

# **NOTTS COUNTY SUPPORTERS TRUST**



## **BOARD MEETING OPEN MINUTES**

Meeting No.	62
Date	Tuesday 23 January 2007
Time	8.00 p.m.
Venue	Plough Inn, St Peters Street, Nottingham.
Version	2

### **Present**

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

### **1. Apologies For Absence**

John Armstrong-Holmes, Glenn Rolley, Carole Stapleton.

### **2. Meeting Agenda**

Agreed.

### **3. Declarations of Interest**

EK as a Director of Blenheim 1862 Ltd.

### **4. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

These were accepted as a true record.

### **5. Blenheim Directors Restructuring**

### **6. Share Purchase Loan Agreement**

KU reported that he had had a conversation with Haydn Green.

With regard to the Trust's agreement, HG had sent a letter (previously circulated) outlining the terms. The Sub-Committee had recommended acceptance and write to Mr Green.

It was also thought prudent to get final legal advice on our understanding of the "pari passu" and whether the approach would be OK.

**Proposed KU, seconded GM "that the Trust sends a letter to HG along the lines discussed above." This was carried.**

**Action: NK to contact Cobbetts, JC to send the letter.**

### **7. Blenheim Shareholder Agreement Renegotiation**

**Proposed KU, seconded JC "that the Trust waits for recommendations from the Club Board". This was carried unanimously.**

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**The appropriate resolution to carry the meeting on past 10.30 p.m. was carried.**

### **8. Officers' Reports**

#### **a. Chair -- Keri Usherwood**

KU had posted a report, some of which had already been dealt with in previous items.

*Brief report ahead of the meeting tomorrow.*

*We have a number of important issues to discuss.*

*One issue that has become apparent is the pressing need for us to develop our strategy for us as Majority Shareholders. What do we want as NCST? What are our expectations of our relationship with the Board? Nigel has worked up some initial thoughts on this ahead of tomorrow's meeting. We also have the MOU and it might be worth people having a look at my email of 31st December (Happy New Year! - Confidential).*

*We also need to consider our relationship with the Supporters Club and other individuals/organisations affiliated to the Club.*

*So, lots to consider.*

KU reported that consultations were now going ahead with the Police etc. regarding the siting of away supporters.

KU reported on the death of Neal Hook and **PD said he was attending the funeral and would arrange a floral tribute from the Trust. This was agreed.**

#### **b. Treasurer – Eric Kerry**

EK reported that the balance stood at £7,800.

**Expenses of £21.81 for Nigel King relating to postage and web domain renewal were agreed.**

#### **c. Secretary – John Collin**

JC formally reported that the FSA Return had been submitted before the deadline.

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He also reported that Phil Tooley, who has been a great friend of the Trust, had resigned from the Chesterfield Football Supporters Society Board. JC had thanked Phil for his help and support and Phil offered to continue to help in the future.

### **9. Sub-Group Reports**

#### **a. PR**

**SR**

SR reported that he would appreciate help with programme notes.

The newsletter was being printed at the current time but it had taken three months to produce and this must be improved upon for next time. It was intended to stuff the envelopes (also with raffle tickets) on Saturday morning at Nigel's house.

Portrait artists were offering their services.

Beer festival publicity had gone out everywhere.

It was agreed to announce the majority shareholding completion on Friday.

#### **b. Community**

**DH**

DH posted his report: *"The Community Subcommittee met last week (16<sup>th</sup> January). It was a productive meeting, which has helped us to identify some key aims for taking things forward.*

*I will bring copies of the minutes to the meeting for anyone that is interested.*

*One of the action points is to arrange a meeting between Graham Moran/FITC and the Trust Board/CSC. Can you let me know how best you want me to pursue this – for example, do we want to book a room at Meadow Lane or invite Graham to the next Board meeting?*

*With regards future projects, the CSC identified the following:*

- *Open Day (Eric has contacted GD with a suggested date)*
- *Big Draw event*
- *Kick Racism out of Football (I'll fill you in with an idea I've been working on)*

*Cheryl and I attended the launch of the new Stand Up, Speak Out initiative on Saturday, which is a positive development and one that the Club/Trust should be helping to promote awareness of. Eric was also there to represent the*

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*Trust but no other Directors attended (besides Jeff Moore. Given that there were some useful contacts there, including representatives from the Notts FA, Voice East Midlands etc. I would have liked to see a greater club presence.*

**It was agreed to arrange a meeting with Graham Moran. Action DH.**

### **c. Membership, Recruitment, Retention      GM**

GM reported that there were 1107 paid up members currently including juniors. There were still some whose membership had not yet been terminated. PD and JC offered to assist GM with this.

GM reported that he had done an article for the newsletter and looked forward to surveys for views and opinions on the Trust.

### **d. Fundraising      GR**

GR had posted a report which was expanded upon by PD.

*“Recycling initiative all complete, awaiting suitable ‘Trust Desk’ location to enable launch and continuity.*

### ***Magpie Beer Festival***

*All operations are in place. Numerous meetings with the sub group, Pete Dennis, Steve Westby and Andrew Ludlow and myself, have taken place to enable a smooth operation. Special Thank you to Steve Westby for his knowledge in organising the beer.*

### ***Publicity:***

*Over 150 posters have been displayed and distributed not only around Meadow Lane but in Nottingham University, and local watering houses. Publicised on Clubs Website, CAMRA website, Trust Website. Active engagement of the Evening Post, Football Post during the week of the festival.*

*A 3mx1m banner has been produced to advertise the event at the Barnet Game and at the festival itself. Tom Loakes is organising a photo call with the players and the banner after training. These images are to be used in further publicity/posters.*

### ***Financial Projection:***

### ***Costs:***

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*Room Hire (The Meadow Club) - £800.00*  
*Beer: £2350 Estimated.*  
*Band: £200 Estimated*  
*PA System: TBA (Trev Woolley)*  
*Banner - £83.00*  
*Posters: No Cost (Glenn Rolley's contacts)*  
*Flyers: No Cost (Glenn Rolley's contacts)*  
*Sundries: £50 (Aprons, Plastic Sheeting) Etc*  
**Total £3400 estimated**

*Income:*  
*Beer: £2K - £5K Estimated*  
*Main Sponsor: £500.00*  
*Beer Sponsorship: £1100.00 To date*  
**Total: £3100 - £6100 estimated**

PD outlined the arrangements for setting up etc. and asked for as many people as possible to participate.

### **10. Supporter Director's Report – Eric Kerry**

EK gave his report.

In response to a question, EK said he would keep pushing for a location for the Trust at Meadow Lane.

### **11. Strategy**

KU said that there was a need to look at what the Trust's strategy should be with respect to the Club. NK had produced a paper which was circulated. **KU recommended that a Sub-Group should be set up to examine strategy. This was agreed.** The following volunteered: KU, NK, JC, PD, TW.

### **12. Any Other Business**

None

### **13. Date of Next Meeting**

13<sup>th</sup> February 2007.