

**Minutes of the 22nd CFU AGM held on 25th April 2022 in the Supporters' Club,
Newmarket Road, Cambridge**

Welcome by Andrew Stephen (CFU Chair)

Part 1

Mark Bonner

Greg Taylor

Ian Mather

Godric Smith

Ben Strang

Part 2

The 'top' table consisted of the following:

Andrew Stephen (Chairman, CFU)

Frank Pearson (CFU Secretary)

There were approximately 40 CFU members in the audience.

CFU ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Part 1

Q & A with Mark Bonner, Ben Strang, Godric Smith, Greg Taylor and Ian Mather compered by Robert Osbourn .

A summary has already been issued separately.

Part 2

CFU AGM

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Gina Heath, Derek Agar, Leanne Huff, Terry Wilby, Simon Hollamby

2. MINUTES OF CFU AGM 2021

Available on CFU website. Accepted.

3. CFU ANNUAL REPORT-ANDREW STEPHEN

- Sad to report the death of Mark Stuart-Wood, a Trust Board member from 2006 -11
- There's no obvious Club crisis currently, but there's still much for CFU to do
- Membership is growing after a decline
- We're better communicators this year e.g. publishing minutes, issuing regular statements
- We congratulated Mark Bonner and the team on promotion last season
- Another entirely unexpected achievement was buying back the ground. Well done Paul Barry and associates
- Enthusiastic response to Shadow Board concept
- CFU Corner in match day programme
- We cherish our history and traditions and support the Hall of Fame
- Still need to encourage young people and women to join Trust Board

- Sponsor 2 players from the Women's Team
- Support Amber Belles
- Opened dialogue with local Mosque
- Concerns for provision for elderly, vulnerable and disabled at the ground
- Working with CUCT e.g. financial support for Football for All sessions
- Without Gina and DMJ there would have been no Away Travel buses this season
- Improved relationship with CUSP
- Supported Fans Led Review
- Have agreed to remove our FED in favour of Shadow Board
- DMJ remains as SLO and has agreed to continue as FED until the Shadow Board is set up. Thanks for all his work
- CUFC will be first EFL club to set up a Shadow Board. Our thanks go to Godric Smith
- No better time to join CFU

4. MEMBERSHIP REPORT (Robert Osbourn)

In Terry Wilby's absence, Robert read the following report:

At the AGM in July 2021 the membership was 326. This was an increase on the previous year due in the main to the change in membership prices earlier in the year. The upsurge has continued, and currently membership is 363.

Breakdown of the 363 is:

- 109 are Life members,
- 168 are Adults,
- 58 are OAPs,
- 27 are young adults (16 to 25).

Historically membership increases during times of crisis. Currently CUFC is a stable operation. Who knows what the future holds? It would be really good to increase the number of young fans becoming members, after all, they are the future, and as the saying goes, we are only custodians, and trying to make sure there is a club to support when we are gone!

Most of you will have seen the emails I send out, roughly 1 a week or before matches. If I get an Undeliverable message I will attempt to contact you by phone or text, so it is important to make sure the details on our system are up to date. The emails give a link to your data on the system so you can change it yourself, or send me an email and I'll change it for you. If you find something you think members might like to see in the email then please let me know so I can include it.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT (Paul Moffatt)

Copies of the CFU annual financial statement at 31st August 2021 had been circulated. Another fantastic year. We spent £13.5k on scoreboards.

- Paul asked for approval of the accounts. Given.
- Paul put the following Full Audit Exemption resolution to the meeting: 'It is hereby resolved that subject to the provision of section 4A of the 1968 Friendly and Industrial Accounts covering the current financial year ending on 31st August 2022 when they are presented to the next AGM. The members of the Society agree that the Accounts for the following AGM do not require a full Audit provided that an Independent Examination is carried out in place of the full audit, the Independent Examination is carried out in line with best practice and a report from the

Independent Examiner is included within the Accounts and circulated to members'. Agreed.

- Paul asked that Clifford Towers be re-appointed as Independent Examining Accountant, this was agreed overwhelmingly by a show of hands.

6 FED Report (DMJ)

Dave gave an overview of fans' engagement over the past 26 years:

- Supporters Club / Cambridge & District Sportsman's Guild/ VP Club/ Abbey Action
- CUSA : set up in 1996
- CFU / Supporters Trust : set up 1999 with aims:
 1. Bring Club and Community together
 2. Be independent of the Club, but work with it
 3. Raise funds for the Club
 4. Bring Cambridge United fans together
 5. Represent the views of fans to the Club
 6. Gain an influence for fans over the future of the Club, and safeguard it from harm
 7. Support the Club in all ways possible.

Although not always successfully, these 7 principles have been adhered to.

Fans' engagement has included

- Fans Elected Director
- CUSP
- Supporters Liaison Officer

Supporters Direct became Football Supporters' Association which led to the Fans Led Review. Past, present and future is covered by Coconuts, CUSP and CFU.

