

SWANSEA CITY SUPPORTERS TRUST

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday 27 January 2020 - Liberty Stadium, Swansea.

Present	Apologies
Phil Sumbler (PS)	Terry Sinnett (TS)
Andy Godden (AG)	Lisa Clement (LC)
Andrew McGlashan (AMcG)	Dai Little (DL)
Andrew Cude (AC)	
Rupert Thomas (RT)	
Dave Dalton (DD)	
Cath Dyer (CD)	
Roger Goodwin (RG)	
Mike Bastin (Secretary)	

Chairman's update

1. PS outlined his decision to not stand for re-election during the summer and explained that he would be sharing that at the AGM immediately following the meeting. His reasons for this were discussed and reflect those outlined in his AGM statement. He reiterated his commitment to the legal challenge and that he would not be turning his back on that work.
2. The group discussed the challenges surrounding the legal subgroup's work, with the duplication of efforts required throughout the process. All agreed that Trust membership are unaware of the amount of effort required to progress this.

Shareholding report

3. AMcG explained that there remained little to update since the previous board but felt that there should be some movement over the next couple of months, with the pace of things increasing. He explained that witness statements were being taken w/c 3 Feb.

Supporter Director update

4. I have been in discussion with Trevor Birch regarding the Club's financial projections for the next two financial years. The Accounts team are working on updating figures, and the Trust Finance group will be meeting with Trevor Birch and Gareth Davies during the coming weeks to discuss the figures.
5. The January away fixture at Cardiff proved another successful operation (at least off the pitch), with the collaboration of the clubs and various public and emergency services resulting in a smooth running operation, with very few issues.
6. On the playing side, the Club are happy with their dealings in the January window, with several fringe players moving to pastures new, a welcome boost to the Club finances.
7. Although not a Trust organised event, there was a Fans forum held at Port Talbot, attended by Trevor Birch, Steve Cooper and Leon Britton. It was well attended and proved to be an honest and open forum, with no attempt from the panel to shy away from any difficult questions. It certainly seemed much appreciated by the audience. There is another forum planned for Morriston in early April, this time in conjunction with the Trust.
8. The resurrection of the Tenpin bowling night was an extremely enjoyable and successful event, with £2000 raised for the two charities concerned. There was a full (barring two injuries) turn out from the players, who all took a full part in the proceedings, and certainly seemed to enjoy. Thanks to Trevor Birch and Steve Cooper for bringing it to fruition, and to

Alan Lewis, Viv Brooks, Terry Sinnett and Richard Hazlegrove for their hard work in ensuring the success of the evening.

9. The Club, via Trevor Birch, are looking to increase their engagement with the local community, and amongst the initiatives they are inviting representatives of community groups to be guests in the boardroom on match days.
10. I would remind fans that the Club and Trust are working together to display Swans memorabilia through the ages in areas of the stadium. The project is in its early stages, and we would appreciate hearing from you if you have any items of interest from our 100 years + that you would be prepared to lend or donate for a wider audience to enjoy.

Treasurer's Report

11. S McDonald gave an update on the Trust's current financial position, with only one significant outgoing in the month, to Select Signs for graphics in the Riverside Lounge.

Finance sub-group

12. The Finance Sub-Group continue to have access to the Club monthly Management Accounts which are reasonably detailed and are in line with budget. Our new Chairman, Trevor Birch, continues to lead the drive to reduce our operational costs, which is a necessity as we face up to the financial impact of relegation from the Premier League.

Education update

13. RG confirmed that the work is now completely back on course and progress was now exceeding that achieved back in September. He explained that his thinking around using the club as a case-study for business studies had been slightly set-back by the fact that a surprising number of local schools don't offer business studies. For those that do, the focus would be on building content from the next school year (Sept.) onwards.
14. RG hopes to do further work with Neath-Port Talbot college but the club's support is crucial. TB appears to see the importance of this work, whereas we were previously denied support in previous years. AG felt the focus of the Community Trust appears to be centring now on charitable, rather than educational work, so there is less likelihood of this issue surfacing again and that it would be worth RG speaking direct with TB. PS felt there was probably good work with the Community Trust that we should engage with.
15. RG outlined the recent work carried out with school pupils with ADHD and CD recommended that for similar groups, the sensory room could be included within the stadium visit programme.

Membership and fundraising report

16. AG outlined discussion with Swansea MIND, which is a small team of 3-4 people who's core demographic is late-teen/early-adult. They have some ideas on how they could work with the Trust and are keen to be able to access the Swansea Junior/Senior leagues
17. AG confirmed that they were looking to secure tickets for the Derby match and present them with the takings from the recent bowling event. PS raised that there may be opportunities here to make links with RG's work.

Disability update

18. CD confirmed that the issues with the sunflower lanyards has now been resolved and that the DSA is trialling a coffee morning at the liberty, which offers good accessibility for members. The intention is for this to become a regular occurrence with around 20 attendees, but that its still very much in its infancy.