

Silkmen Supporters' Society Ltd

Minutes of meeting of the Board of the Silkmen Supporters' Society

19:45 on Monday 08 February 2016 at MTFC

Present

Steve Mundy (Chairman)	Bernie Rickman (Membership Secretary)	Myra Cark (Treasurer)	John Abbott
Stephen Walker (Secretary)	Chrissie Thompson		Jon Smart

Apologies

David Woolliscroft	George Williams (Deputy Chairman)	Marie Grundy	Chris Hulme
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16/02/001 Welcome and Apologies

The meeting was chaired by Steve Mundy who welcomed members and noted apologies.

16/02/002 Actions from Previous Meetings (Steve Mundy)

See also Actions Log on Board Intranet

- **15/06/009: Pen Pictures for Website** - only Jon Smart still outstanding
- **15/11/005 Improving Membership Contact Management** - see agenda item 16/02/005 below
- **15/11/006 SST Board Election Process:** see agenda item 16/02/004 below
- **16/01/003 Share Purchase** – form and cheque provided to Barrie Darcey today
- **16/01/004 Photo Opportunity** – Barrie Darcey has asked what will be required. It was agreed that Myra, Steve and Andy Mellor should present the “cheque” at the Moss Lane side of the ground (depending on weather) at a forthcoming home game (Action – SNW to advise Barrie Darcey)
- **16/01/005 Soccer 6's** – it is understood that the Club cannot make the ground available as promised and that this event has been cancelled (Action – SM to seek clarification from Andy Worth/Marie Grundy)
- **16/001/006 Previous Election Papers to Chairman** - complete
- **16/01/007 Invite Dan Ackerley to next SST Board Meeting** – complete (Dan due to attend this meeting)
- **16/01/008 Star Lane Evacuation Drill** - complete

16/02/003 Dan Ackerley (New MTFC Commercial Director)

Dan did not arrive for the meeting and therefore this item will be carried over to the next meeting

16/02/004 SST Board Elections

SM has begun a revision of the SST Rules. Supporters Direct have confirmed that election results are generally announced at AGM's and therefore it was agreed that elections should be held later than originally planned e.g. May 2016.

SNW described a recent email that he sent to the Chair and Deputy Chair in which he said that he would like to step down as SST Secretary and Board Member primarily due to increasing personal commitments that will limit the time that he has available. He also spoke about his disappointment that over the last year, despite hard work by the SST Board, there has been little progress towards the objective of establishing a role in the governance arrangements of the Club.

There was a wide-ranging discussion on the issues raised and a shared feeling that while relationships are better than previously and various benefits have been delivered, the nature of Club management has meant that SST has not been as effective as we would wish.

SNW agreed to continue in the role of Secretary, Board Member and Webmaster at least until the 2016 board elections.

SM mentioned a recent email from Barrie Darcey in which he said that he will be the prime contact for SST following the departure of Robert Stirling.

Action – SNW for formalise contact with Barrie Darcey

Action – SNW to approach Mark Blower to set up meeting with SST

16/02/005 Membership Update

No written report was available.

BR advised that no new members joined in January and there were no further renewals. No chasing up of outstanding renewals has been done due to lack of time. 119 existing members have subscriptions that expire in September 2016.

He stated that the SST Membership email account has been "hacked" – although this seems to mean that he has been picking up a number of spam emails via this account.

Action – SNW to set up new SStrust email account for membership

As at previous meetings there was discussion about validating the quality of information in the SST membership database. It was agreed that this should be a priority before considering if a new/cheaper software package might be needed.

Action – SNW to extract data from membership database and circulate to all board members as an Excel spreadsheet for them to check and provide feedback to BR

Action – SNW to obtain information about alternative software packages

Action – BR to be responsible for updating membership database information based on feedback from board members

16/02/006 Finance Report

JA described the various papers that he had circulated to the Board prior to the meeting

Lotto – there has been good progress reducing the outstanding debts. £4,300 has been given to the Club during the year (£400 per month), however the number of new members is slowing down. There was some discussion about whether or not SST should offer to take a more active role in the management and promotion of the Lotto however nothing specific was agreed.

SST Funds – JA has completed the SST Accounts for 2015/16 and the balance of funds available at year-end is £2594.63

Annual Report – it was agreed that we should try to complete this by 31 March 2016. JA said that it will take some time for Clive Westbury to complete the audit and that there may be a charge for the audit this year.

16/02/007 Sign for Life

SM described the approach that has been made to SST by this organ donation initiative. It was agreed that SST will promote the project via the website and social media.

Action – SM provide SNW with information for website

16/02/008 SST Member Survey

SM outlined his thoughts about how SST members (and supporters generally) could help SST to define new objectives for the future – building on the work that was done in 2015. He has proposed that we should develop a questionnaire that would enable supporters to respond to questions and offer their own thoughts.

The following actions were agreed:

Action – SNW to convert the draft questionnaire that SM has developed into a web survey and make this available to Board Members for review before it is made public. SNW also to produce a PDF version of the survey which can be used for supporters who do not have internet access.

Action – SNW to set up a new email address that will receive the outputs from the survey. This email address will be managed by SM.

It was agreed that the survey should run for 2 weeks and that it would be announced via the website, Wraggs to Riches and social media, 1 week before launch. It will be important to ensure that there is only one “entry” per person.

16/02/009 Crowd Behaviour

Members considered the paper that had been developed by David Woolliscroft and amended by SNW. There was discussion about the issues raised and the points that had been addressed in the previous meeting with Robert Stirling.

It was agreed that this is fundamentally a Club responsibility and, while SST would support Club initiatives, it would not be appropriate for SST to act unilaterally. We have been asked

for advice and this has been given however there is no evidence that any of the proposed actions have been taken by the Club.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 21:35

The next meeting of the SST Board is scheduled to take place at 19:45 on Monday 14 March 2016 with agenda items and associated papers to be submitted to the Secretary on or before Sunday 06 March 2016.