

**Minutes of the 19th CFU AGM held on 8th April 2019 in the Supporters' Club,
Newmarket Road, Cambridge**

Part 1

Robert Osbourn (Chairman, CFU)
Colin Calderwood
Ben Strang
Steve Jackson of Radio Cambridgeshire

Part 2

The 'top' table consisted of the following:

Robert Osbourn (Chairman, CFU)
James Taylor (CFU Treasurer)
Frank Pearson (CFU Secretary)
Dave Matthew-Jones (FED)

There were approximately 50 CFU members in the audience.

CFU ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Part 1

1. Robert Osbourn opened the 19th CFU AGM at 7.30pm by welcoming members to the meeting.

2. Q & A with Colin Calderwood and Ben Strang, compered by Steve Jackson

- Q1. Tell us about your playing career and how the game has changed.
CC I played expansive football under Ardiles and Hoddle, quite the opposite to Wimbledon and Beck's CUFC. There have been significant rule changes and attitudes to racism.
- Q2. Looking at Spurs' new stadium, how would you like to have played there?
CC It's inspiring, with improved facilities and pitches. It's an audience sport but I enjoy the honesty and endeavour at League 2 level.
- Q3. You scored one goal for Scotland. Talk us through it.
CC Euro 96 Qualifier, my 2nd match at the age of 29. An in-swinging cross, met with a diving header to give the 2nd goal against San Marino.
- Q4. Grimsby away was an outstanding performance with quality passing football. Can you make it the norm?
CC Yes, my way is passing, but it has to be with penetration. At Grimsby we were stubborn when they had the ball and got them worried when we had it. It was similar at Bury.

Questions from floor:

- Q5. MK Dons away. What did you have to do following that game?
CC It was simple. Cope with crosses. Don't be fragile. Let's go back to simplicity. Always try to score the next goal.

- Q6. How far down the recruitment process for next season are you?
 BS We're waiting until we are safe. There is a list, we meet every 2 weeks and plan to add new faces.
 CC Recruitment is constantly evolving. Managers change, targets change. I'm very happy with the situation .
- Q7. We have 3 players on loan. Are they in your plans?
 CC No. Parent clubs have all the say.
- Q8. What about our youngsters?
 BS Ben Worman and Joe Neal are committed. I'm happy with the Academy, it's improving. Harry Darling and Leon Davies have played significant numbers of games this season. Need to be careful not to overplay young players.
 .
- Q9 Harry Darling is whole-hearted. How do you aim to bring him on further?
 CC It's his responsibility to force his way into the team. I expect he will fulfil your expectations in the next 12 months. Once we're safe I'll stick him back in.
- Q10 What do you need to do to make next season less torrid?
 CC Before the end of this season, I 'll play people who haven't played. I'll experiment with shapes and players. Easter programme will ensure variation
- Q11 Why tweak a winning side?
 CC Young players can fade if playing Saturday/Tuesday/Saturday.
- Q12 David Amoo has only completed a few 90minutes. Comment?
 CC He has an explosive action that cannot be sustained. Robustness is building up.
- Q13 How would you describe your management style eg at half time?
 CC Not so aggressive these days, rarely rant and rave. More aggressive on training pitch when I see standards slip.
- Q14 How far down the line for next season?
 BS We learnt a lot this season, but need to shake things up. Lots of players are out of contract. Need to start the season well.
- Q15 How close are you to getting a squad in your own image?
 CC A distance away. Need to be more consistent on the pitch. Next pre-season will be important.

CFU AGM

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Brian Thorby, Ian Pluck and Patricia Williams

2. MINUTES OF CFU AGM 2017

Happy with Minutes.

3. **REVIEW OF THE YEAR – ROBERT OSBOURN**

The report is attached.

