



NOTTS COUNTY SUPPORTERS TRUST



BOARD MEETING OPEN MINUTES

Meeting No.	38
Occurred	20.00 10 March 2005
Place	The Meeting Room, The Vat and Fiddle, Nottingham
Version	2

Present: Keri Usherwood (chair), David Hindley, Eric Kerry, Nigel King, Philip Marshall, Fred Mosselmans (minutes), Alan Scott, Cheryl Thompson, Stephen Thompson.

1) Apologies for Absence: John Armstrong-Holmes, Ken Carter, Martin Naylor, Carole Stapleton.

2) Meeting Agenda

The agenda was altered so that the minutes and actions from the previous meeting would be taken near the end of the agenda.

3) Declarations Of Interest

None

4) Officers Reports

a) Chair – Keri Usherwood

Since the last Trust Board meeting KU has attended the launch of Worksop Town Trust (He was introduced as a representative of one of the best Trusts in the country). There had been around 60 people present and the club is 780 K in debt and has lots of problems

He has written to Patrick Nelson about the condition of the Meadow Club. There was an improvement in the MC for the game on Saturday, which may have been prompted by our letter. Discussion centred on how the Trust could become more involved in supporting further improvements.

Following the last meeting with Patrick, the Trust were to look for players from Notts history worthy of recognition. There was discussion on the appointment of a Notts historian and this was going to be raised this with Patrick. It would be good if we could make a start on this asap in terms of compiling the list of players. KU was keeping an eye on the progress of the Open Day plans.

KU had spoken to Jacqui Forster about what the club would charge for the EMT training day and she seemed happy – thus it would be on the 9th July at the Club.

AS agreed to attend in the director's box on Saturday.

b) Treasurer – Eric Kerry



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EK apologised for not having time to post a monthly summary owing to the short gap between meetings. He confirmed we had about 57K in the bank.

c) Secretary – Fred Mosselmans (e-mail report posted)

Since the last meeting the secretary reported he had:

- sent the cheque from the Wrexham collection to WST. They replied via our message board.
- begun to fill in the Supporter's Direct Questionnaire. Several board members have helped with the responses and I am still awaiting some information to finalise the response. Thanks to those who have provided information and those who will do so. The deadline is Easter.
- E-mailed Richard Stanton about the survey. He is preparing some questions for the club. I have also trimmed down last year's survey and will distribute it to the survey committee this week.
- begun to think about a co-option procedure..
- been in the director's box at the Swansea game. All board members are strongly urged to attend 1 game there before the end of the season-
- attempted to book the MC for a post-match open forum. Fortunately for the finance if not for us, the club is doing well on Saturday bookings so this has proved impossible. This needs discussion tonight on when and where.

5) Supporter-Director Report – Steve Thompson

6) Sub-Group Reports

c) Strategy – Alan Scott

ST said the only solution was to get the club to self-sufficiency. It was agreed there was a purpose to publishing our strategy so our members know what we are trying to achieve. AS will organise another meeting of the Strategy group.

a) PR – David Hindley

There has been the usual PR output since the last meeting: Trust Matters column, E-newsletters, and press releases. Thanks to NK, CS and KU for their assistance.

To reiterate from the last BM, for the remaining matches, copy is due from Eric (Bristol Rovers, 26/03), Nigel (Grimsby 16/04) and Keri (Bury 30/04). Deadlines are typically 5-6 days before the match.

The PR subcommittee were due to meet last week, but this has been postponed until the end of the month. Deadline for newsletter copy is 21st March. This will be the last newsletter of the season, so we need to really push with membership renewals as well as the usual updates (Chair, Supporter Director). He would also like something from AS on Strategy, FM on the survey.



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DH has been working on the new membership pack, seeing what other Trusts do and contacting local firms for ideas/quotes. He will also be writing to author John Harvey to see if he would be willing to help the Trust.

b) Community – Cheryl Thompson/David Hindley

Cartoonists Dredge and Clark (both of whom incidentally are looking forward to meeting Quentin Blake next month) have agreed to be involved with Big Draw 2005. At an initial meeting with DH, both artists want to do something on a much grander scale, (and CT has also come up with some imaginative ideas) possibly in the build up to or even during a home match. In return, DH has agreed to join the Big Grin organising. Tentative plans/ideas have started with regards a Club open day, this time around with a greater community emphasis. Chesterfield Supporters Trust are assisting with this. DH has met with FITC officer James Lake who is designing the new FITC website. There are possibilities of mutual promotion/awareness raising, which the community subcommittee will be pursuing. DH has also set up a meeting (23rd March, 5ish @ Vat and Fiddle) with Gavin Mellor who spoke at the County in the Community event, and is currently doing some research on FITC schemes.

ST added that there were plans to kids involved in the match day next year by inviting different schools' children to each game to wave pom-poms.

d) Membership, Recruitment and Retention – Philip Marshall

PM reported we now had 1425 members. He was congratulated by the board on this figure. The lapsed members' letters had received about a 6% response. He considered it time to give up on the rest of these ex-members now.

He said the MRR committee would bring a proposal on the recognition of members to the board.

He said efforts in the summer would be aimed at getting members to renew. The membership register was very difficult to maintain without proper space at the club for record and document storage. The possibility of an office in the meadow club was raised again.

e) Fundraising – Ken Carter (e-mail report posted)

DH reported on behalf of KC that there was nothing currently planned.

KC and MN were congratulated on the excellent Allardyce evening. DH had written it up on the trust website.

7) Co-option – Fred Mosselmans

FM's proposal for co-option was agreed. If and when NK told him what key skills were sought he would pen something for the Trust newsletter. NK indicated he would try to fulfil the coordination role.

8) Trust Activities



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a) Finance meeting with PN – Keri Usherwood

This would be at 5.30 on Saturday. It was agreed CT, FM, NK and AS would attend with KU.

b) EM/NWT Meetings – Nigel King/Fred Mosselmans

DH said he would be going to the next EMT meeting in Chesterfield on Thursday.

c) Next Forum – Keri Usherwood

With the MC unavailable FM agreed to look at moving this to the 30th April. It was also agreed we should hold a weeknight forum on the Club finances after the Blenheim AGM.

9) Any Other Business

PM asked when the Blenheim AGM would be and who would be allowed to attend? ST would find out

CT raised the matter of publishing board meeting minutes for members. It was agreed a synopsis could be made available. NK reported that trusts that do this tend to have a time lag of around three months before the abridged minutes appear in public.

10) Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Acceptance of the minutes of Board Meeting 37 held on 22 February 2005. These were signed by KU.

11) Matters Arising

- A1** EK to obtain quotes for printing newsletters: **Carried forward A6**
- A2** KC & MN to look for potential sponsors of newsletters etc: **Carried forward A7**
- A3** EK to collate set up costs for Supporters Direct: **Carried forward A9**
- A4** DH and PM to write up complaints about Meadow Club: **Done**
- A5** CS/NK to add golf day to members' e-mail: **Done**
- A6** FM to develop a process for co-option to put to the board: **Done**
- A7** NK to e-mail PN about 25% discount idea: **Done**
- A8** Group to compile list of Notts heroes for next PN meeting **All to consider A10**



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- A9** KU to organise next meeting with PN **Done**
- A10** DH to speak to JF about hosting an EMT meeting **Done**
- A11** FM to book Meadow Club for Forum on 16 April **In progress A11**
- A12** KC to speak to Richard S about Open Day **Done**
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12) Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday April 19th at the Plough – 8pm. FM apologised for the wrong date on the agenda

The meeting was closed by KU at 10.55pm