

Minutes of the CFU Monthly Meeting held on 6th December 2006 at the Cambridge Joint Ex-Services Club, Barnwell Drive, Cambridge.

1) Attendees & Apologies

1. Present:

Dave Matthew-Jones (Chair),	Brian Attmore,	Derek Wick (Treasurer),
Colin Proctor,	Carol Looker,	Martin Jordan,
Andrew Lang	Justyn Medd,	Robert Osbourn,
Anton Thacker,	Lorna Morley-Medd,	Ben Yelton,
Carolyn Cater,	Terry Wilby (Minutes)	

2. Apologies: Jon Keane.

3. Guests: Will Jones, Ben Phillips, Henry Millward, Shane Kind.

2) Last months Minutes/Matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting were taken as read.

3) Financial

1. Derek reported:

- Approx £12k in the bank. There are some cheques to clear which will leave the balance around £10k.
- Approx. £1k in Paypal account, Carol also had some money to pay in, as did Terry from the 5-a-side tournament
- Cheque signatories documentation had been completed by Martin, but was outstanding by Justyn and Terry. **Action: Justyn, Terry.**
- Cheques were to be written that evening to pay for CFU sponsorship of £250 for the recent Youth Tranmere match, £50 for Playing for Success and £300 for the South Stand initiative.

Derek is preparing the financial year end information; he hopes to have it completed early in the New Year.

4) Membership

1. Derek reported that Eleanor had not been able to give current membership numbers.

2. Robert reported on the results of the questionnaire:

- Little to add from the previous report,
 - A disappointing number of returns,
 - Expected moans:
 - Tannoy
 - Food
 - Lack of newsletter
 - CFU do not do a very good job representing the fans.
 - A report was being prepared to go in a match programme
- #### 3. Justyn had found a website that would allow online surveys that might make it easier to get feedback, it was noted that many fans do not have access to a PC.
- #### 4. Dave commented that at the St. Albans game sandwiches were available at the tea bars, however they did not sell very well and sandwiches would not be available in the future.

- 5) CFU AGM
 1. Terry had written to the Supporters Club, but had not yet received a reply. Dave commented that he had seen Paul Mayes and had been told the 19th February was OK.
 2. The meeting would be as before, the first part to be the formal CFU business, followed by a Q & A with one or more club officials. Jimmy Quinn would be asked, that way he could see what CFU was all about.
 3. The AGM documentation (Agenda and covering letter with committee member nomination form) would have to be posted by the end of January, which meant that the content would have to be confirmed early in January 2007.
 4. In the past a Newsletter has been included, Ben Yelton agreed to produce a newsletter. **Action: Ben Yelton**
 5. Address labels from the membership database would be needed, and volunteers had offered to stuff envelopes.
 6. Dave had arranged that envelopes could be taken to Bar Hill Royal Mail office where their staff would attach stamps.
 7. The CUFC AGM was expected to be on 29th January 2007.
- 6) Events
 1. Calendar (Dave):
 - Unfortunately there was no signing session last Saturday
 - Signing at Grafton Centre (in association with N & P) arranged for 21st December. Colin would need details of CFU insurance.
 - Orders can be made through the website, however there was a query about the HelpCFU website, Dave has administrator rights and would check it. Ben to send Dave details of donations/payments.
 2. 5-a-side (Terry):
 - 10 teams confirmed and paid so far, more expected soon. Moosenet had yet to confirm.
 - All the teams that competed in the summer adult tournament had been emailed.
 - Dave to check what medals are left over from the Summer tournaments.
 - Asked if a player would be available for the trophy presentations.
 3. Xmas Raffle (Carol):
 - Tickets had been printed and passed to Carol and would be sold as soon as possible.
 - Stuart had not yet confirmed if his group would sell tickets.
 - Shane commented that all Youth Development players are expected to sell 2 books worth.
 4. New Years Eve Party (Carolyn):
 - Ryan has produced an advertising poster,
 - There will be kids entertainment,
 - £5 in advance, £7 on the door,
 - information in the next match programme,
 - Posters on Abbey ward notice boards,
 - Will has addresses of those who requested free ticket, the same people may be interested.
 5. Norwich & Peterborough (Dave):
 - Were pleased with the response to the cross bar challenge, and would repeat in the future.

