board Minutes on the Trust Web-site.

Failed. Due to various technical problems, we have been thwarted in our



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efforts but these troubles had been sorted and The Minutes will be available online shortly.

4. *To make sure that members have a say in all important decisions*

Achieved. However, a low turn out and response from trust members continues to be a disappointment. We appreciate and admire the commitment and passion of the Swansea fans and would love to see more get involved.

5. *To Ensure that regular updates on Membership numbers and money raised will appear in the Evening Post and on the Trust Website.*

Achieved but we will try and improve communication, even more, during 2004.

6. *To ensure that a Q + A facility is offered to members.*

Achieved. Members have the opportunity through the Evening Post and Newsletters but the online facility will improve in 2004.

7. *To ensure the Club survives the Season, improves the playing squad, clears all historic debt and looks forward to the opening of a new stadium*

Achieved....We did it!

5 Elections to The Board

MB

In accordance with Rule 61 of the Constitution the following six elected members retire at this A.G.M. but are eligible for re-election:

Marilyn Croft, Leigh Dineen, Nigel Hamer, Gwyn Johns, Paul Morris & Brian Rees.

Only six valid nominations were received by the close date of 30th September. Therefore a vote is not required.

Roger Bell, Leigh Dineen, Nigel Hamer, Gwyn Johns, Paul Morris & Brian Rees are duly elected from the date of this A.G.M.



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6 Appointment of Auditors **NH**

Barbara Lewis & Associates were appointed as the Trust Auditors for a period up to and including the next A.G.M.

7 Membership Information **NH**

The Trust Membership is now c.2800 – making The Swansea City Supporters Trust one of the largest in Great Britain. The increase in membership this year has been helped by the Season Ticket Membership initiative that was a joint venture between the Trust and the Club.

There had been some problem transferring data between two membership systems but this problem had now been solved. In December a Newsletter would be going out to all Trust Members.

8 Treasurers Report **NH**

The Audited Accounts for the Year Ended 31st August 2003 were agreed. Nigel Hamer read and explained the accounts line by line. A copy of the Audited accounts can be obtained from the Trust's registered office.

9 Resolutions **MB**

Two resolutions were presented to the membership:

To change the Trust's Financial Year End from August 31st to May 31st to bring it in line with the Football season and Football Club

To change the Trust's Membership Year End from August 31st to July 31st to bring it in line with the Football Season.

Both resolutions were put to a vote of hands and were unanimously accepted and agreed.



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10 Any Other Business

MB

Leigh Dineen announced that he was stepping down as Chairman of the Trust but intended to remain on the board. He felt that it was becoming increasingly difficult to do justice to three jobs. He further felt that it was important that the Trust message was clear. It was sometimes difficult for the ordinary fan to know if he was talking on behalf of the Trust or in his other capacity of Vice Chairman of the Club.

LD

He thanked the Board for their support during his time in Office.

Leigh announced that there was to be an additional non-executive Director for the Trust on the Club Board. Leigh thanked the Club for their continued support for the ethos of the Trust.

Leigh announced that a new sub-committee had been set up to make sure that a fitting tribute is given to the last 12 months of Vetchfield.

Leigh further announced that the Trust Business Plan, the blueprint, was being reviewed annually. The revised blueprint should be completed so that it can be published before or at the July A.G.M.

Leigh further announced that a Special General Meeting would soon be called to put the resolution of, for one year only, extending the term of office for The Chairman, Supporters Director and Non Executive Supporters Director. The change of the Year End date would not give these appointments time to do their jobs to gain the desired results. The S.G.M. would probably take place in December.

Mike Blizard, on behalf of the Board, recorded a vote of thanks to Leigh Dineen for the commitment and hard work he had given as Chairman of the Trust. He had done an excellent and admirable job.

MB

A further vote of thanks was given to Marilyn Croft, who was standing down from the Board. She had been there at the inception of the Trust and was one of the reasons that The Trust had achieved so much.

11 Question & Answer Session

MB

Questions, views and opinions were invited from the floor.

A Trust Member stated that many of our Younger fans were upset that they had to stand under cover and could no longer stand nearer the pitch.



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They were kept behind fences

Dave Morgan answered that it was a safety issue that was a condition set by the Safety Committee and the Police. Nothing could be done about this issue, at this time.

The trust further assured the member that it was working with the Club to ensure that the New Stadium would offer an enhanced experience for the younger fans.

Mike Blizard, on behalf of the board, thanked everyone for attending and looked forward to an exciting Trust Year ahead.

