

Argyle Fans' Trust Meeting

MINUTES

6TH OCTOBER

12.15PM

ED SHILLABEER'S RESIDENCE

MEETING CALLED BY	Argyle Fans' Trust Board
TYPE OF MEETING	Board Meeting
CHAIRPERSON	Richard Blight
NOTE TAKER	Linda Fleming
ATTENDEES	Paul Bartolini, Ed Shillabeer, Tim Chown, Richard Blight
APOLOGIES	Margaret Carn, John Petrie, John Demellweek

Financial Report

CURRENT STATUS	Statement from Treasurer @ 25/09/2012 Cash at bank: £8235.22 Expenses outstanding: Postage for AGM and membership renewal mailing / FSA fees and other sundry items Revenues to bank from renewals and Piggy Racing event profit
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Membership Report

CURRENT STATUS	Trust membership @ 05/10/2012: 1325 live paid up members 367 lapsed members
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Main Agenda Topics

ELECTION UPDATE

DISCUSSION	Update from Secretary on behalf of EMG is that no nominations have been received as yet.	
	All present agreed that there is a need to attract candidates to stand and to achieve the desired number of Trust Board members (7). This is important in order to be able to operate the Trust effectively and fully serve its members.	
CONCLUSIONS	We need to give an insight into what it's like to be a member of the AFT Board and produce some information that explains this to post on the AFT site.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Produce a draft for publication and circulate to Board	Linda Fleming	9 th October

AGM UPDATE

DISCUSSION	Venue – as per last minutes actions the Citybus Social Club Gym has been booked for the AGM.	
	TC asked whether the Board would want to raise any motions at the forthcoming AGM. Suggestions made by TC are around the composition of the Board and whether the rules should be changed to reduce maximum length of tenure, turnover of Board members, Board size (currently stated as 6-12) or to consider all Board members having to be voted in at each election. RB proposed that a motion should be raised to formalise in the rules that AFT members without email addresses are sent quarterly communications that summarise updates etc.	
	Discussed who should be commissioned to conduct the independent financial check which is required for the AGM and to submit to FSA by mid December	
CONCLUSIONS	All Board members to consider Motions to discuss at next meeting.	
	Board agreed that the independent financial check should be conducted by the same company that performed this last time.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Include item on next agenda	Linda Fleming	18 th October
Inform Margaret Carn to commission the financial check	Linda Fleming	7 th October

PASB

DISCUSSION	The feedback to the Trust from both its membership and the wider fan base via internet and social media channels is that there is little, if no, confidence in the PASB election process. Three previous Trust Chairpersons support this view as indeed do some of the PASB candidates. It is incumbent on the Trust to highlight issues and escalate to the PAFC Board anything that affects the club and its fans. As such, given the extent of the problems and perception by fans, the Trust has asked that the PASB election is stopped and only restarted when proper governance is in place.	
	The Trust Board has requested discussion on this matter with the PAFC Board but as yet there is no response. As the club seems reticent to stop the election process the board discussed two options for the Trust to assist the club in progressing the election: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Trust provides a governance role in the PASB election, acting as a sub-committee of the Trust; 2. Set up and operate an interim supervisory board facilitated by the Trust. The remit of this board would be to define how to incorporate the wider fan base in the voting population to compile an electoral role (including POTD fans), to determine what club information will be available to PASB (including financials) and to conduct a tightly managed re-election as soon as is practicable. 	
CONCLUSIONS	In the absence of a response from the club, an email letter will be drafted and sent early next week emphasising the issues and fans' feedback and also how the Trust can help and support.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Draft letter to the club to circulate to the Board for input / comment	Linda Fleming & Tim Chown	7 th October

NEW ELECTRONIC
ADVERTISING BOARD

DISCUSSION	A brief discussion was brought to the table by Ed Shillabeer on the reaction to the new electronic advertising boards. There have been a number of complaints from fans on how these boards have affected their enjoyment of the game, with some walking out of the match.	
CONCLUSIONS	ES will draft a note to the club regarding the location of the advertising boards and to request that the location is changed	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Draft note	Ed Shillabeer	12 th October

SAFE STANDING EVENT

DISCUSSION	James Brent has confirmed to TC his attendance at the Safe Standing event at 2pm on November 10 th and the organisers also have this date in their diary.	
The event will be hosted by Linda Fleming and Ed Shillabeer.		
CONCLUSIONS	Now that we have the go-ahead it is paramount that we start organising this asap. Responses required from the Board on the following action items.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Compile a list of desired guests including local MPs, the head of the Plymouth Council, a senior member of the Devon and Cornwall police (Tony Hogg candidate for police commission is suggested)	Ed Shillabeer	15 th Oct
Speak to Dave Boobyer about the location of the stand as it requires 9 feet clearance	Linda Fleming	15 th Oct
Issue invitations to guests	Linda Fleming	22 nd Oct
Agree how to promote the event – including press release and other media	Board	29 th Oct
Engage the press and gain commitment to attend	Linda Fleming / Ed Shillabeer	29 th Oct
Finalise how to entertain guests at the event – engaging James Goodacre for club input	Linda Fleming / Ed Shillabeer	29 th Oct

FOODBANK EVENT

DISCUSSION	Sally Snow has kindly offered to volunteer and help with the organisation of this event. Linda Fleming will also take an active role.	
CONCLUSIONS	Need to advertise this event to be held on 8 th December well in advance to get it in the consciousness of fans and to get the maximum donations possible. Paul Bartoloni will start to look at posters for the toilets at HP and leaflets to advertise the day	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Pass name of Foodbank organiser to Sally Snow	Tim Chown	12 th October
Draft advertising materials and circulate to Board / Sally Snow	Paul Bartoloni	20 th October

LOUDEST FAN EVENT

DISCUSSION	TC suggested holding a 'Loudest Fan' event on 20 th October	
CONCLUSIONS	Agreed by the Board	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Arrange to get access to a Decibel meter and publicise event on Trust site, PASOTI etc	Tim Chown	12 th October

AOB

No AOB – see below for action updates on previous Board actions

ACTION UPDATES

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT (29TH SEPT)	Document will be produced and circulated by 12 th October. Jon Sparks is working in an advisory capacity on the content.
FANZINE (29TH SEPT)	Examples of the types of articles for the proposed new Fanzine have been seen by TC and he is happy that these are appropriate in style. TC and JP will provide Trust input to the content and PB will help to get advertisers. Confirmed that copies will be held at the Gazebo and posted via mail to non-internet users.
GAZEBO LOCATION (29TH SEPT)	Paul Bartolini will chase up the feedback on relocation of the Gazebo closer to the GTs suite. This relocation is intended to be on a trial basis to gauge the reaction of members and also the affect on gaining new members. Mobile Trust posts (using flags) are still under discussion as this would require more volunteers.
AUTO-MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE	There is a solution available to administer memberships and renewals for online members and which has a one month free trial period. Board agrees to keep this on the back burner until handover is complete to new membership administrators.
MEMBERSHIP ADMINISTRATION	Trust member Bob Wright has volunteered to help alongside Sally Snow in membership administration and RB/JD will determine what needs to happen for the handover.
SHIRT COLLECTIONS	A collection of unwanted club shirts will be organized in 2013
AFT RULES	Amendments are accepted by FSA