

NOTTS COUNTY SUPPORTERS TRUST



BOARD MEETING OPEN MINUTES

Meeting No.	60
Date	Wed 8 November 2006
Time	8 p.m.
Venue	Horse and Groom, 462 Radford Road, Nottingham, NG7 7EA
Version	1

Present

Keri Usherwood (Chair), Nigel King (Vice Chair), John Collin (Secretary), Eric Kerry (Treasurer and Supporter Director), John Armstrong-Holmes, Peter Dennis, David Hindley, Gareth Marklew, Glenn Rolley, Carole Stapleton, Cheryl Thompson, Trevor Woolley.

KU welcomed new members to their first meeting.

1. Apologies For Absence

Stuart Rolley

2. Meeting Agenda

Agreed.

3. Declarations of Interest

JC explained for the benefit of new members and to remind everyone else the requirement to declare any interests. KU emphasised that there were confidential matters that appeared at meetings and they needed to be kept confidential – not because the Board wanted them to be confidential necessarily but because they affected third parties.

4. Notts County Supporters Trust Shareholding/Memorandum of Understanding

KU reported that the deadline for final acceptance of pre-emption shares was 8/11/06. The Trust had sent a letter accepting the shares together with the stamp duty. The final receipt of shares will be later and the formal loan agreement needs to be produced. A Sub-Committee had been formed to look at all the implications and JAH would be reporting on its behalf.

JAH reported the findings of the Sub-Committee.

It was agreed that the Sub-Committee should carry on with its task and that the Club's view of the Memorandum of Understanding should be sought.

5. Supporters Direct Election

In a ballot for the Trust vote for the Supporters Direct Executive Election, results were as follows:

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Neil Le Milliere	3
Robert Pepper	1
Sean Hamil	8
Brian Lomax	9
Kris Stewart	6
Elaine Dean	12

The four with the highest votes were the candidates voted for by the Trust.

6. Trust Presence at Meadow Lane

With the new configuration in the Shop, KU said that there is now a need to resolve the issue of the Trust presence at Meadow Lane.

It was established that the requirement would be for an office area which was an accessible focal point on match days and able to hold some administrative etc. stuff.

EK agreed to talk to Geoff Davey.

At this point, the motion to carry on the meeting after 10.30 p.m. was carried.

7. Officers' Reports

a. Chair — Keri Usherwood

KU reported that he and NK had attended a Boston Trust meeting and that KU had addressed it. Boston had great problems.

He also reported that he had done interviews and made comments with local media since the last meeting.

KU put forward a preliminary proposal for a "Player Fund" which had been mooted before. He felt a Committee should be set up, probably after Christmas, representing all the stakeholders and possibly link any launch with the launch of the raffle. GR said he would take it forward.

b. Treasurer – Eric Kerry

EK reported £9800 in the bank with £1500 not yet cashed.

After some allowance for various envisaged expenses, the amount of free cash was reported as approximately £6000.

JC reported that he had a substantial expenses claim for various elections/meetings. He would submit it at the next meeting.



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A donation and corporate membership of £750 had been received from the Greater Nottingham Co-operative Party.

NK asked for expenses of £187.23 relating to web site hosting and travel to the Supporters Direct Conference.

These were agreed.

c. Secretary – John Collin

JC formally reported that since meeting 58, two items, relating to approval of the annual accounts and to the additional share purchase proposal, had been approved under Rule 73.

JC formally reported the AGM and stated that no motions had been passed other than the formal ones relating to reports and the appointment of Auditor.

8. Sub-Group Reports

a. PR

SR published his report

b. Community

CT mentioned that she had encountered people who would not take a KROOF sticker at the match.

DH published his report:

As the new incoming officer responsible for community this will, unsurprisingly, be a short report.

"I would like to firstly like to thank Cheryl for her sterling efforts and hard work over the past twelve months, as well as those Board members (and additional Trust members/volunteers) that have contributed.

