



Minutes of Open Meeting

Held on

Monday 14th August 2017

Present (Board): Steve Mundy (Chair)
Bernie Rickman
David Woolliscroft
Chrissie Thompson
Andy Mellor
John Abbott
Marie Grundy (Minutes)

In Attendance: Robert Trafford
Jim Goodwin
Graham Brinkhurst
Julia Mitchell

Apologies: John Smart, Myra Clarke, George Williams

14/08/02 Welcome

Steve took the opportunity to welcome non board members to the Open Meeting.

14/08/03 Chairman's Update

Steve outlined what the SST have provided/supported over the past few months:-

- Sponsored Mitch Hancox's and John Askey's home shirt for the coming season
- Provided funds for a sit on mower for the groundsman
- Paid for Player of the Year Trophies
- In partnership with a local business and the Super Silk Lotto the SST had put together a finance package for the provision of a scoreboard. This had been put to the club earlier this year. However at that time the club wanted to see if there might be additional funds available from the FA Trophy which would enable a more elaborate scoreboard to be purchased. This has not been the case. A point was made that the current planned scoreboard had very limited advertising functions to raise revenue and would use up a large amount of SST funds which might be spent more usefully elsewhere. This was the general feeling around the room and so the decision was made not to continue with this project.

Action: Steve to inform the club.

14/08/04 Finance Update

John Abbott provided copies for the current balance sheets. Currently there is around £6,000 in the account. The Pledge raised just over £1,900 which is slightly down on last year. Easy Funding currently provides some income with very little effort and it is hoped that more will be encouraged to buy/book things through this way. It was agreed that the SST should run the Christmas Raffle. However, discussion was held around looking for more ideas to raise funds other than the usual ones which tend to target the same people. Any ideas would be gratefully received.

14/08/05 Lotto

Marie reported that we are two short of 300 members on the database; however, there are a few people that have defaulted on payments whom the Lotto committee will be contacting. The Lotto currently provides £500 per month to the club to pay bills etc. The Lotto has done the following over the past few months:-

- Provided funds to make a children's area under the concourse which would be available to hire children's parties etc. There will also be opportunities before and during the game for the room to be used. Purchases of soft play items, TV's and electronic games have been made.
- Purchase of a strimmer for the groundsman to help with keeping the outer areas of the ground tidy.
- Alteration of an old turnstile into a Lotto/SST Office area to provide a presence at home games.

Marie pointed out that we currently have a charity partner with Space 4Autism who have benefited from use of the club, bucket collections and donations from The FA.

14/08/06 Membership Update

Bernie gave an update on the state of the membership (approx. 130 members) and said that he will be contacting those people who are due to renew on the 30th September.

14/08/07 Elections to Board

Steve reported that there had been 1 enquiry about a position on the board but due to holidays and other circumstances, this was still being followed up. It was pointed out that should there be vacancies then people could be co-opted on to the board after the elections.

14/08/08 Photograph donated by David Bettany

David Bettany has kindly donated a 1953 team photograph to be sold to raise funds. It was suggested that the photograph could be taken to a specialist auctioneer to be valued. Chrissie Thompson volunteered.

There are also some shirts which have been donated which could be placed on eBay to raise funds. It was suggested that there may be more people with old player shirts that would be willing to donate to the SST to raise funds.

14/08/09 SST Objectives

These were circulated and considered, and the general consensus was that they were still relevant. They could be reviewed again once the new Board is in place after the elections.

14/08/10 Any Other Business

Information was shared around the Chinese looking into the history of the 'Silk Road'. It was felt that due to the fact that the team are known as the Silkmen and the town is historically linked to the silk trade that it was felt that perhaps someone from the club should make contact with the Chinese embassy to investigate joint events which could raise money and the profile of the club. **Action: John Abbott to approach Dan Ackerley.**

Steve closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending.