

CFU AGM 27th March 2023

Prepared from notes taken, so not verbatim. **A recording is available via CFU website:** <https://www.cambridgefansunited.org/cfu-agm-2023-video/>

Top table: Alex Tunbridge, Jenny Horsfield, Darren Marjoram and Mark Bonner

Compere: Mike Barnes

Q1: Do not know if we're League 1 or 2 next year: how does this affect finances?

AT: Centralised funding will be reduced with just a small parachute payment. Away fans at the Abbey will reduce. We're planning for both.

MB: We'll finish the last 9 games as best we can. I've challenged the players to hold on until the last week. It's my 14th season here in my second spell and the club has never been more stable. Therefore no panic.

Q2: CFU Treasurer: £1,000,000 shares were sold in February. Who bought them?

AT: The ownership group of Paul Barry +.

Q3: What are the ethical values driving each of you?

MB: Values drive how you work and treat people. All employees subscribe to the Club values; there are Team values and an individual's own values. Responsibility to represent the club properly.

JH: Impressed with ethical values on joining CUCT 7 years ago.

AT: Impressed by Paul Barry and no crypto/ no betting. The club is cemented in the community. We aim to leave the club better than when we came in.

Team work. Hard work. Humility.

DM: Values are important . Need to be aligned so all can buy into them.

Q4: The Lionesses' world cup win: has it impacted CUFC women's team?

DM: Yes. More 7/8 year old girls which will translate into benefits. people approach us now. There are links with schools but we must be better. It has been good to play games at the Abbey as part of CUFC.

Q5: Where do we sit on the pyramid?

DM: 1. Women's Super League

2. Women's Championship

3. National League south/north

4. National League South East Division 1 is where we play.

Q6: The Posh game is soon. we remember how the Away match went. What is being planned to ensure fan safety?

AT: Working on it with the police since October: increased stewarding, searching and police numbers ;ticketing checks; early kick-off. No control of things beyond the stadium.

JH: Fan safety is our priority.

Q7: Any news on development of Stadium?

AT: Progressing. Conversations and legalities on-going. Main focus is on Training Ground. Habbin first, then NRE + new Ticket office and new Club Shop. Need more family and disabled facilities and more seats.

Q8: Named and shamed fans have 3 year bans. Are we adding to this?

AT: No decision as yet.

Q9: Last season Mark Bonner wanted a relatively small squad. Good idea?

MB: We've never had more players; we've never had more injuries.

We have a small budget compared to other clubs.

Q10: We understand why we couldn't keep Paul Mullin and Jack Iredale, but why did Wes go?

MB: My decision. Not financial. Looked to Harvey Knibbs and Jack Lancaster.

Q11: The U-18s have been scoring goals. Ours haven't. Should we use these youngsters?

MB: The U-18s have been brilliant. Big jump to the 1st team and the gap has grown. Timing important factor. In my opinion none is ready now. Our youngsters are on loan at our highest ever level.

Q12: Are we trying to hold on to any of our youth?

MB: Can't speak on individual contracts. We want to develop an U-21s group.

Q13: Fans Led Review: How would you like the Shadow Board to develop?

JH: Delighted it's up and running. Productive and constructive. Need to ensure board is diverse and representative of whole fan base.

Q14: What was the reason for closing Habbins for an FA Cup game?

AT: Operational costs – stewarding and catering. Mid-week in November is expensive. 55% of gate receipts go.

Q15: Will stewarding be reviewed at the end of season?

AT: Already raised by Shadow Board and SLO. Objects were thrown at 5 consecutive games. 3 letters from FA and a fine. We had to take action. That has worked and will continue. Also SAG raised Counter-Terrorism issues. We will review.

Q16: Hummel out of business and Mick George left. How is this affecting the club?

AT: Hummel contract cancelled. New kit deal signed – but no delivery until mid-July. Mick George association will continue in a smaller way. New sponsor deal signed.

Q17: There is a rumour of the redesign of the club badge.

AT: This is protected by the Golden Share. Need to work out how our Golden Share will operate.

Q18: Is 2nd season syndrome real?

MB: No, but there are stats for and against. Last season was drama free. Momentum to continue year on year is not easy.

Q19: Did we choose our mascots recently as it was Autism Acceptance Week?

MB: No, it was EFL Inclusion Day. We want to be a place where people want to be.

Q20: Do you know we have a landmark next season?

No.

Our 2000th league game is the 4th game of the season.

Our 3rd home game will be the 1000th home game in the league.

Action: Doug Shulman please check!