One of my first challenges is to foster an active sub-committee. I am hoping that our first meeting will be next Saturday, prior to the Wrexham game (venue/time to be confirmed). I have e-mailed Mike Scott asking if he would like to attend. If anyone else would be interested in getting involved, or know of any contacts from the local community/voluntary sector then please forward their details to me.

It is at this first meeting that I would like to refresh the existing action plan and

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set some objectives for the coming year. In order to do this it would be useful to discuss tonight the following questions/issues:

Where does 'community' fit into the Trust's aims and objectives? Is this part of our core business/where does it sit with regards our priorities?

Has the sub-committee a budget for the coming year? Should this area be self-financing or is it possible to set aside funds for organising community events?

Is it worth looking into alternative models for the community side of the Trust? I know of other Trusts that have set up a separate arm responsible for pursuing community aims.

Underpinning these questions is a general issue about how the Trust/Club relationship works. Does the Club Board see 'community' as a key area? Is there a director charged with this responsibility on the Club Board? How do we (and the Club) work with FitC?

There is plenty to discuss - I hope this short report helps to structure some dialogue amongst Board members".

KU mentioned that the Board needed to take a structured approach in defining "community".

DH mentioned that he believed that "Football in the Community" was looking for Board Members.

With regard to the £500 donation for travel, the choice from the options (Handicruiser, special schools, 1862 Club) was left to NK.

c. Strategy

It was confirmed that this classification was no longer required.

d. Membership, Recruitment, Retention

GM reported that there were a large number of letters which needed to be produced for reminders to those who had not yet renewed.

Following attendance at the Supporters Direct Conference, he had ideas about recruiting and retaining members. GM reported that another MP had joined the Trust.

There was also a survey planned.

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GM asked the question as to whether new membership cards are required annually and it was generally felt that they were not.

In response to a question, it was ascertained that the proposed letter to non-renewed members would be along the lines of "it would be sad to lose you".

e. Fundraising

GR said that his report was basically the one given to the AGM (reproduced below):

"Having only taken on the responsibility to lead the Trust Fundraising initiative in June I decided to look to revamp the effort to suit the new climate and requirement.

With the share acquisition and the proposed majority shareholding this will again refocus our efforts with a redefined strategy.

During the short time as lead of the Fundraising effort we have looked to raise the profile of our internet shopping portal www.buy.at/ncst, which brings in regular monthly revenue. It is an excellent vehicle for fans to purchase products online from major outlets such as M&S, Comet, Sky, NTL, and Amazon at the very best prices and earn your Trust vital revenue which is paid to us from the retailer.

Several poster schemes are to appear around the ground at strategic locations together with advertisement in the match day programme in an effort to raise the profile of this revenue stream for the Trust and your club.

The Trust will be promoting a book written by Ian Gill one of our members called 'Nottsalia', covering the years of the late sixties and early seventies. A great read!

We are also going to be doing our bit for the environment and also raise vital revenue for the Trust with an empty printer cartridge; both inkjet and laser, recycling scheme. Collection points will be at the Trust desk in the Club Shop. Any fans with access to empty printer cartridges from personal or business use please bring them to the collection point. To compliment the scheme we will also be running an 'Old Mobile Phone' recycling format for all those last years mobiles lying in the draw.

A new major initiative will be a Trust run 'Magpie Winter Beer Festival' to held during January 2007. It is envisaged that the festival will be based in The Meadow Club over a Thursday, Friday and matchday Saturday. Over 50 different beers will be available together with a live band on the Friday evening. This event could provide a major revenue stream.

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The annual raffle this year will again have some special prizes to attract revenue from fans and friends alike. The raffle is planned this year as an end of season event as opposed to the normal Christmas timing.”

There was debate about the number of prizes for the raffle.

The recycling project would be able to be started when a base at Meadow Lane had been established.

The Beer festival will be on 1st, 2nd, 3rd February 2007 and fifty £50 sponsors are required.

9. Supporter Director’s Report – Eric Kerry

EK reported.

10. Any Other Business

None.

11. Minutes of Previous Meetings, for approval and signing

The Minutes of Meeting 59 were accepted as a true record.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 13 December 2006.

Meeting closed at 11.00 p.m.