

Silkmen Supporters' Society Ltd

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

19:45 on Monday 11th January 2016 at MTFC

Present

George Williams (Deputy Chairman)	Bernie Rickman (Membership Secretary)	Myra Cark (Treasurer)	John Abbott
Marie Grundy	Chrissie Thompson	Chris Hulme	Jon Smart
Andy Mellor (DLO)	Steve Mundy (Chairman)		

Apologies

David Woolliscroft	Stephen Walker (Secretary)		
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16/01/001 Welcome and Apologies

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

16/01/002 Actions from Previous Meetings (Steve Mundy)

See also Actions Log on Board Intranet

- **15/06/009: Pen Pictures for Website** – now complete except for Jon Smart
- **15/09/006: New Bank Account for Lotto** – It was agreed to suspend the application process until later in the year
- **15/10/004: Change of Contact Details** – these have now been changed for the PayPal and easyfundraising accounts
- **15/11/03 10K Dash:** All monies have now been transferred from the Crowd-Funder element of the 10k Dash into the Trust's bank account
- **15/11/005 Improved Membership Contact:** Resolving the email process is on-going.
- **15/11/006 Election process:** Development of a short paper to explain the process is ongoing
- **15/11/008: The SST06 (Yahoo) email account-** it has been closed
- **15/11/010: Auction Plug-In** – This is no longer required – item closed

16/01/003 Finance Report

SST Funds – Disposable SST-owned funds are £3,805
(The Christmas raffle raised a net £932, after expenses)

Silk Lotto – A few members have decided not to renew; whilst those who have still not renewed (despite several follow ups) will be removed from the Lotto membership scheme. Current Lotto balance is £3239.

SOS Campaign – All Crowd-Funder Scheme (CF) monies have been transferred from the CF into the Trust's Bank account. The current SOS balance sits at £11,600. A balance payment has still to come in from the matched funding sponsor.

Picture Auction – Stephen had circulated previously a comprehensive report. All paintings were sold. The Trust received £200 from the auction, whilst the artist is to be refunded £225 for the cost of the picture frames.

Actions:

- George to arrange to give the cheque to the artist.
- Steve to write a 'thank you' letter

Pledge – The current pledged amount is £1,336

Share Purchase – It was agreed to buy another £1,000 of shares from the Club, and to arrange for a photo opportunity with the Club Chairman

Action:

SW to arrange share purchase, and request a subsequent photo opportunity

16/01/004 Membership Report

Number of current paid-up members – there are 200 active members. The autumn membership drive resulted in 15 new members and 26 renewals

Review of membership database – Bernie reported that the recent auction email had been sent to 240 members; but from what he could see from the statistics only 70 members had received the email; and 170 did not receive it.

This failure was put down to actions being carried out by internet email providers, whereby our emails are being classified as 'spam' or 'junk', and so they are not reaching our members inboxes.

There is still much work to be done to tidy up the membership database, to weed out members who have resigned, and check that emails addresses are current.

Emails from members complaining about lack of feedback from SST – this was not discussed per se, but Bernie thought that any emails he had sent out might fall at the same hurdle as mentioned above

16/01/005 SST Calendar – Tasks and Responsibilities

The Sixes tournament was discussed briefly; another meeting is being organised by Andy Worth.

The SST Election process was discussed.

Actions:

- MG to find out when Andy Worth is having his next sixes meeting
- GW to look back at previous year's election correspondence, and forward to SM

16/01/006 Notes of meeting with the Club (30/11/2015)

- **Discounts for Groups** - Each Board member was encouraged to think of any Groups who could be contacted to benefit from the £10 adult/free child ticket scheme,
- **Treacle Market/Club Publicity** – this was deemed successful, and £200 of merchandise had been sold
- **MTFC Supporter Behaviour** - this was discussed at length. Reference was made to:
 - the current WTR website thread on this subject; and
 - to personal experiences of guests/friends of Board members who had observed bad behaviour at first hand, and had said that they would not come to any more matches
 - The conclusion was that this is a matter for the Club to resolve through communication, stewarding and policing processes.
 - It was observed that other Clubs made pre-match announcements warning fans that bad behaviour would not be tolerated and could lead to eviction from the ground.
 - DW has previously prepared a statement to go into every match programme – and as far as we are aware we think it still is being included; he also prepared wording for an announcement to be made before each game; and had an agreement that this would be actioned by recording onto cd.

16/01/007 Next Meeting with the Club

The meeting with the Club scheduled for 25th January is to be replaced by an invitation to Dan Ackerley, the Club's new Commercial manager, to attend the February SST Board meeting

BR expressed a concern that Cheshire Cup and Trophy fixtures were not being given enough publicity on the Club website

Action:

SW to invite DA to our next meeting

16/01/008 SST Board Membership / Election

The Chairman suggested that the 4 co-opted Board positions should be sufficient to meet the election requirements as laid down in the constitution, but that it would be a good idea to wait until the Secretary has returned from holiday before beginning the process. The four vacancies will be advertised in due course and the currently co-opted members will be invited to submit formal applications. In the event of there being more applications than places, then we will need to hold an election which will require an independent body to

oversee the process e.g. Supporters Direct, or perhaps a representative from a nearby supporters trust.

Action

By way of illustration of the Election timings, GW is to send the “calling notice” from last year to SM

16/01/009 SST Attendance at SD meeting on 19th February 2016

SM and SW have expressed an interest in attending this event, which is being held at FC United’s premises

16/01/010 Programme Notes

Jon Smart will write the Aldershot programme notes instead of John Abbott

16/01/011 Star Lane Evacuation Drill

The Club wishes to carry out a controlled evacuation of fans from the ground after the Aldershot game. Board members are encouraged to go to the Star Lane after the game, and wait for instructions from stewards.

Action

GW to communicate a request for fans to volunteer to stay behind after the game, and to participate in the evacuation drill.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 21:23

The next meeting of the SST Board is scheduled to take place at 19:45 on Monday 8th February 2016 with agenda items and associated papers to be submitted to the Secretary on or before Sunday 31st January 2016.