

Minutes of CFU Committee Meeting held on Monday 4th August 2003
at the Golden Hind, Cambridge

Present: Nick Pomery (Chair)
Graham Whiting
Heather Wilkanowski
Terry Wilby
Derek Wick
Eleanor Wick
Barry Eley
Carol Looker
Mark Saywell
Ben Yelton
Justyn Medd
Lionel Webb (Sec)

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Dave, Brian, Alan, and Martin.

2. Minutes of previous meeting (held on 2nd July at the Golden Hind)

Approved as an accurate record.

Thanks go to Mark for their preparation.

3. Finance

In the period under review, CFU received almost £800 in member pledges. Our net assets stand at ca £88,000, made up of £62,000 in CUFC shares and over £26,000 cash. A full analysis had been circulated and the committee thanked Derek for another excellent set of figures.

The Prediction Competition is seen as a good earner and Eleanor is keen for everyone that she has sent the form to should try hard with their friends and workmates to get maximum entries. Lionel will have copies done ready for the Gillingham game.

Martin's efforts were congratulated, cumulatively yielding £794 from programme sales as well as £66 from Marvyn book sales.

The Golf Day had yielded £460, another good result.

4. Membership

Numbers had risen to 440 but were starting to fall. The Membership Group will be meeting soon and action will be taken regarding lapsed members.

The CEN application form, with the first of Ben's fortnightly features, brought 12 new members. It will be repeated in a forthcoming issue. Heather reported that the CEN were full of praise for Ben's column, also commended by the committee.

The Membership Group have taken on the preparation of a new up-to-date brochure and their suggestion that a new 7yo member should be on the cover

presenting a cheque to Gary Harwood, has been approved. This will be progressed by the Membership Team at their forthcoming meeting. It was agreed that the brochure is important and must be given time to get a good end-result. The Membership Group will report back on this but, in the meantime, we have a stock of Flyers which we can use at the events.

As a general point, it was felt that it would be a good idea to send a Direct Debit form to new members with the welcome letter.

5. Marvyn Costume

At the Open Day, the response of fans to requests for donations, in return for calendars and photographs, was fantastic. With raffle returns, CFU collected about £500 and a further £50 was received, collected by FIC on the Boing machine. The new costume is ordered and we should have a bucket collection, the Hull game on 25th August is a Bank Holiday Monday and should be well-attended. There should be a feature in the press as well as a special OWA on the subject.

6. Communications

6.1 CFU/CUFC Meeting

The Club are happy for us to do a 2004 calendar and this is being progressed by Eleanor and her mum on the creative side.

Nick said that the club would like us to help with Golden Gamble ticket sales. We are uncertain about the areas which need covering, eg there is a seller close to the spot where the CFU trailer was/will be parked. There was also, last season, a very enthusiastic seller in the Habbin. He may have stopped.

ACTION: Nick to identify needs and canvas support amongst members (done).

6.2 CFU Shed for Habbin

Nick has also been investigating costs for a CFU shed which would live, securely, in the Habbin. It looks as though the expenditure would be ca £190. It was considered appropriate to use CFU funds in this way, so as to help our efforts in that area.

ACTION: Martin is organising a rota and will identify the most cost-effective solution

6.3 Fanzine

It has been agreed with Franco that we will prepare an adult fanzine, which will alternate with Planet Amber. Steve Jillings will edit it, also a newsletter.

ACTION: Ben will talk to John Keane/ Steve about these publications

7. Events

7.1 Fixture List Posters

Dave has made excellent progress and was unable to stay at our meeting because he was so busy, getting stuff ready for the printers to do 10 posters. This is a brilliant

performance by Dave and his team, working in the different areas. Next, as Dave has already publicised, comes the work involved in getting the posters placed in the pubs, takeaways, colleges and company noticeboards, so that advertisers can see their details are being displayed in the right places. Of course, it is hoped that the fixture lists will bring more people through the gates.

7.2 Mountain Climb

As was well-publicised, Justyn and the team did fantastically well, not only achieving the 3 Peaks Climb but with time to spare!

ACTION: Justyn to report to the next meeting the results of the sponsorship.

7.3 Golf Day

Eleanor reported that all went well, we had a full field, everything was very well-organised, including the supply of excellent and plentiful nourishment. Thanks in particular go to Eleanor and also to everyone who helped on the day.

7.4 CUFC Open Day

CFU participated in the Open Day on 27th July, with a stand concentrating on membership. As well as handing out many flyers, kindly produced by Nightingales, We did sign up 2 people on the day, including Harry Habbin, with whom discussions have been going for some time!

On the stand, we ran a Spruce the Moose campaign, with Carol doing her good stuff with raffles and photos and calendars being offered in exchange for a donation. In all, around £500 was collected!

A main feature of the day was the launch of the new shirt and it was very pleasing to learn at the end that the club had taken £10,000 for their commercial offerings.

7.5 Adult Tournament

There will be 16 teams involved, drawn from Supporters' Trusts in the region.

Terry called for volunteers to help on 17th August and Heather noted details.

Ben has subsequently issued an action plan and everything is well in hand.

See also 7.6.

7.6 Youth Tournament

After the visit to the Cottenham Youth Tournament, it became clear that they well out of the catering, because they do it themselves, buying rolls from a local supplier, keeping it simple and charging £1 per burger, hot dog etc. We may have to spend £150 on large BBQs but the return would justify it. Rental of a unit is also being looked at by Justyn. Graham will ask his local about borrowing their gear.

Lionel has completed the proposal form for CFU to get Public Liability Insurance, also Employers' Cover for cases where people might act on our behalf.

ACTION: Lionel to complete the process with CIS.

8. Trailer

It is great that the club has offered the loan of a trailer to act as our base. Investigations were underway regarding security but it is hoped that it can be moved in and out of the fenced area as needed. It is hoped that the club will assign a steward or two to do this. The trailer is CUFC property and is insured. All were agreed that this is a very welcome development. Eleanor is working on a rota so that she and Derek do not do trailer duty for all games. Volunteers are coming forward.

9. AOB

9.1 Spekkles Sunglasses

The club has approved us selling CUFC sunglasses on our website. The fan orders, there is a link to Spekkles, who deal with the order. The cost is £6 per pair, of which CFU would get £2.50. Each month, they send our commission through. We could buy some stock at £6 to sell at the ground – our commission would still come through. It needs someone with website skills to follow up and get the link built to Spekkles.
ACTION: Ben, is this something John Keane could follow up?

9.2 Darren Quinton Sponsorship

All present were agreed that we would like, as a group of individuals, to continue. A collection was made of £10 per head, held by Derek, who would welcome contributions from colleagues unable to get to the meeting.

9.3 Payment to CFU on the Internet

York City set up a system with WorldPay when they were in crisis and needed a lot of money in a very short time. It may be that Paypal could offer some benefits but WorldPay are on the Science Park and we could tap into York's experience.
Action: Barry to talk to York's Mike Brown (mobile: 07786 881910).

10. Next Meeting

At the Golden Hind on 3rd September, at 8pm.
It was agreed that the meeting will be made open for representatives of other Supporters' groups.

Action: Nick to invite CUSA, Supporters Club, VP Club and Royston U's.

Action: Carol to invite anyone else from E Cambs U's as appropriate.

Action: Heather to invite St Ives U's