

NOTTS COUNTY SUPPORTERS TRUST



BOARD MEETING OPEN MINUTES

Meeting No.	72
Date	Thursday, 4 th October 2007
Time	8.00 p.m.
Venue	Plough Inn, St Peters Street, Nottingham
Version	1

Present

David Hindley (Chair), Nigel King (Vice Chair), Peter Dennis (Treasurer), John Collin (Secretary), John Armstrong-Holmes, Gareth Marklew, Glenn Rolley, Stuart Rolley, Cheryl Thompson, Keri Usherwood, Trevor Woolley.

1. Apologies For Absence

Eric Kerry (Supporter Director).

2. Meeting Agenda

Agreed.

3. Declarations of Interest

JAH and PD as Directors of Blenheim 1862 Ltd.
GM as an employee of HMCR.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of Meetings 69 and 71 were accepted as a true record.

5. Officers' Reports

a. Chair -- David Hindley

"It has been another busy period, so I would like to start by thanking everyone for their hard work. Hopefully now that the post 'bid that never was' furore begins to settle, we can concentrate on re-stating what our role/aims are, and foster a positive dialogue with supporters about the future direction of the Club/Trust.

For the AGM I have written the community report as well as working with Keri on completing the Chair's report. I have also been in discussion about the nominations/election to the Trust Board, and a couple of related issues that have come to light.

I have been busy responding to members' e-mails/comments. Much of time it seems that even the most critical of supporters respond well to a personal response and the opportunity to talk through issues.

On the community front, I have had one success and one rejection. The latter was the application to the NCF Robin Hood Fund, which attracted considerable interest (over 200 expressions of interest) so perhaps not

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surprisingly we weren't short-listed to the next stage. On the other hand, the bid for a Community Chest Grant from Kick It Out/Football Foundation has come up trumps. The funding is for £1,000 and will finance a pilot project to design an educational football comic, a couple of workshops in schools in the Meadows, and some Kick it Out resources to distribute at the Wrexham match (27th Oct). I will be looking for volunteers nearer the time.

Finally, Tom Hall has asked if I will contribute to the community workshop at the forthcoming SD conference on 19th October."

DH went through his report which doubled up as the Community Report.

b. Treasurer – Peter Dennis

PD went through his report. Available funds amounted to £9,302.00.

In response to a question, Open Day expenses included £75 + VAT to the photographer who had been commissioned by the Trust.

Expenses of £12.20 to PD were approved.

c. Secretary – John Collin

AGM

The AGM is on Thursday 18th October 2007 at Meadow Lane.

Election

"There is a recommendation from the Election Supervision Group that the Board considers two options regarding the election to the Board. Phil Tooley's e-mail refers to the options.

I attach the candidates' statements for your perusal. These need to be made available to members (if the Board agrees with either of the recommendations) so they can approve (simple "For" or "Against") at the AGM (including proxies). Help!! There is a postal strike.

I have prepared this report solely in my capacity as Secretary, not in my capacity as a candidate. Please bear in mind that I am a candidate. I think I should stop there having reported the factual things to you.

Late Motion from a Member

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A member contacted us to ask whether it was too late for Motions. I said it was but asked him to send whatever was on his mind for the Board to discuss. (Below).

It seems to me that following all the to-do over what went wrong (if anything) over a recent enquiry for investment in the club, the Trust should take proactive steps to put itself in a position to accept such investment quickly if the investor proves suitable. Amongst the suggestions are:

- (i) An annually renewable mandate for the Trust Board (or one officer?) to sell the Trusts shares (or not?) if a suitable investor happens along (they won't want to wait three months whilst the Trust holds a referendum)*
- (ii) Perhaps a simple Trust Board majority would be enough?*

I don't claim to be familiar with company ownership business but I believe the Trust cannot shut itself off from similar interest and should therefore be ready to go "at a moment's notice"

Regards,

SD Election

Last year, we seconded Elaine Dean's nomination to the SD Board. Nigel has received a request for this year."

With regard to the AGM, TW agreed to check in the members as they arrived.

KU and JC left the meeting while the question of the Board Membership Elections was discussed.

It was proposed and duly seconded that the number of vacancies be increased to 6. This was carried.

KU and JC rejoined the meeting.

With regard to the late motion, it was confirmed that it was too late for inclusion and that JC should reply with the Board view that all members should be involved in any decision about buying or selling shares. **Action JC.**

It was agreed to be one of the nominators for Elaine Dean. Action JC.

6. Supporter Director's Report – Eric Kerry

EK sent his report.

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PD and JAH made additional comments.

7. Sub-Group Reports

a. PR

SR

SR reported that the portrait was complete and that the unveiling arrangements were with GR.

The Radio Nottingham complaint was still being looked at.

Programme notes were done and plans are for a newsletter fairly soon, highlighting the new Trust Board and the Trust Survey.

b. Community

DH

Dealt with previously under Chair's report.

c. Membership, Recruitment, Retention

TW

TW reported that renewed members are 1027 plus 42 juniors. Plans to send something to renewed people and reminders.

d. Fundraising

GR

GR reported that the Office was now sorted out. JAH said that it was timely because the Club was looking to expand the selling space in the Club Shop. GR said that the recycling initiatives could now proceed.

The Beer festival committee intended to meet.

The JS unveiling would be after Christmas with either a lunch or dinner (or both), depending on celebrity availability.

8 Any Other Business

KU reported that he had incurred expenses in his capacity as Trust Chair.

Expenses of £380 had been incurred.

It was proposed by JAH and seconded by NK that the Trust should pay the expenses. This was carried.

9. Date of Next Meeting

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At the rising of the AGM, Thursday, 18th October 2007.

The meeting ended at 10.45 p.m.