DMJ responded by saying that

- football has changed in the 20 years of CFU.
- Supporters' Direct have helped but are no longer operative. FSA will be change-makers, meeting with EFL, writing to MPs etc.
- SLO role has become more important
- Things are becoming increasingly difficult. We need to attract new blood and younger members

Andrew Stephens: There seems to be confusion between CUSP and CFU. One difference is that CFU put pressure on Board to get an Audit. CFU as a pressure group should be asking awkward questions. If we don't believe CUFC Board is working properly we must use rational argument to force change. He was applauded by the meeting.

Joy Childs: As major shareholders we should make a fuss.

DMJ reminded the meeting that Duncan Foyle is now competently looking after the accounts.

Question: Has anyone taken responsibility to create/increase all types of revenue?

People are employed to do this. CFU used to do it eg South Stand Initiative which was taken over by club and disappeared. Junior Us, marketing and sponsorship – there is room to improve.

4. **MEMBERSHIP REPORT (TERRY WILBY)**

Membership currently stands at 267 + 3 renewals: a downward trend. The peak was over 500 for the Manchester United game. Hopefully Part 3 will result in a message which will reverse this trend

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT (James Taylor)**

Copies of the CFU annual financial statement at 31st August 2018 were available for members. James went through the report page by page. Questions could be taken by e-mail and he would respond.

- James asked for approval of the accounts. Given.
- James 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 2018 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.
- James asked that Clifford Towers be re-appointed as Independent Examining Accountant, this was agreed unanimously by a show of hands.

At this point Dave Matthew Jones said that Lionel Webb, who was instrumental in the setting up of CFU, has died. A minute's silence was held for those in CFU who had passed away during the year.

6 ELECTION OF CFU TRUST BOARD

- John Bilboa, Dave Matthew Jones, Margaret Pearson, , Joy Childs, Carol Looker, Robert Osbourn, Colin Proctor, Nigel Pearce and Andrew Stephen (+ Frank Pearson, Secretary) continue in membership.
- Martin Chapman, Nigel Browne, James Taylor, Pat Morgan and Terry Wilby stood down by rotation and were re-elected
- Also elected was Richard Toombs.
- Not continuing: Brian Thorby.
- Dave Matthew Jones remains as FED.

7 100 YEARS OF COCONUTS REPORT (PAT MORGAN)

This is the heritage arm of CFU and PM reports at every meeting of the CFU Trust Board. RO thanked PM for his enthusiasm over many years.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Ian Darler's book is out in July.

PART 3 THE FUTURE OF CFU

9 Discussion about CFU in the future (Nigel Pearce)

- Hold club to account to ensure survival
- Balance between what CFU does and what it reports. Need to go public on points raised
- Problems with confidentiality
- Communication with club has not been a CFU priority
- Perceived as too reverential and subservient. Need to be critical friend
- EFL say must have 2 fans' forums a year. We've only had one – must get second,
- Buy a Player fund? Refused in past.
- Interactions between players and sponsors? If we sponsor, should get some .
- Access to CFU caravan from Habbin no longer possible
- Is CUSP creation a divide and rule gimmick? Let 2 chairmen meet regularly
- CUSP deal with spectator welfare; CFU with running of club
- Need to hold club to account and help club
- Volunteers have been lost over the years
- Must drive membership up and blow own trumpet to reconnect with fans

Ideas from the floor:

- Get CFU form out with Season Ticket renewals/applications
- Don't wait for CFU meeting – send ideas in
- Suggestion box in Caravan
- Ensure casual fans know what CFU do and have done e.g. around the ground
- Gazebo behind the Habbin

- CFU board to go to Exeter City to see best practice and bring it back
- Can we do a survey to see who knows we exist?
- CFU presence in Main Stand and Habbin
- Paul Mayes: Use Supporters' Club to distribute CFU leaflets
- Currently this year's loss is unknown. When loss is revealed, need to say how we will follow this up (JB)
- Andrew G has offered to include an article from CFU in the Cambridge News (DMJ)

NP to incorporate ideas into draft CFU Aims and Objectives.

The meeting closed at 10.15pm.