

NOTTS COUNTY SUPPORTERS TRUST



BOARD MEETING OPEN MINUTES

Meeting No.	78
Date	Tuesday 18 th March 2008
Time	8.00 p.m.
Venue	Plough Inn, St Peters Street, Nottingham
Version	1

Present

Stuart Rolley, (Chair), Peter Dennis (Treasurer), John Collin (Secretary), Eric Kerry (Supporter Director), John Armstrong-Holmes, Gareth Marklew, Glenn Rolley, Cheryl Thompson, Keri Usherwood, Trevor Woolley.

1. Apologies For Absence

Margaret Cobb, David Hindley, Nigel King, Mike Scott, Paul Whitby.

2. Meeting Agenda

Agreed.

3. Declarations of Interest

JAH, PD and EK as Directors of Blenheim 1862 Ltd.
GM as an employee of HMRC.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of Meeting 77 were accepted as a true record.

5. Officers' Reports

a. Chair — Stuart Rolley

SR brought up the following points:

1. FITC: news that DH will be appointed as a Trustee. In response to a query in DH's report, it was clarified that he would be a Trust representative.
2. Former Board Member: **Action JC/SR**
3. Supporters Club 60th anniversary 25th March 2008.
4. Newsletter: a reminder to get items to KU.
5. SR mentioned Football development grants, details posted by DH just before he went away.
6. Thanks to those who gave names and addresses of possible contact organisations to PW.

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7. Open Day: The Community Sub Group had understandably come to the view that an Open Day, of the kind previously organised, should not take place this year. There was some discussion about some sort of alternative PR exercise that was Club-based, possibly linked to a pre-season friendly. JAH said there will be new kit and new players and so some sort of event would be good. Trust Board members offered to help if the Club wished to organise something. **Action JAH, PD, EK.**

b. Treasurer – Peter Dennis

PD had published his report. Available funds amounted to £9772.94.

PD went through the accounts and pointed out that £5000 was still reserved for the Club and that money (sponsorships) was still due from the Beer Festival.

The following expenses were agreed:

PD £43.60 for sundry items.

GR £100.55 in relation to the JS function and £142.36 in relation to the Beer Festival.

CT £89.98 in relation to office furniture.

c. Secretary – John Collin

JC reported that the AGM will be on 23rd October 2008 at Meadow Lane.

JC also reported that he had still not yet arranged meetings with shareholders and the Chief Executive. **Action JC.**

6. Supporter Directors' Report – JAH

JAH gave his report.

It was moved and duly seconded that the meeting be empowered to go on after 10.30 p.m. This was agreed.

7. Sub-Group Reports

a. PR

KU

KU said he had been involved in press Releases for First Steps and Fairtrade. He had also been involved in SR's appearance on MatchTalk which went very well.

He reminded Board members about the newsletter.

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KU mentioned programme notes, the Robin Hood record, Big Spring Clean and PA where he had been involved with the Trust and the Club.

KU reported that the Sky programme had been successful and that Sally had been approached about her possibly doing more programmes.

b. Community

DH

DH, being away, had produced the following report.

"Fairtrade Fortnight

This seemed to go pretty well - thanks to everyone that helped. I have since received some positive feedback from the Oxfam Campaigns Group and the Fairtrade Working Group, both of whom are keen to work with us in future.

Personally I would like to see Notts County become the first Fairtrade Football Club. The Fairtrade Foundation don't currently have any criteria for this, but if it is similar to businesses then we only have to stock a couple of items i.e. fairtrade tea and coffee in the catering bars. It could be a USP for the club and if we can get in first, it is a title that we will always have and can use to our advantage both commercially and in developing community links.

I have posted details of the 3 winners to the list and asked them to collect their prizes from the Trust Office before one of the remaining home fixtures. In my absence I have left the prizes by the box of fairtrade stuff - there are calendars for the runners-up and a calendar, box of tea, chocolate and fairtrade book for the winner.

First Steps

We had the inaugural meeting of the First Steps community group a couple of weeks ago at Meadow Lane. We discussed a number of ideas with regards how to take the project forward. The plan at this stage is to arrange a meeting with Chris who is an IT Coordinator at the Riverside primary school in the Meadows (he e-mailed the Trust in response to the First Steps press release). I have passed on my

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subsequent correspondence with Judy Crabb from the Federation of Stadium Communities, so I hope that in my absence one of the community group will be able to elaborate at this juncture...

Storytellers of Nottingham

Pete Davis and I appeared on Radio Nottingham last Monday to promote the storytelling project and to encourage listeners to ring in with their own anecdotes. It seemed to go really well - Pete is well known at the studios and they were only too happy to give us air-time, which makes a refreshing change to relations with the RN sports team. All in all, some positive PR.

Own Goal! Anti-Racism Comic

The draft of the comic is now finished and looks brilliant. If I get time before I depart I'll upload the comic to the files bit in Yahoo. The cartoonist Brick is currently leasing with the FITC team to see how to move forward the next stage, which is 'road testing' the materials in primary schools as part of FITC's activities.

FITC

I had a conversation with Steve Hill before the Barnet game. They have received my 'application' to become a FITC trustee (thanks Stu for writing the letter). This was discussed at their last trustee meeting when they decided that they would like me to join, although it is a little unclear at this stage in what capacity (am I to represent NCST or the football club?). Steve will be writing to Stu/the football club in due course.

Finally, I have been doing a few bits and pieces for Keri, including a couple of articles for the newsletter and cobbling together a piece on fairtrade for the Barnet programme. I have also submitted some names to Paul for the letter to local businesses. All in all, a busy month!"

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

TW reported 1137 members (of whom 971 were shareholders in the Trust).

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d. Fundraising

GR

GR said there was not a lot to report this time, following a very busy period.

The DVD of the JS night is available and could be made available for promotions, e.g. with season tickets.

He mentioned the possibility of a "Trust membership opt-out" with season tickets, if the Club agreed.

8 Any Other Business

1. It was proposed and duly seconded that that the Trust has an advertising board around the pitch (at a cost of about £2000 to cover the remainder of this season and next). This was carried. Action EK.

2. TW agreed to send a Get Well card to Geoff Davey from the Trust.

3. KU mentioned he had had a contact from someone who was keen to help Notts County. He arranged to meet him later in the week with JAH.

SR reminded members that there was a SD workshop on 20th April to which MS will be going.

9. Date of Next Meeting

13 May

The meeting ended at 10.45 p.m.