

Registered Office:
SAS Daniels Solicitors
County Chambers
6 Chestergate
Macclesfield
SK 11 6BA



The Silkmen Supporters Society Ltd

General Meeting

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Silkmen Supporter's Society
held at 8.00 pm on Monday 4 August 2008 at the Durham Ox, Hurdsfield
Road, Macclesfield.

Present:

Board Members

Andy Worth (Chair)

David Woolliscroft (Hon Sec)

John Rayner

Jim Goodwin

Rob Wilson (Membership & Merchandise)

Jon smart (Hon Treas)

Andrew Mellor

Matt Beresford

Adam Waller

Members

Hilary Woolliscroft

Bob Trafford

Chris Stewart

Norman Cunningham

Mike Rance

Pat Slattery

Lorraine Beresford

Chris Edge

Michael Beresford

David Tipper

Philip Siddons

Andy Thomas

Steve Mundy

Apologies

Apologies were reported from George Williams (Communications Officer.), Myra Clark (Former Hon Treas), Jeff Teasdale, Julia Mitchell, and Peter de Courcy,

1. To hear the notice convening the meeting

The Hon Sec formally announced the notice convening the meeting which had been announced in the local press, in match day programmes, on various related web sites as well as by direct notification to members.

The Chair welcomed members and expressed pleasure at the number of non-board members present. He reminded those present that only full members were entitled to vote on the various resolutions to be put to the meeting.

2. To receive and adopt the 2006 Financial Statements (including Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and related Report) (Resolution 1)

The Hon Treas began by paying tribute to Myra Clark who had decided to stand down as Hon Treas and also extended his thanks to John Abbott for his invaluable assistance as

Independent Examiner. He then introduced the financial statements contained in the annual report and drew attention to the fact that the Society would have shown a much greater profit had the charity contributions, which had been collected in the previous year, been taken from the previous year.

The Chair also drew attention to the non-financial aspects of the Annual Report which again underlined a successful year for the Society.

The following resolution was agreed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 1

The Members of the Silkmen Supporters Society Ltd present at the General Meeting held on 4 August 2008 receive and adopt the financial statements prepared by the Society's Independent Examiner.

3. To note the outcome of the invitation to Members to consider nomination to the Board of the Society and to introduce the new Board

The Chair reminded members that at the 2007 AGM it had been agreed to extend the terms of office of elected members up to 31 March 2008. At the turn of the year, an invitation had been extended to all members to consider standing for election to the Board; a number of Board members had stood down (by rotation) and there had been 8 vacancies. A small group of members, who were not standing and had no connection to those standing for election, had been formed to oversee the election process. This group, led by Mr Jeff Teasdale, had reported on 10 February 2008 that there had been fewer nominees than vacancies and hence the following (who were introduced by the Chair) were duly appointed to the board:

Jon Smart
Adam Waller
George Williams
John Rayner
David Woolliscroft
Richard Patrick

In addition, Matt Beresford and Jim Goodwin had been co-opted to the board to fill the vacancies.

There would be a further election in time for reappointment in March 2009.

4. To consider a change in the rules to allow the Society to seek an Independent Financial Review (Resolution 2)

The Hon Sec introduced the proposed change to the rules. The intention was to avoid the costly process of seeking formal financial audit and instead to use a simpler financial review. This process was adequate for organisations with a turnover of under £25k. In reply to a question, it was confirmed that it was in order to use a member of the Society to carry out the review and that this was common practice.

Resolution 2 was agreed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2

It is hereby resolved to amend the society's rules by inserting new clauses c-f in Rule 86 as laid out below

FINANCIAL AUDIT

86. The Society Board will in respect of each year of account ending on 31 January:

a. cause to be prepared a revenue account or revenue accounts which:

(i) Singly or together deal with the affairs of the Society and any subsidiary

company or society as a whole for that year; and
(ii) Give a true and fair view of the income and expenditure of the Society and any subsidiary company or society for that year;

- b. cause to be prepared a balance sheet giving at that date a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Society and any subsidiary company or society.
- c. In any year of account, the Society shall not be required to appoint auditors if it is exempt under the 1968 Act and has disappplied the obligation to do so in accordance with the 1968 Act.
- d. In any such year, an Independent Examination of accounts under the guidelines recommended by Supporters Direct and all references below in Rules 25, 35, 87, 88, and 91 to 'audit', 'auditor(s)', and 'audited' shall be read as 'independent examine, independent examiner and Independently examined' respectively and rules 89, 90, 92, 93 and 94 shall not apply.
- e. Any decision to disapply the requirement for audit must be passed by the appropriate margins laid down under the 1968 Act at the Annual General Meeting prior to the Annual General Meeting at which the accounts for the year in question are to be laid before members.
- f. No decision to disapply shall be valid if the accounts laid before the Annual General Meeting at which the decision is being taken indicate that the turnover of the society in that financial year is higher than the specified threshold for audit exemption in the Supporters Direct Membership Policy, should such exemption be allowed under that policy.

NOTE

This resolution will now be notified to the FSA on order that it becomes legally registered.

5. Any other business

The Chair thanked members for their contribution to the formal part of the meeting and invited those present to raise any other matters.

- The Club would be holding a fans forum on 21 August and it was hoped that as many fans as possible would attend.
- Members welcomed the apparent change in openness within the Club under the new Chair (Mike Rance) who was particularly welcomed to the AGM as a life member.
- The Board had decided to make a further investment in 2000 shares and also to offer support of £2 000 to the costs of the reserve team. The Chair invited members to consider the declared strategy of share purchase.
- Rob Wilson provided an update on membership. It was important for the society membership to grow if it was to grow its influence with the Club. The Trust was already well respected by fans and Club alike but a significant increase to reach the target of 500 would be of great benefit.
- Reporting on merchandise, Rob Wilson stressed the twin priorities of good value and quality. These had demonstrably been achieved and a number of those present paid tribute to this new activity.
- It was suggested that the Trust should invest in a large flag for use at home and away. The host for the evening provided an example of a flag produced for another small club in the vicinity. The Board was asked to investigate the purchase of a flag.
- Concern was raised about the low level of vocal support from the McAlpine Stand. It was difficult to influence this and in any case, there was the downside of bad language.
- With reference to this, mention was made to an interview by the Club CEO on local radio indicating a zero tolerance to racial, abusive or homophobic chanting. It remained to be seen how this would affect the Moss Rose.
- Reference was made to the expulsion of a well known fan from the friendly game against Stockport County. It was regretted that this had occurred and all underlined the need to maintain the family friendly attitude of the Club.

- John Rayner drew attention to a proposed 100 Club and outlined its workings. He recognised that it was in direct competition with the Club Gold Bond Lottery and invited comments. A lively debate ensued in which both alternatives attracted support. It was agreed that the board needed to make a formal decision as soon as possible.
- In response to a specific question, Mike Rance agreed to look into the charges entry for disabled fans.