

NOTTS COUNTY SUPPORTERS TRUST



BOARD MEETING OPEN MINUTES

Meeting No.	64
Date	Tuesday 20 March 2007
Time	8.00 p.m.
Venue	Plough Inn, St Peters Street, Nottingham
Version	1

Present

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

1. Apologies For Absence

Gareth Marklew, 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

The Minutes of Meeting 63 were accepted as a true record.

5. Officers' Reports

a. Chair — Keri Usherwood

"Just a short report this time. Eric has a number of Club related items to discuss so I'll keep my contribution brief.

A couple of issues I'd like to raise.

I have arranged the meeting with Shareholders for Tuesday 27th March at Meadow Lane from 7.30 - 9.30. I would suggest we need a delegation of no more than 4-5 of us to meet with the other shareholders.

We need to make progress with the strategy document. Nigel and Dr Dave have provided valuable contributions. Anyone else who wants to contribute please do so.

Finally, we need to assess progress with the raffle."

The meeting of shareholders on 27th March will be attended by KU, JC, JAH, PD and NK. (Pre-meeting in the Globe at 7 p.m.)

With regard to the strategy document, KU asked for inputs.

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With regard to the raffle, around £1800 currently. EK will raise the matter of tickets at turnstiles on Friday.

b. Treasurer – Peter Dennis/Eric Kerry

EK/PD reported that the balance is currently £11,247.80. With outstanding bills which are currently known about, and uncashed cheques, this will reduce to £10,008.85.

c. Secretary – John Collin

“In order to change signatories for our bank account with the Cooperative Bank, the Board needs to pass the following resolution:

“The Cooperative Bank plc (“the Bank”) shall continue as our bankers.

The Bank shall be authorised to honour all cheques and all other documents made or accepted on our behalf even if such payment causes any Accounts to be overdrawn or increase any existing overdraft, provided that such documents are signed in accordance with the specimen signatures shown in the Account Signatories Section. Those signatories shall be KA Usherwood, NJ King, P Dennis, EJ Collin.

The Bank shall be sent a copy of any future resolutions which affect the terms of these resolutions

The Bank shall be sent a copy of any changes in our Rules.

The Bank shall be notified in writing of any change of Directors.

The Bank shall be notified in writing of any change of official authorised to sign on our behalf.

The Bank shall otherwise continue to operate our Account in accordance with the Business Account Mandate.

The Bank shall be notified in writing of any overall change of control in the business.

All signatories to the Account are aged 18 or over.”

This results from PD being elected Treasurer and putting myself on the list as is traditional. I have avoided it so far because of the bureaucracy involved! The current signatories are NK, KU, DH and EK.

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PD and myself will need to show the appropriate ID as well (Money Laundering Regulations and stuff). We will be able to do that at the Nottingham Branch."

This was duly proposed and seconded and carried.

"AGM

The financial year ends on 31 May 2007. The AGM needs to be held within 5 months of that date. It would be helpful if the formal notice of the AGM could go out with another mailing (last year it went out with the SGM papers) so it is probably prudent to fix it early and send out the first notice early.

I am therefore looking for an AGM date."

It was agreed to aim the AGM at the next to last Thursday in October in order to avoid half term.

"Staples Vouchers

Following a lot of photocopying we had done for various meetings, we have £221 worth of Staples vouchers, which they say can be used like cash. £111 worth expire on April 15th. The rest have no expiry date."

JAH agreed to take on the vouchers.

"Membership Renewals

I have expenses arising from the renewals as follows:

<i>Paper</i>	<i>£3.50</i>
<i>Envelopes</i>	<i>£13.99</i>
<i>Stamps (300)</i>	<i>£69.00</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>£86.49"</i>

The motion to agree the expenses was duly proposed and seconded and carried.

6. Sub-Group Reports

a. PR

SR

SR reported that there are 3 programmes to go until the end of the season. One would cover the raffle.

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With regard to the JS portrait, 2 artists had been in contact and it is estimated that a 5ft by 4ft portrait will cost about £3,500. SR was concerned that someone who promised to donate had now taken to "slagging off" the Trust about an alleged inability to deliver. Volunteers were requested to view the Evening Post archive for a suitable picture.

At this point the motion was carried to go on after 10.30 p.m.

b. Community

DH

DH tabled his report.

