



Wrexham Supporters Society Limited - Minutes of Board Meeting (The Governing Body of Wrexham AFC)

Held on: Monday 27th October 2014, commencing at 19.30

Venue: The Boardroom, the Racecourse Ground, Wrexham

Present: Peter Jones (PJ), Alan Fox (AF), Mark Williams (MW), Richard Ulrich (RU), Gavin Jones (GJ), Geoff Scott (GS), Dave Jones (DJ), Tom Stanford (TS), Thomas Frost (TF),

Apologies: Anita Purslow (AP), Spencer Harris (SH), John Mills (JM), Keith Roberts (KR), Jenny Cantwell (JC), Stuart Roberts (SR), Robin Wiggs (RW),

Chair: Peter Jones

1. Matters arising and approval of the minutes of 29th September 2014

- Action 1- Work was ongoing to enable more access to SABO
- Action 2- Membership forms had been handed out at the Grimsby match- action complete
- The meeting discussed the lack of volunteers e.g. at the Grimsby match.

ACTION: The community group to discuss with AVOW how best to recruit more volunteers.

- Action 4 – SR is leading on the Bring a Tin Match- action complete
- Action 5-SR has begun to distribute tickets to charitable partners- action complete
- Action 6- KW had been informed of the Xmas party- action complete
- Action 7-so far the Football Group and Community Group had posted pre meeting reports- action ongoing
- Action 8 – Trust member Clive Austin was selected to unveil the plaque and has been invited to be a future Director for the Day- action complete
- Action 9 - TS has not yet met with Mike Vickers. PJ has contacted Tony Durkin at Chester who was keen to arrange a joint community event- action ongoing
- Action 10- board members still had to comment on RWs communication plan- action ongoing

***Vote:** Proposed by RU & seconded by GS it was resolved unanimously to approve the minutes as amended by those who had been present.*

2. Chairman's Report

- The meeting discussed the recently announced Governments Expert Group on Supporter ownership and engagement. We were named as a member of the group but no one had been approached beforehand. The Group was backed by Supporters Direct and was something we broadly supported.

ACTION: PJ will contact Robin Osterley and James Mathie to find out more.

3. Financial Security & Revenue Generation Group (KR/GS/JC/DJ)

- GS reported that 322 photos had been submitted for the mosaic. 50 had been photographed at the Grimsby match.
- The Ford Ka has been obtained for the Xmas raffle. The meeting discussed the number of tickets to print. It was agreed to order 80,000. The target is £20,000. It is intended to send a newsletter with the tickets and also a brochure. The meeting discussed the raffle licence and what it allows us to do and

also whether we could state that the proceeds would go to the first team. It was agreed that publicity messages were key.

ACTION: KR to post the licence on the forum.

- GS confirmed that the race night will be held on 21/11/14 with a target of £1200. He mentioned that there was more money to be raised by selling more names on seats.
- The online shop was discussed- items have now been uploaded to the website.
- KR provided a detailed financial report on the Forum. The headlines were:

Income for August 2014 was £3,392

Income for the year to date was £57,205 compared to £66,600 for the same period last year.

There is income outstanding from the Skydive which is not included in the above figures.

The membership income includes the income received via the club shop during the season ticket sales.

The above income includes £1,470 from the sales of Turf, the Mickey Thomas Raffle and the Mosaic which will be handed over to the DSA at some time in the future to contribute to the costs of the platforms. On a like for like comparison income is down by £9,395 with the main areas of reduction being, membership £2,634, donations £5,589, the year book £1,697 and interest £910.

Expenditure for August 2014 was £1,628

Expenditure for the year to date was £12,458 compared to £14,768 for the same period last year.

Compared to the same period in 2013 there has been a reduction in expenditure of £2,310, predominately due to a reduction in postage / printing £2,057 but an increase in the cost of the purchasing and processing of membership cards of £1,274.

