

NOTTS COUNTY SUPPORTERS TRUST



BOARD MEETING OPEN MINUTES

Meeting No.	69
Date	Thursday, 21 st August 2007
Time	8.00 p.m.
Venue	Plough Inn, St Peters Street, Nottingham
Version	1

Present

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

1. Apologies For Absence

Nigel King (Vice Chair), John Armstrong-Holmes, Glenn Rolley, Stuart Rolley.

2. Meeting Agenda

Agreed.

3. Declarations of Interest

EK as a Director of Blenheim 1862 Ltd.

4. Annual Report and Annual Accounts

PD and JC reported that they been to see the Auditor and a copy of the draft report had been circulated. The Auditor had again questioned the basis of the valuation of shares and loans but there was some hard evidence (from the recent sale of HG's shares) that they were worth 50p at the time.

The Auditor had also expressed a wish to look at the membership in more detail.

It was proposed by PD, seconded JC that the Accounts and Auditor's report be approved, subject to any further investigation by the Auditor.

It was further proposed by PD, seconded by JC that the Auditor be given access to membership records following assurances that the Auditor is legally allowed access.

These were carried.

5. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of Meeting 68 were accepted as a true record.

6. Officers' Reports

a. Chair -- Keri Usherwood

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Here we go again!

Some of you may have heard Matchtalk tonight where we were accused of blocking investment into the Club (for the second time!). I went on the programme and gave a rebuttal (I did try to be calm).

On other matters - I have been in touch with Dave Boyle at Supporters-Direct and he has agreed to attend our presentations to the Club Board on September 21st. I will give more details tomorrow.

I may be a few minutes late to the meeting tomorrow. I will be attending the launch of Unity FC at the City Ground - I have been trying to pursue stronger connections with Notts for this venture. Graham Moran is going as well.

Special praise for the new office accommodation. It felt great to finally have a decent presence at the ground. Many thanks to Pete and JAH for their work on this. We do need to stress that this means we can communicate better with our members on a matchday.

KU had been to the Unity FC event at the City Ground.

KU said that he thought the office accommodation was fantastic.

b. Treasurer – Peter Dennis

PD reported that available funds currently stood at £9531.35.

Expenses to PD of £15.15 for keys for the office were agreed.

c. Secretary – John Collin

Blenheim 1862 Ltd. AGM: JC reported that the AGM had gone without too many highlights.

Board Election: the election would be carried out using the new Supporters Direct model where votes could be cast at the AGM and if there was not an election, the candidates need to be approved at the AGM.

It was duly proposed, seconded and carried that the meeting may proceed after 10.30 p.m.

7. Supporter Director's Report – Eric Kerry

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EK reported that the Club chaplain was retiring and there was therefore a vacancy.

A person banned from the ground will appeal and recent events have shown that the CCTV needs updating, possibly with a grant from FGIT.

A Fans' Forum was planned.

8. Sub-Group Reports

a. PR

SR on holiday.

SR

b. Community

DH

"August has been a bid-writing month on the community front. I have submitted a bid (worth £5,000) from the NCF Robin Hood Fund to pursue the idea of having a writer in residence (as discussed at the last board meeting). Apparently there have been over 200 expressions of interest so I am not anticipating hearing anything until mid-September, when if positive will need to submit a more detailed bid.

Following conversations with Tom Hall at Supporters Direct and Judy Crabb at the Federation of Stadium Communities (FSC) I have submitted details of a possible project with the specific aim of working with the Meadows community. FSC are looking for funding around £50,000 which will enable them to pursue 4 Trust-based projects, of which ours is one. If successful I would suggest we establish a project working group that could lead this in partnership with FSC.

I am currently writing up a bid for a £2,000 Community Chest Grant to produce a football comic with cartoonist John Clark (aka Brick) that will be used in two primary schools in the Meadows. This project builds on the existing work of FITC and is the culmination of several meetings with Graham Moran and Steve Hill. Brick is coming round for a cuppa tomorrow when we hope to finish the bid (deadline 10th September).

In addition to this I have:

Met with Pete Davis from the Storytellers of Nottingham, who has now started collecting material for a book of fans' stories. Many thanks to Eric for liaising with the Club on this and his help with the match passes.

Spoken to a NEP journalist about the storytelling idea. Despite mis-quoting both Pete and I there was a decent article in the NEP, which reflects well on both the Club and the Trust. I will bring a copy with me tonight for those that

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missed it.

Submitted the Trust column for the Brentford game.”

c. Membership, Recruitment, Retention **TW**

TW reported that the data base was not currently functional. TW has tried out a piece of software and recommended that it be purchased at £195+VAT. **This was agreed.**

d. Fundraising **GR** GR away.

9 Any Other Business

PD said that the catering situation at the ground was suffering because of the cooking of individual portions of chips meant the process to serve people was a long one.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 25th September 2007.

The meeting ended at 11.00 p.m.