"Since the last Board meeting there have been a few developments to report on:

Meeting with FITC

Members of the Community sub-committee and the Trust Board last month met with FITC's Graham Moran and James Lake. It was an interesting meeting which helped to highlight the valuable contribution FITC make, as well as discussing how we can work effectively together in the future. Since the meeting I have been in contact with Graham with regards how we can improve relations. I have uploaded the minutes of the meeting to the Yahoo groups files section.

FairTrade Fortnight

For the Mansfield game I helped to promote the end of FairTrade Fortnight by supplying fairtrade footballs for the half-time entertainment and running a competition to win a football on the official Club website and the Trust site/page in the programme. I have received about a dozen entries to date and will pass on the details of the winner to Stu for the Grimsby programme. Thanks to Tania at East Midlands Co-op for the loan of a couple of balls. The other balls came from the Fair Deal Company in London.

Hopefully by getting involved in campaigns such as this we can help raise awareness of Fair Trade. In the longer term I would like to see the Club make a commitment to using fairtrade, sustainable and ethical products, as well as trying to use local suppliers where possible. It would be great, for example, if the catering bars could serve fairtrade tea, coffee and hot chocolate. I would welcome any suggestions as to how we can take this forward.

Black footballers in Britain exhibition

I have been in contact with Football Unites Racism Divides (FURD) about

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hiring the exhibition for the forthcoming Community Open Day in July. The exhibition consists of 8 large posters and the only cost involved is that for delivery (around £50 for a courier). I think it would be interesting to compliment the exhibition with a feature on past and present black Notts players.

Community Strategy

I have been in contact with City in the Community (Manchester City) who have passed on a copy of their strategy document for 2007-2014. It is an inspirational and ambitious document which includes details of a wind turbine that is being built and will meet the stadium's energy needs. The document is too big to pass on electronically but I am happy to let members have a leaf through my paper copy.

Misc

In addition to the above, since the last meeting I have been involved in drafting a Trust strategy document, which I have posted to the Board list. I also attended the meeting with Geoff Davey before the MK Dons game and wrote up the minutes - again, uploaded to the files section on Yahoo."

DH expanded on some of the items for the benefit of the Board Members.

Trust Board members were asked if they wished to travel with the 1862 members to Macclesfield (paying their own way).

c. Membership, Recruitment, Retention

TW

TW tabled his report.

"Membership Report – March 2007.

First, can I apologise for the lack of finite figures. I am still coming to terms with the database. Hopefully, I'll be able to produce some more meaningful stuff later.

As at Monday, there are 1,180 current members on the database of 2,105. Quite how to extract the varying lists of juniors, seniors etc., I haven't fathomed yet.

There are also a couple of questions I have as to how the information is supposed to be held on the database. Should anyone with experience have time, I could do with a short instruction session.

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The mail shot has generated 63 renewals. There have also been 2 new members. These have been entered onto the database. Just in case I have been entering information in error, I have kept all the relevant paperwork in a separate folder.

There seems to be no policy as to how we actually acknowledge these renewals & new members. We no longer issue cards. Should there be at least some receipt sent?

There are a number of emails / letters / personal contact from members who have received a reminder letter, but insist that they have paid for the 2006/7 season. This includes some members that pay by standing order and have bank confirmation of payment. There doesn't seem to be a reconciliation process for renewals or additions. Unless someone has the ability to check our records for all these members, I am inclined to think we should believe them and update the database, based on their information.

Phil Marshall and Dave Hindley have agreed to help on a membership sub-group. I've also asked Martin Naylor, who is considering this. I hope we can meet in April, with initial objectives of creating Terms of Reference, standardising the database and the information it provides, setting objectives for membership recruitment and retention, and maximising benefits of membership.

Any suggestions as to other areas we can work at would be gratefully received.

Sorry again that detail is not forthcoming at the moment."

Supporters Direct have asked to become members of the Trust so that they receive mail etc.

d. Fundraising

GR

In GR's absence, this item was deferred.

7. Supporter Director's Report – Eric Kerry

EK gave his report.

Complaints/Compliments: letters have been received from people who enjoyed the Mansfield game.

DH asked about progress with the Meadow Club proposals and what action had been taken following the "missile" thrown onto the pitch during the Rochdale match. EK said these things are progressing.

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There was comment regarding the Trust presence at Meadow Lane and KU said that this is an on-going topic of conversation with the Club.

8. Trust Member Feedback

Dealt with earlier.

9. Mike Scott Report

The report from Mike was referred to the Strategy group.

10. Any Other Business

None.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 17 April 2007 at 8.00 p.m.