

Wrexham Supporters Trust – Minutes of Board Meeting

Held On: Monday, 19th March 2012, commencing at 19:30

Venue: The Wrexham Lager Club, Union Road, Wrexham

Present: Pete Jones (PJ), Brian Cameron (BC), Huw Davies (HD), John Mills (JM), Mark Williams (MW), Chris Wright (CW), George Powell (GP), Richard Owen (RO), Tom Stanford (TS), Dave Jones (DJ)

Apologies: Gavin Jones, Rob Parry, Spencer Harris, Terry Heath

Guests: James Mathie (JMa) via telephone

1) Approval of minutes and matters arising

- Approval of minutes from 5th March 2012:
 - HD to check members briefing sent out and correct advertised Player of the Season cost if incorrect
 - PJ to follow up Royal Welsh invite for Forest Green game
 - Proposed as correct by BC and seconded by HD
- Minutes from 20th February 2012 carried over to next meeting

2) Treasurer's report

- Investments in Wrexham Football Club £270,000
- Funds available £207,000
- Membership numbers 2,115
- Insurance is up for renewal on 29th March and MW speaking with Co-Operative regarding this
- We have received an invoice from Cobetts for operating of the ESCROW account. Proposed that we pay by BC, seconded by RO. For 9, against 0, 1 abstention
- MW meeting a Trust member at the Forest Green game with a view of taking on the Treasurer roll

3) Chairman's report

- Covered in agenda items

4) Community shares

- JMa joined the meeting via telephone for this part of the meeting
- Financials:
 - Financial information contains the line that the information presented is on a worse case scenario and to use as an investment in infrastructure to improve the performance of the business
 - The financial information contains information from the Old Company that is not yet in the public domain. RO to contact Rob Parry regarding our legal position with regards to this
 - The financial information contained in the offer document to be summarised with a note stating that detailed analysis is available on our web site
- Life time memberships of £1,000 or more:
 - HD raised the issue of the long term impact of offering life time membership
 - JMa outlined his position regarding community shares

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- MW confirmed that 78 out of 284 people committed to purchasing £1,000 or more of shares. PJ stated that the context has now changed once the pledges were made
- BC queried how supporters groups would be able to purchase shares
- PJ stated that life memberships for groups do not apply and for individuals only
- Need to confirm the mechanism for the scenario where a community share holder ceases to be a member
 - Withdrawals are restricted to the standard condition and does not result in an automatic withdraw of your community share
- Launch schedule:
 - JMa proposed that the launch is before the end of the season to capture the money held in the ESCROW account
 - Main launch date to be Grimsby Town game but postal applications can be sent out prior to this
- JMa left the meeting
- Votes:
 - Proposed by PJ: Life memberships for individual members only and for a minimum one off investment of £1,000. Seconded by CW. Vote: For 9, against 1.
 - Proposed by RO: Target is to aim to raise at least £300,000 by the end of the 2012/13 season. Seconded by BC. Unanimously accepted by the board
 - Proposed by PJ: Attempt to launch Community Shares at Alfreton match on Good Friday. RO has authority to contact an external supplier if Dyfan Jones is unavailable to make amends. Seconded by CW. Unanimously accepted by board
 - Proposed that RO to have authority to make final tweaks as required. Seconded by PJ. Unanimously accepted by the board
- MW raised the issue that until our rule changes are confirmed by the FSA then we cannot launch Community Shares
 - TS to complete forms from FSA website and arrange for solicitor to sign forms

5) Football club update

- Football Conference FQR4 to be submitted within the next week once February management accounts are finalised. Deadline is 31st March
- Final version of management contracts are with their legal representatives
- DR to visit Trust Board meeting next week to discuss season ticket and matchday prices for 2012/13
- MW updated the latest position regarding Dickens debt with the old company. We have taken legal advice and plan to respond requesting copy of the loan agreement

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- Looking at reduced admission prices for Forest Green game – adults £10, juniors £1 in the Eric Roberts Stand only, cash sale via First Choice network around North Wales
- Alan Watkin was meeting the Council last week to discuss town centre shop options
- The club have met five kit suppliers for next season, including existing suppliers Puma
- MW provided updated of commercial activity:
 - Two boxes remain for Forest Green and Alfreton, one for Grimsby and sold out for Braintree
 - Diners in Bamfords up to 80 per match
 - 5 player sponsorships sold until the remainder of the season
 - One box cancelled for non payment
 - 14 TV facing boards sold for next season
 - Looking at other hospitality options
 - Progress with back of shirt sponsorships for next season
 - Two new agents recruited for Gold Bond
- SH to update Job Description on club board and if the position of CEO sits on the club board or is appointed by the club board
 - Action SH to circulate CEO job description in time for approval at next board meeting and decision on if CEO sits on the football club board will also be taken then
- SH to clarify if existing club board members appointment have been impacted by the recent rule changes voted by members at the SGM in February
- Richard Owen left the meeting at 22:05

6) AGM Preparation

- AGM to take place on Monday, 25th June 2012. Venue to be confirmed
- There are currently no vacancies at the Board this week and PJ called on all board members to consider their thoughts for next season and changing the scope of the Sub Groups

7) Rebranding

- Proposed: RO requested approval by the board for the document presented on the Yahoo Group. Seconded by PJ. Accepted unanimously by the board
- HD requested that carriers bags are added to the document
- JM suggested that Junior Dragons rebranding to be included as part of the rebranding

8) Members meeting

- Members meeting taking place on 21st March

9) Sub group updates

a) Commercial/sponsorship/retail/hospitality/gold bond

- Now operated by the football club and covered in football club update

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b) Community

- Football Foundation:
 - proposed by PJ and seconded by BC that George Powell represent the WST as Trustee. Carried unanimously by the board
 - MW confirmed that the Lee Jones is providing an SLA for the £1,000 per month that is made from the football club
- Junior Dragons:
 - Request for how sponsorship is split between the Foundation and the Trust to be confirmed
 - Possibility that the Children's Commissioner to be a figure head of the Junior Dragons
 - Possibility for Flintshire Council to make a one off payment to enroll the kids under their care
 - PJ to clarify how the operation of the Junior Dragons bank account will work with Lee Jones
 - CW to supply GP with Junior Dragons logo
- Disabled group: awaiting invite from St Christopher's to commence membership launch

c) Fundraising

- Membership drive at Alfreton game
 - PJ suggested the possibility of relaunching a beer a week
- Atilla the Stockbroker: event to be held at Seven Stars on 30th June. Declan Swans to support

d) Membership

- JM meeting InTouch to discuss enhancements to the online membership system

10) Any other business

- Kerry Hope to attend the Grimsby game as guest of the trust with championship belt
- PJ requested nominations for extra mile award by next board meeting to be voted for by the board
- HD researching till for Trust Shop

There being no further business the meeting was closed by PJ at 22:40