- About 90 people have signed up for the account.
 - Paul Barry had asked CFU to keep pushing the account.
6. Marketing Group (Dave):
- First meeting would be next week.
- 7) CFU Youth
1. Ben and Henry reported:
- A gig at the Man on the Moon was being arranged for 12th January, leaflets would be given out at the next home games
 - A new fanzine is being considered, edited by Henry/Claire/Ben, any articles would be considered. Previous fanzine editors Matt and Owen had been contacted for information and advice.
- 8) South Stand initiative
1. Will reported on the South Stand initiative:
- 40 people volunteered for the leaflet drop for free tickets to the Burton game to residents in the Queen Edith/Cherry Hinton/Coleridge areas on 19th November, it had gone very well except for running out of leaflets, 8,000 had been printed.
 - So far valid applications for 1,083 tickets had been received, including 50 from Addenbrookes, which was an amazing response.
 - Hoped for 1,500 in total.
 - Tesco's at Fulbourn had put leaflets meant for staff on a public counter which meant some applications had been refused.
 - Entertainment at the Burton game was proving to be difficult to arrange, the Samba band was suggested, also the Netherhall School band which is in the target area, and the Netherhall Majorettes.
 - Will has a top secret idea for use at future games.
 - A number of people used their half price ticket voucher for the Oxford game, however that would not be continued in the near future as it was difficult for turnstile staff to administer.
 - Promised £500 sponsorship from Renford Sergeant for the Burton game.
 - Brian commented that although the football result had not been good, he had received a lot of positive feedback on the initiative.
- 9) Fans Director report
- Brian reported:
1. Planning:
- Planning for the car rental site at the front of the ground was up for review (original planning permission was for car sales which had to be amended), he expected it to pass.
 - Detailed costs on moving the club offices to a 2 storey modular building were going on. The building would be sited backing onto the NRE terrace, club shop would be on the ground floor, the offices on the first floor, which, due to the height difference would be at the same level as the NRE terrace.
 - Brewery deal with Greene King has finished, negotiations are going on with other brewery groups. It may be possible to have a bar in the South Stand (similar style to that at Forest Green Rovers), an interior designer was due to visit. This may mean the South Stand is for home fans.

2. Bideawhile and ground buyback:
 - 3 solicitors had confirmed the NRE redevelopment as originally planned was not viable.
 - With planning permission some things (such as Section 106, contribution to the local community) may have to be paid in advance.
 - Going ahead with the buyback, however there would be risks due to the costs involved.
 - CUFC would have to show the money is available for the buy-back, and that leases have been signed.
 - Media information on the ground buy-back will have to be carefully managed.
 - CEN seem to be behind the club.
3. Possible proposal to raise the 20% maximum share holding:
 - Brian felt that the proposal should not be put forward in January, with 6 ex-directors (including Roger Hunt and Gerald Lowe) having 27% of shares it would potentially not be easily passed with the required 75%.
 - A board decision has not yet been made.
 - The proposal from CFU to remove the minimum shareholding has been received by the CUFC Board.
4. Supporters Direct meeting:
 - Brian and Dave had met with Kevin Rye (supporters Direct) and Rab Crangle of Cambridge City Trust in London.
 - Rab said at the meeting he had no issues with CFU.
 - Rab had said a CUFC director (Phil Law) had been working outside his remit and promised to bring supporting documentation to the meeting. No documentation was given. Brian commented that he may have seen an email in which Phil Law had done a feasibility study on a possible ground share, which included costs of cleaning, bar stocktaking etc.
 - There seems to be an argument at CCFC on who approached who first on a possible ground share.
 - Rab confirmed he is a CCFC Director, but asked that it be kept quiet at that time.
 - Rab was asked if he wanted CFU to do something, there was no answer, but he admitted using Martin (Jordan).
 - Rab seems to want the survival of CCFC, he is believed to have been involved for the past 5 years.
 - In the past CCFC had played all their games away from home when they did not have a ground to play at.
 - Dave and Brian were not very happy with the role of Kevin Rye in the matter, as he seemed to be acting wholly for one side, a Trust that seems not to be open or democratic, yet he is the case officer representing both sides. Brian was going to write to SD giving his views.
 - The feeling was that CFU should leave CCFC to get on with what they want themselves.

10) AOB

1. Martin:

- Had received a phone call from John Bovis asking if a lost Youth Tournament medal could be replaced. Martin agreed to email Dave with the details, he would contact Coopers.

2. Colin:

- Had raised £183 to help fund a youth players operation.

3. Terry:

- Asked if everyone agreed to continue using CJESC for meeting. This was agreed, so he would send a letter asking that CFU be allowed to continue.
- Had a phone call from Cambridge City Council concerning the Youth Tournament grant, asking for the name of competing teams. He had agreed to send a list to them.

4. Dave:

- Asked for help putting the caravan back on matchdays.
- Had paid for money counting machines for CUFC
- Has purchased marketing software for CUFC.

The meeting closed at 9:15pm.

Next Scheduled Meeting:

The next regular monthly meeting scheduled for Wednesday 3rd January 2007 at the Cambridge Joint Ex-Services Club.