7 TRUST BOARD

- Members continuing: Dave Matthew Jones, Margaret Pearson, Gina Heath, Paul Moffatt, Leanne Huff, Ben Phillips, Carl Badcock, Andrew Stephen, Colin Proctor, Robert Osbourn, Alex Nix and Emma Smith
- Nigel Browne and Terry Wilby stood down by rotation and were re-appointed
- Martin Chapman resigned during the year
- New nominated member: Anouska Wright
- Frank Pearson will continue as secretary to the CFU Trust Board

8 Away Travel Report (Robert Osbourn)

In Gina Heath's absence, Robert read the following report:

Our aim was to provide an alternative option for fans to travel to away matches. We have succeeded in running 26 coaches to all away games, apart from Stevenage and Rotherham in the Papa Johns Trophy (as not enough interest). We have been able to achieve this without making a financial loss. We would like to thank our sponsors for their support over the season: East Sussex U's, Robert Osbourn, Worcester U's and the CUFC Lottery. We took advice on our pricing policy from other football clubs who run away travel (Carlisle were particularly helpful) and our coach company Greys of Ely, and elected to charge the same price per seat for everyone. We put in place a Permission to Travel Form for 16 & 17 year olds after taking advice. Travelling during Covid brought some additional challenges. We checked vaccine passports or passengers without had to provide proof of

a negative lateral flow test, reported via the NHS App, 48 hours before travel. Lots of people informed us they had covid a couple of days before travel and sometimes on the day. Full refunds have been issued to people reporting that they or a family member had covid.

This season we have sold in excess of 1450 seats and had over 300 different people using the service. We have used an 85 seater double decker on 8 occasions, and took 4 coaches to Newcastle including a double decker. We hope to build on this next season. Finally, thanks must go to our 300 plus passengers for using our service, Grey's of Ely for being so professional and flexible with our bookings, Tamzin Beck for helping Dave Matthew-Jones and myself with the stewarding of the coaches, and to Colin Proctor and Robert Osbourn for their help stewarding the Newcastle coaches.

9 100 YEARS OF COCONUTS (Dave Matthew-Jones)

This year 100yearsofcoconuts is celebrating its tenth anniversary. It was originally created to commemorate the club's centenary 2012. At the beginning it was set up to be only an online museum, however since its conception it has evolved into far more than just a website. We need to thank the contribution and help of many supporters since then for its evolution. We are also grateful to the Heritage Lottery Fund for providing the funding that allowed its rapid progress.

In addition to being online it now boasts the following –

- a permanent location located in the Supporters' Club
- it holds one of the largest collections of Cambridge United programmes. Looking in particular for Abbey United and pre-1970 programmes
- it holds one of the largest collections of Cambridge United shirts some of which are on view in the Dublin Suite
- it has a large collection of Cambridge United memorabilia which has been donated
- it has also expanded into using social media via Facebook, twitter & You Tube
- published a series of books that tells the story of Cambridge United written by Andrew Bennett
- created the Former Players Association
- organises the Hall of Fame inductees and functions
- help with queries via other historic groups, ex-player families, supporters, media and other sources
- United programme articles - Memories Down Cut Throat Lane Way, "10 to tackle" quiz
- still maintaining the 100yearofcoconut website

Moving forwards the group are looking to –

- take part in a project to design a new badge working in collaboration with the club
- produce a fifth and maybe sixth Celery and Coconuts book
- continue scanning the Light Blue copies held by the club and uploading onto the web site
- continue uploading Andrew Bennett's match reports onto the website
- hold another Hall of Fame function in Nov 2022
- investigate the future possibilities concerning the Church of St Andrew the Less
- transfer Coconuts monies from the CFU account back into the Coconuts on
- continue doing all current list of activities

What we need – Resource to help with the above and for people to write articles for the website.

For the website to be constantly updated it needs writers to submit factual items. We are told there are lots of writers but never seem to have anything being given to us.

10 LOTTERY REPORT (Nigel Browne)

Re-launched in October 2021 . Membership was 196. Current Membership is 272 .

Two weekly Draws - Must Win Monday, The Abbey Accumulator for £2

Finances as of March 2022

- Total £34,218.85
- Prizes £22,176.89

- Costs £1,298.56
- Distribution £10,743.40

Benefits to supporters

- Provided a new fibre link around the ground
- Purchased new seats for blocks C, E and Executive box
- Provided funding for the NRE tannoy replacement speaker
- Purchased a new all-terrain emergency wheelchair
- Purchased a new bucket stretcher
- New direction signage at the ground
- Scoreboards big success and very popular with supporters
- Flagpoles when teams come onto the pitch

Benefits to the community

- Cyrenean Allotment Group donation
- Abbey Action Foodbank donation
- Christmas Dinners

11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

The meeting closed at 9.36 pm, a raffle having been held.