

# NOTTS COUNTY SUPPORTERS TRUST



## BOARD MEETING OPEN MINUTES

Meeting No.	80
Date	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2008
Time	8.00 p.m.
Venue	Plough Inn, St Peters Street, Nottingham
Version	2

### **Present**

Stuart Rolley, (Chair), Nigel King (Vice Chair), John Collin (Secretary), John Armstrong-Holmes, Margaret Cobb, David Hindley, Gareth Marklew, Glenn Rolley, Mike Scott, Cheryl Thompson, Keri Usherwood, Paul Whitby, Trevor Woolley.

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

Peter Dennis (Treasurer), (away), Eric Kerry (Supporter Director), who would be late.

### **2. Meeting Agenda**

Agreed.

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

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

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

**The Minutes of Meeting 79 were accepted as a true record.**

### **5. Strategy Meeting**

The document resulting from the meeting at Meadow Lane and subsequent contacts of the group were reported to be due in mid June. **Action PW**

Kevin Rye from Supporters Direct, as agreed at the Board Strategy Meeting is working on a strategy document to assist the Board in its planning.

JAH mentioned Football in the Community. Board Members gave thoughts on how the community objects of the Club and the Trust could be helped by FITC.

### **6. Blenheim 1862 Ltd. Budget**

JAH said that the Club Board had circulated the draft Budget. Pre-season Forest and Stoke are lined up.

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There were comments regarding the quality of the draft. KU said that he was concerned about the mention of "profit".

In response to questions, JAH said he felt the budget income for the Commercial activities is realistic and how it is made up is immaterial. JAH said that the Centre of Excellence is separate. JAH said that last season money was spent on keeping the team in the Football League. He said that this coming season, for a variety of reasons, the squad will be smaller and tighter. There may be some loan players on year-long contracts. Broadcasting negotiations are taking place and there could be a SKY broadcast from Meadow Lane.

In response to a question about staff, JAH outlined the new structures and said that the intention is to re-brand and re-launch the Conference and Banqueting.

JAH said that the out-turn for the last financial year will be available soon and agreed to circulate it to the Trust Board. **Action JAH.**

### **7. Supporter Director Election**

JC reported the procedure previously used. **He said that since then the Board had resolved that only members who had served for at least 1 year could stand for election. It was proposed by NK and seconded by JAH that this should be rescinded. Carried.**

**It was proposed and duly seconded that Phil Tooley from Chesterfield (if willing), TW and JC should be the Election Working Group for the election of a Supporter Director and the request for ratification of the Board's actions in appointing two further Supporter Directors in September 2007. Carried.**

It was also agreed to send out the abbreviated Blenheim 1862 Ltd. accounts to those who had not received them by e-mail.

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

#### **a. Chair -- Stuart Rolley**

SR brought up the following points:

1. Strategy Meeting: should have one again.
2. Trust Board Meetings: should be at the Club.

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3. Blenheim AGM: Neither SR nor NK are available for the AGM.

**It was agreed that JC is empowered to cast the Trust vote.**

There was discussion about members attending the AGM. JAH said he will look into ways of doing this next year.

4. SR/PW will try to meet various people to tell them who we are and change perceptions where necessary.

5. Deputy Roles:  
the following volunteered to be deputies:

CT Community

GM Membership

MC PR

PW Strategy

MS Strategy

? Fundraising

SR mentioned the imminent newsletter which KU would talk about further.

JAH said that with regard to Lifeline, ways are being looked at to relaunch it. At the Forest friendly, David Johnson is to be the Guest of Honour.

**Treasurer – Peter Dennis**

PD had published his report. Available funds amounted to £5007.92.

**b. Secretary – John Collin**

*“1. Blenheim AGM will be held on Friday 27th June 2008 at 2.00 p.m. Among other things, we shall need to appoint a person to cast the Trust's vote(s) and, prudently, a deputy. Also to consider NK's comments.*

This was dealt with earlier.

*2. PD has asked me to report his expenses of £15.30, attending the SD meeting for Trust Clubs on 2/4/08, and to propose that they should be paid to him.*

**This was agreed.**

*3. FSA: PD has also asked me to introduce the following:*

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*A request to the FSA to exempt the Trust/Club from producing joint accounts, as last year, and therefore to consider/pass a resolution 'that it would involve expense or delay out of proportion to the value to the members of the society'.*

*4. I need to alert the Trust Board to a "currently hypothetical" Shadow Director issue."*

JC reported that if rumours were correct and a current Director is to leave the Board of Blenheim 1862 Ltd., then the Trust (Notts County Supporters Ltd.) will be in the position of appointing a majority of the Board. This may very well make it a "Shadow Director".

In response to questions, JC said that his may not be too onerous but care needs to be taken.

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

### **9. Supporter Directors' Report – JAH**

JAH said that most of his report had been covered earlier. The squad will travel to Austria on July 12<sup>th</sup>. July 27<sup>th</sup> is Open day.

This season there will be separate "Home" and "Away" sponsors.

The Club Shop is expanding.

### **10. Sub-Group Reports**

#### **a. PR**

**KU**

KU said that currently there were no programme notes and there has not been much stuff to publicise.

The meeting at Mansfield for Mansfield fans had gone very well.

#### **b. Community**

**DH**

*"Fairly quiet on the Community front..."*

*I have met with the Storytelling group who are now in the process of editing the final version of the book.*

*I have been in contact with the ICT coordinator at the*

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*Riverside Primary School and hope to meet up with him soon (this relates to the First Steps project).*

*I have written the evaluation report for Kick it Out for the Own Goal! comic.*

*I had a meeting with Steve Hill about becoming a FITC trustee, who is very keen for me to join. I will need to have a long think about this, particularly how the role will work with me being the NCST representative."*

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

TW reported 1140 members (of whom 974 were shareholders in the Trust, 166 juniors).

TW agreed to take over the issuing of share certificates.

**Action TW.**

### **d. Fundraising** **GR**

GR said he was looking for ways of tying together the Trust and Club fundraising efforts.

He said that whether to have a Beer Festival again needed to be considered.

GR reported 15 JS dinner DVD's had been sold.

## **11 Any Other Business**

None.

## **12. Date of Next Meeting**

To be arranged.

**The meeting ended at 10.50 p.m.**