

NOTTS COUNTY SUPPORTERS TRUST



BOARD MEETING OPEN MINUTES

Meeting No.	61
Date	Wed 13 December 2006
Time	8 p.m.
Venue	John Collin's House
Version	1

Present

Keri Usherwood (Chair), Nigel King (Vice Chair), John Collin (Secretary), John Armstrong-Holmes, Peter Dennis, David Hindley, Trevor Woolley.

1. Apologies For Absence

Eric Kerry, Gareth Marklew, Glenn Rolley, Stuart Rolley, Carole Stapleton, Cheryl Thompson.

2. Meeting Agenda

JC reported that he had had representations at the last meeting to put the Minutes of the Previous Meeting at the beginning of the agenda and asked for views. It was agreed the next item should be Minutes.

9. Minutes of Previous Meetings, for approval and signing

The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed as a true record.

3. Declarations of Interest

None.

4. Notts County Supporters Trust Shareholding etc.

KU reported that we were awaiting a formal written loan agreement.

Following some discussion, it was agreed that any announcement of the completion of all the parts of the share acquisition should be via the planned newsletter.

JC said that it may be necessary to call a quick meeting to approve any written agreement, following any appropriate advice.

5. Officers' Reports

a. Chair — Keri Usherwood

KU produced his report.

I have done a couple of interviews on Trusts and NCST with Rob and Richard who used to run the NCM site. They are both students doing journalism at Lincoln now but its likely that something may appear on MAD and even in the wider media at some stage.

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I have also had a long conversation with David Conn who will be doing a piece on us when the majority shareholding is achieved.

Finally, I have had a number of conversations with Supporters-Direct and the solicitors Bates, Braithwaite and Wells about CIC's.. I will be putting forward a proposal for us to engage the solicitors to produce a briefing paper which we can use to start the process once we achieve the majority shareholding. This can be presented to the Club Board for discussion. the cost will be around £500 to produce this."

KU reported that the first part of the report had been dealt with already under Item 4.

With regard to the proposed CIC move, KU agreed to bring forward a proposal for the study following any discussions with Supporters Direct.

b. Treasurer – Eric Kerry

EK reported by mail that the current available cash was £7364.64.

JC tabled a list of expenses amounting to £1923.12 for elections and general meetings and £50 for the Supporters Direct membership subscription. **It was proposed by KU and duly seconded that this should be paid and the motion was carried.**

Also £17.50 to renew the Lotteries Licence was agreed.

c. Secretary – John Collin

Nothing formal to report. He asked what night was best for meetings. It was thought that Tuesdays were best.

In response to a question, **JC agreed to publish the next tranche of "Open" Minutes.**

6. Sub-Group Reports

a. PR

SR

SR had requested members to produce copy for the next newsletter. **Action All.**

b. Community

DH

In the last month, my endeavours have centred around the following:

I have spent some time recruiting members to the Community Sub-committee.



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My original intention had been to meet before the end of the year, but now looks likely to be during the first couple of weeks in January.

I have met with Mike Scott and posted his ideas to the Board list.

I have submitted the community article for the Trust newsletter.

I have contacted Brentford Trust about their model of setting up a charitable trust responsible for the 'community' side of the Supporters Trust/Football Club. I would like this to be an issue to discuss when the sub-committee meets.

I have contacted the RNIB about their 'soccer sight' programme, which provides radio equipment for fans that are blind/have a visual impairment.

I am meeting the two artists that helped with the Big Draw events next week to look at running a similar event in the Autumn.

Finally, I have had a go at re-drafting the MoU, which I have passed onto Keri.

c. Membership, Recruitment, Retention GM

Numbers (now looking slightly better since I hit the database with a hammer and updated all of the junior memberships), actual signed up for this season members 1,095, total including those who have not renewed 1,452, difference is 359, but seeing as we've had a few new members over the last few months, the number not renewing so far is slightly lower than that.

Final (polite) renewal reminder letters went out by email a couple of weeks back, there was an initial spurt of responses, but they seem to have died back more quickly than I would have liked. I still need some help getting the letter out to postal members - basically I need a way of getting sufficient printed stuff and addressed as painlessly as possible. I've attached copies of the letter and of the spreadsheet of names and addresses it needs to go to in case it gives people ideas of where it needs to go to. Once that's sorted I can get on to more things like surveys and what have you.

Also attached are lists of people requiring share/membership certificates - I hold neither the seal nor the templates for the certificates (and even if I did, I'm no good at forging autographs), so whoever has the components will need to put them together.

Anecdotal and observational evidence suggests that losing our prominent position in the shop is having an impact on members ability to renew - it's stating the obvious but we need to be prominent if people are to find us.

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One more thing, beer festival related. Just to remind people that when he joined an MP said we should contact him if he could help us in anyway, and that it's been suggested that the beer festival might be something he's interested in backing publicly, so it might be worth seeing if he'll come along. In the interests of party neutrality, there's no harm in asking other MP's.

Think that covers anything. Apologies again for missing the meeting, but on this occasion I need to be playing football rather than talking about it!

PD agreed to look at the letter.

d. Fundraising Magpies Beer Festival

GR

The Magpies Beer Festival (see Poster Attached) is top priority. The sub-committee – Steve Westby, Andrew Ludlow, Pete Dennis and myself have met on 3 occasions and everything is coming together very well on the organisation front.

Sponsorship – We need Sponsorship to make this a viable proposition! Can we get around all our contacts to deliver the sponsorship required?

Eric can you engage with your contacts with the directors to extract sponsorship from their contacts and sources. At only £50 for a barrel sponsorship this is 'Petty Cash' to any business and should be very easy to obtain. We are also looking for an Event sponsor at £500 and a Programme sponsor at £150.

All Sponsor forms and posters are on the yahoo board under Beer Festival. It's up to you the Trust Board to make this happen! We have at present only ten sponsors we are looking to 60+.

Thank you those who have distributed Posters around the Ground at the ill fated Macc game. Great Job!

Inkjet Cartridges / Old Mobile Phones.

Everything is in place to launch this venture when we have a suitable home to be able to collect these items.

PD reported that the Fundraising Sub-Committee had made contact with the Rugby Club. They will promote the Beer Festival and collaborate with other things in the future.

7. Supporter Director's Report – Eric Kerry

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EK gave his report.

8. Any Other Business

A member had proposed that the Easter Saturday match should be switched to Good Friday. **KU agreed to make some comment on this.**

10. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 23rd January 2007.

Meeting closed at 10.20 p.m.