

SWANSEA CITY SUPPORTERS TRUST

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 10 August 2020 - videoconference.

Present	Apologies
Andy Godden (AG)	Lisa Clement (LC)
Stuart McDonald (SMcD)	Roger Goodwin (RG)
Dave Dalton (DD)	
Ceri Stone (CS)	
Cath Dyer (CD)	
Rupert Thomas (RT)	
Terry Sinnott (TS)	
Sian Davies (SD)	
Mike Bastin (Secretary)	

Trust Appointments

1. The Board confirmed the following appointments for the forthcoming year:
Chair: Andy Godden
Vice Chair: Dave Dalton
Supporter Director/Treasurer: Stuart McDonald
Associate Director: Cath Dyer
Affiliates: Lisa Clement and Roger Goodwin
Co-opted: Adam Lewis (post meeting appointment)
Secretary to the Board: Paul Barrett (post meeting appointment)
2. Legal Affiliate Dai Little will be stepping down from his role this summer, although he remains a key participant in our ongoing legal action regarding the events around the 2016 sale. Given the loss of legal expertise from the new board, attendees agreed that filling this skills gap was now a priority.

Shareholding / Legal report

3. To date, 2020 has been largely focussed on preparation of QC documentation. Fans on social media commenting that the Trust was making slow progress on the case. All documentation requested by our QC has now been submitted; we await the QC's guidance to enable progression.
4. Discussion turned to the issue of Jake Silverstein and his loan to the club, which could be converted into equity at a later date. The Trust will ask for clarification of Silverstein's role as he is now a club board member but not a shareholder. Jason Levien also confirmed that he wanted to meet the Trust chair to test potential for negotiation.
5. Despite the significant turnover in board members, those actively engaged on the case were prepared to continue their work to support it.
6. DD asked what could/should be provided by way of a membership update on the case. Progress of recent weeks has meant there is new information to outline,

Club finances and decisions

7. SMcD set out the club accounts, noting a cash situation up to 2022, including pre-covid and the final parachute payment for the forthcoming season. Swansea University is the kit sponsor for the 20/21 season. Joma continue to manufacture the club kits.

8. The cash situation took no account of potential transfers but that the market had been impacted by the pandemic and values expected for our current players is likely lower than earlier this year.
9. Previous intentions to cut spending appear to have been deferred, with the club keen to keep a handful of current loanees and seek additions. The academy will be set at category 2 level going forward.
10. For next season, there have been discussions with the EFL around planned timings for returning fans to games. Discussions set out the costs associated with partial crowds within the stadium. A partial return from October is considered less likely than previously hoped
11. The EFL/Sky decisions have now been announced for match-streaming. The Trust is working with the club to provide options to the fans regarding season ticket refunds which is hoped will work in the best interests of the club and the fans.

Membership and Fundraising

12. The board approved use of the new 20th Anniversary Trust logo and flyers. They will also email previous members to ask if they wished to re-join or have their details removed from our records, to drive up membership and ensure GDPR compliance.
13. A twitter poll has recently been conducted; there are approximately 8.5k following the Trust account. More developed membership surveys will be considered going forward, including our Facebook and Website content, to ensure that the board continues to deliver on the priorities of the Trust membership.

Disabled Supporters Association (DSA) Update

14. Fulham's DSA have been in touch and wished to use the Swans' DSA work as a model. The club shop will also be open on Friday and Saturdays from 9.30-10.30 specifically for disabled supporters, where a quieter environment can be provided for fans that need it.

Communications update

15. AG referred to the statement issued on the appointment of Silverstein and monthly updates should be provided to membership.
16. The club are likely to cease production of physical matchday programmes due to their low sales.

Treasurer's Report

17. Funds increased slightly because of membership renewal/donations. New bank signatories will need to be set up due to Trust board turnover.

AoB

18. There was a lack of clarity around the club/Trust lifetime achievement award and whether the Trust nomination would appear in the Riverside Bar.
19. The question was asked who should benefit from sponsorship this coming season, with Swansea youth leagues having been sponsored in recent years. If they continued to benefit, it might be possible to sign them up to the Trust, free of charge, similar to the Schools Initiative system.