

MINUTES OF THE CFU TRUST BOARD MEETING 3RD SEPTEMBER 2018

The CFU Trust Board (TB) met on 3rd September 2018. Present were: Robert Osbourn (Chair), Margaret Pearson, Frank Pearson (Secretary), Colin Proctor, Dave Matthew-Jones, John Bilboa, Brian Thorby, Andrew Stephen, Nigel Pearce and James Taylor.

Apologies were received from: Carol Looker, Pat Morgan. Terry Wilby, Joy Childs, Martin Chapman and Nigel Browne

The following is an abbreviated version of the minutes of the meeting.

On membership, Robert said that CFU currently had 307 members.

On finance, James said CFU has £21k across its three bank accounts at the end of August. The CFU sponsorship of the CUFC Futsal team had been paid.

On the lottery, Nigel B said it had 150 members and that the lottery would sponsor kit man Gordon Millar for the coming season.

In his SLO report DMJ noted that the CFU website now contained more supporter information than the official CUFC website. Margaret provides the information sheet for away fans coming to the Abbey. Ben Philips is the new club photographer. DMJ has received complaints about the accessible toilet in the NRE - it has now been repaired. The lottery will fund an alarm for the accessible toilet and the door will eventually be relocated. In the meantime the Supporter's Club will kindly allow fans to use the accessible toilet in the SC.

DMJ intends to arrange two more post-match meetings and is considering how more fans might be encouraged to attend. The hard work of the volunteers around the ground has continued, and has prevented the possibility of some parts of the ground being closed on H&S grounds. DMJ thinks the match day programme is getting better but there is still room for improvement. Shaun Grady and other directors will contribute articles, as will Tom Pell on the youth team.

In his FED report DMJ reported on the recent board meeting. He has met with the new Finance Director, Martin Foyle who already appears to be making a positive impact.

Robert confirmed the club has appointed Price Bailey to undertake the audit of the 2017-18 accounts. CFU is still waiting to meet with the audit team, but in the meantime we have secured the help of a CFU member who works as a finance professional to join the meeting and provide expert advice. Nigel P agreed to draft an audit meeting brief – to outline the CFU approach to the meeting and the outcomes sought – and to circulate to TB members for comment.

Nigel P presented a draft MOU between the club and fans, to outline how we will work together for our mutual benefit. The draft is based on the model prepared by Supporters Direct. The TB agreed the MOU needed a para to explain more clearly the role of the Fans Elected Director and how this fits with the MOU processes. The TB is happy for NP to continue to work on the MOU.

Under AoB:

- Frank took the opportunity to respond to comments on his minute taking. The TB accepted this and has full confidence in Frank. All TB members will have the chance to comment on each set of draft minutes;
- James asked whether CUFC could do more to make season ticket holders aware that pay-on-the-day ticket prices for cup games are more expensive than those bought in advance – DMJ will refer this to Gareth at the club;
- John asked for a future discussion on whether CFU should insist on receiving shares in return for all types of investments it makes in the club;
- Andrew stressed the importance that the Amber News is not censored, and the TB agreed. DMJ asked that the player ratings used in AN are baselined at 5/10. NP suggested that hard copies could be sold at the CFU caravan.