Based on the above information the Trust made a surplus of £1,764 in August and £44,747 for the period to date, this compares to a surplus of £51,832 over the same period in 2013 mainly due to a reduction in membership fees and donations.

Based on the above information it is estimated that the Trust will make a surplus in the region of £60,000 plus the surplus made from the Christmas Raffle

Investment in Wrexham AFC as per financial plan £50,000

Based on the above the cash available to the Trust as at the end of August 2014 was £32,285.

4. Football Club Operations (MW/SH/GJ/JM)

- GJ stated that there were three main consumers of money. The Centre of Excellence, the Club and the First Team which were discussed by the Board
- *GJ left the meeting at 2105*
- SH provided a detailed report on the Forum for Board members.

The highlights are:

- Mixed results on the pitch October [W 2 / D 3 / L3] however not been beaten by more than 1 goal & 5 away games including Chester, Halifax & Torquay away / tough run of fixtures continue with Halifax & Woking next 2 league opponents
- We made a PROFIT in Q1 of £3,000 compared to a loss of £15,000 Q1 last season [which had the Bradley Reid money included]
- Grimsby game huge success

5. Fans Ownership Group (DJ/RU/RW/TF)

- DJ provided a written report on the Forum.

The key messages are:

- During October, the number of membership queries, particularly around membership cards has decreased. Previous problems had arisen due to misunderstanding of our roles in the process between the Fans Ownership and Club Office staff but this has now been resolved.
- Currently, Membership stands at 2503 and if the disposition status on SABO is correct there may only be 9 membership cards waiting to be printed. The import of data from In Touch to SABO is complete. We can now identify those adult members due to renew for the 2014/15 that have not yet done so (1200 in addition to the 2503). We can also now identify JD members from last year, who have yet renewed. We can now contact all these members to encourage them to re-join.
- We urgently need to publicise current benefits to members.
- Director of the Day continues to be successful. We need to fill the Altrincham game on the 22nd November and the club is inviting guests on the 29th vs Aldershot although the meeting agreed that there still should be a director for the day.
- Prior to the Grimsby game, we ordered another 1500 new membership brochures. A large number of new membership brochures were handed out at the Grimsby game.

ACTION: AF to contact the Shots Trust

6. Community Football Club (TeS/AP/SR)- Carried over

7. Secretary's Report

- AF mentioned the Localism Act and the community right to bid which had been used by Trusts in England to have their clubs ground registered as an asset of community value. Efforts to persuade the Welsh Government to adopt the scheme have proved unsuccessful given their recent statement that they were not introducing it in Wales and would look again at the situation after the next Assembly elections.
- The meeting expressed its disappointment at this decision and instructed AF to draft a letter to the Government setting out our concerns.

ACTION: AF to draft letter to Welsh Government

8. 150th anniversary

- Further events were planned but not before Christmas. The Grimsby game was a success although the shortage of volunteers was a concern.
- The Club are exploring whether a black tie event can be held before the season's end.

9. Any Other Business

- GS mentioned Trust headed notepaper. DJ will post a template for us to adopt.

ACTION: DJ to post the template letter he uses.

- TS had been asked why no Trust or Board rep had attended the Former Players dinner. The answer was a lack of sufficient notice.
- RU mentioned whether the third kit could be produced and sold. He was advised to speak to Steve Cook.

Date of next Board meeting - Monday 24th November 2014 at 7.30 pm at the Racecourse Boardroom

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2235.

No	Action	Who
1	To seek advice from AVOW re recruiting volunteers	The Community Group
2	To contact SD re the Government Experts Group	PJ
3	To post the raffle licence on the Forum	KR
4	To invite the Shots Trust	AF
5	To draft letter to Welsh Government	AF
6	To post template letter on the Forum	DJ
7	To post meeting dates on the Forum, invite the designated volunteers to attend them and post a report on the Forum before the next Board meeting using the pro forma.	All sub groups
8	To contact Mike Vickers re a possible joint community project	TS
9	To consider RWs communication plan and comment on the Forum	All