

Minutes Of the meeting of the board of the Silkmen Supporters' Trust
held at the Golden Lion, Moss Lane, Macclesfield
at 7.30 pm on Monday 12 November 2012

Present: Jon smart (Chairman), Myra Clark (Treasurer), Andrew Mellor (DLO), Jim Goodwin, John Rayner, Rob Wilson, David Woolliscroft (Secretary), John Askey (MTFC), Gareth White (MTFC).

Apologies were reported from George Williams. Rob Stirling (MTFC) had also been invited to attend but had been delayed on business.

1. Youth Team structure - John Askey.

The Chair welcomed JA to the meeting and invited him to introduce the item. JA gave a short insight into the structure of youth activities and the commitment to the apprentices in the scheme. Both footballing development and education were covered with the latter addressed in-house. The club had been the most successful of all league clubs in qualification success and it was also clear to everyone from prestigious transfers that the coaching aspect was as successful.

Following relegation, the level of funding for the youth scheme had been reduced; income to the Club was also under threat and close attention was being given to the long term sustainability of the Youth Team organisation. Coupled with that, the loss of the Reserve Team had removed the previous route into first team selection.

The conclusion of the Club review had been a challenge to JA to raise a £20k contribution to the costs of the organisation. Progress was already being made with meeting the income challenge and JA had discussed the matter with the Trust Chair informally. There was a lengthy discussion around how the Trust could assist and the following was agreed:

- Financial support would be forthcoming subject to clear separation of Club/Youth Team accounts. The level would be agreed later in the agenda
- JA/GW will prepare a short outline of the current position including a request for financial support for release and support by the Trust
- The review by JA and GW had been so interesting that it was suggested the an open evening should be arranged on Club premises perhaps with a small nominal charge to raise funds; the club would profit from bar sales
- JA mentioned a Sportsmen's Evening and the Trust would assist in promotion.
- It was suggested that JA/GW approach David Rutley MP for support
- Possible 'pub crawl' prior to a game with a possible split with charity (to replace Stockport walk).

JA and GW were thanked for their interesting contribution to the meeting.

Later in the meeting it was agreed to reserve £1000 from current funds and to donate proceeding from the Christmas Draw; JA would be approached to see whether the Youth squad could sell tickets to family and friends.

2. The minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2012 had been confirmed by correspondence.
3. Matters arising not otherwise covered in the agenda
- Shares. The Bodycote etc transfers had been agreed and share certificates were awaited. A further approach would be made as soon as the current transfers had finally been completed. Item closed.

- Coaches. RW had felt it necessary to withdraw from coach organisation for personal reasons, JR agreed to cover the FA cup second round game with support from MC and RW. **JR**
 - Sweatshirts and hoodies. Still available. **DW**
4. Chair's points **Chair**
Issues covered by other items.
5. Treasurer's Report **MC**
- To note financial statement /current funding available. £2973 available; £1000 to Youth Team (see above)
 - Christmas raffle. Proceeds to Youth Team fund.
6. Secretary's Report
- Trust insurance. Closed
 - SD Reception. JR and DW had attended.
7. Disability Liaison Officer **AM**
- Maintenance issues. AM reported that the faulty light in one of the two disabled toilets was still out of order. The Chair asked AM to check the situation at the next home game and then ask for his (JS's) intervention with the Club.
 - Pricing for disabled fans. Still in discussion.
8. Media/communications **GW**
Carried over.
9. Membership **JR**
Currently 121
10. AOB/date of next meeting
- Next meeting - 3 December dinner
 - Next formal meeting – tba
 - It was agreed to promote Easy funding in the run up to Christmas; the amount of income derived from this source should be reported (**MC**)
 - RW referred to Google Ads – more information to be provided.