



Argyle Fans' Trust
Society Board Meeting Minutes
Saturday 21st April 2012, 6pm, 10 Tor Road (home of ES).

Item	Agreements	Action
1. Members present	Richard Blight (RB), Tim Chown (TC), John Demellweek (JD), Ed Shillabeer (ES), Laura Starr (LS) and Margaret Carn (MC) were present. Gareth Nicholson (GN) offered apologies. ES volunteered to act as temporary Chair for this meeting, all agreed.	
2. Co-opting members onto the Board	The Board discussed the current and likely future workload of the Trust, and the need to return to the question of co-opting members onto the Board, which had been discussed initially after the Board election. Preferred key skills of further co-optees to include fundraising and legal background (with a view to the 20% offer). There will be a need for someone to perhaps fulfill a specific role on the GAS Board if the Trust is directly allocated a number of seats on that Board.	



<p>3. GASB update</p>	<p>TC and RB attended GASB meeting on 21st April and provided feedback.</p> <p>The model of the GASB, according to Professor Wheeler, is to be a “voice for the supporters to influence the running of the club”. Role, aims and constitution to be refined once up and running, during an interim year, but “holding the club to account” is likely to be an important role.</p> <p>Proposed 12 seats: 6 from supporters’ groups and 6 from members of the football club. Pay on the day fans are not able to stand for the GASB as currently proposed, but could potentially vote in election if - for example - a matchday ballot system is devised.</p> <p>Timeline: June/July: nominations September: election October: commencement</p> <p>GTs and Senior Greens have withdrawn involvement from GASB.</p> <p>Next GASB meeting: 5th May, final proposal will be put forward. Ahead of this, Trust members need to be consulted. The Prof’s slides should be made available in the coming week.</p>	<p>TC to look into setting up SurveyMonkey poll if required.</p>
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<p>4. Postage</p>	<p>MC: current bank account total is £4614.92. Need to bear this in mind when deciding how many stamps to purchase ahead of Royal Mail price increase.</p> <p>Discussion of upcoming tasks for which stamps are needed: 20% consultation, ongoing renewals, AGM.</p> <p>JD suggested 3000 stamps needed, if bought before 30th April this will save £420.00. All agreed on this figure.</p> <p>TC: Members to be encouraged to donate stamps at last home game.</p> <p>TC: noted that membership fees go towards cost of running the Trust (including postage), and that fundraising for the 20% offer will have to be separate.</p> <p>JD: the licence for prepaid return envelopes is sorted. Sally Snow has ordered the envelopes, which will be with JD later this week.</p>	<p>MC to order 3000 stamps from Royal Mail.</p>
<p>5. Polling</p>	<p>TC (on behalf of GN): John Lloyd and John Petrie have been approached to once again work on the close-season survey, they are happy to do this as a Trust survey.</p>	<p>GN to liaise with the Johns.</p>
<p>6. Anti-Knife UK Campaign</p>	<p>Subject postponed for discussion at a later date.</p>	
<p>7. Membership Report (JD and RB)</p>	<p>RB: InTouch mass emails still a problem.</p> <p>Chris Webb has previously offered to write a piece explaining why members should renew their membership.</p>	<p>TC, RB and JD will seek to find an answer to this at the Supporters Direct Board Members training event on 22nd April.</p> <p>Renewal reminders to be posted out to all due members (with pre-paid envelope)</p> <p>TC/GN to approach Chris with the aim of publishing an article on the Trust website and possibly</p>



		having an article printed in the Cheltenham matchday programme.
8. Secretary's Report	<p>LS: paperwork required by the FSA regarding independent examination of accounts was sent off 2nd April, received 3rd April by FSA. Accounts now ready to be presented at AGM.</p> <p>LS: Supporters Direct have contacted all member trusts regarding their shortage of funding, proposing a "pay what you can" scheme on top of the £50.00 annual membership fee. Board members invited to give their feedback on this idea to SD.</p> <p>LS: Renewal of affiliate membership of Football Supporters' Federation has been actioned.</p> <p>LS: AGM date set for 26th May, Lower Guildhall booked for the morning. Time of meeting proposed as 10am-12pm, before the Legends match.</p>	<p>LS to continue admin work: agenda to be finalised, members to be notified of details etc.</p>



<p>9. Treasurer's Report</p>	<p>MC: all outstanding invoices have been paid, except for the recently received invoice from Plymouth Pavilions for the August 2011 meeting - the amount is £1080.00. All Board members agreed this should be paid a.s.a.p.</p> <p>MC: ongoing issue of signatories. Previous names (Graham Clark, John Petrie, Celia Ellacott and Peter Ryan) have to be removed. All Board members agreed to this. MC, LS and Warren Bowden have been proposed signatories for a few weeks, agreed to keep it as that for now.</p> <p>MC: Paypal account. MC has asked Paypal to change the name on the account from Peter Ryan to herself, has sent off all required documentation but there have been issues with some of the paperwork. MC is continuing to liaise with Paypal and is in control of the situation.</p> <p>MC discussed with all assembled her recent thoughts on the position of Treasurer.</p> <p>JD mentioned budget forecast plan, referenced in 31.03.2012 minutes. This will allow us to plan where expenditure will occur and when.</p> <p>TC suggested that during the close season a fortnightly teleconference between Board members, Treasurer and Secretary would be desirable given we could not meet in person around matches. This would also be beneficial to financial planning.</p>	<p>MC to settle Pavilions invoice.</p> <p>LS to oversee a rota system for matchday gazebo helpers.</p> <p>RB and JD to assist MC with this, from a membership perspective. LS can also help from an admin perspective, with the Trust annual calendar of tasks.</p>
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10. AOB	<p>The plan for Monday's meeting with James Brent regarding the 20% offer was discussed.</p> <p>All agreed that GN will act as spokesperson at meeting with James Brent.</p> <p>TC asked whether it would be possible to implement the Safe Standing Roadshow for the Cheltenham match now the team is safe. JD and RB replied that this was too short notice for the organisers of the Roadshow, we can look ahead to doing this at the start of next season.</p>	
11. Date of next meeting	Friday 4 th May 2012, 7.30pm at 10 Tor Road (home of ES).	