



**Argyle Fans' Trust
Society Board Meeting Minutes
Saturday 31st March 2012 at the Bickle Suite, Home Park**

Item	Agreements	Action
1. Members present	Warren Bowden (WB), Tim Chown (TC), John Demellweek (JD), Richard Blight (RB), Ed Shillabeer (ES), Laura Starr (LS) and Gareth Nicholson (GN) were present. Margaret Carn (MC) offered apologies.	
2. Matters arising	Minutes of last meeting (19.02.2012) were approved by email by the Board and published February 2012.	



<p>3. Feedback from GASB meeting</p>	<p>WB and TC provided feedback on the GAS Board meeting that took place earlier in the day at Home Park, run by Prof David Wheeler. There was a strong sentiment by most of those present that the GASB should complement rather than conflict with the Trust. Several people suggested the primary purpose of the GASB should be holding the club to account. There was informal discussion of how elections might encompass supporter groups or individuals.</p> <p>The next GASB meeting will be 21st April, 10am-12pm in the city centre. Professor Wheeler to present recommendations with some options, which those present (including the Trust) will be able to take away to discuss with their memberships. The next GASB meeting after that will be on 5th May, when a final decision will be taken.</p> <p>WB mentioned club's intention to bring in a three-tiered Gold/Silver/Bronze membership/ticketing structure next season.</p>	<p>Trust to hold a telecon with Prof Wheeler during the week to discuss further. TC to arrange.</p>
<p>4. Postage/email communications</p>	<p>RB: decision needs to be made by Board before 30th April whether or not to buy stamps in bulk, due to price increase. Discussion of amount needed, with 1000 suggested.</p> <p>TC suggested we could encourage members to donate stamps; the return would be over 35% with a 2nd class stamp going up from 36p to 50p.</p> <p>RB: possibility of an alternative system for bulk post. John Lloyd has some suggestions for reduced postage costs.</p> <p>Group consensus to look into alternatives to InTouch for bulk e-mail.</p> <p>All: the new pre-paid return envelope licence has been approved. Envelopes</p>	<p>RB to determine number of stamps to buy.</p> <p>WB to ring John Lloyd and enquire.</p> <p>TC to work with RB to identify and test an alternative.</p> <p>RB to speak to SS about envelopes.</p>



	will need to be ordered asap.	
5. 20% share offer	<p>WB raised Peter Ryan's suggestion that the Trust should accept the 20% offer in principle. GN response: Supporters Direct advice has been that much more research must be done, key facts need to be clarified first.</p> <p>It will be up to the membership to decide; in principle the offer is of course to be welcomed, but we need to determine the details, including not least the price and powers/rights that come with the offer.</p> <p>All agreed that is vital to fix a date for a meeting with James Brent so the full details of the proposal can be put to our membership for consultation and (in due course) a vote.</p>	TC: statement to go out asap reiterating the Trust's commitment in principle to pursuing the 20% offer, and requesting a date to meet.
6. Fundraising	<p>RB: fundraising subcommittee needs to be set up. Fundraising needs to be going on in close season to keep Trust profile up and also to prepare for the potential 20% investment.</p> <p>ES: hook needed for fundraising, something to encourage people to donate.</p>	WB, LS and MC to meet after Easter holiday to set up the subcommittee (which can include other Trust members) and further discuss fundraising plans.
7. PALFC match	<p>TC reminded all that the Trust-sponsored Ladies match vs Tottenham is to take place at Home Park on Sunday 15th April with a 2.00pm kickoff.</p> <p>The Trust could offer helpers for the day, and set up a presence (e.g. gazebo).</p>	TC to contact Dave Burns and club to check arrangements.



8. Treasurer's Report	<p>In MC's absence, LS provided group with feedback on current balance sheet, signed by LS and WB.</p> <p>Bank balance £2,700, with audit fees and other costs to be paid.</p> <p>The Trust financial audit is complete, and ready to be returned to the FSA. Once receipt is confirmed, the AGM date can be set.</p> <p>JD suggested it would be helpful for MC to provide regular financial projections, to give everyone a better idea of what funds are available for day-to-day running costs and new campaigns.</p>	<p>MC to be asked to produce projections.</p> <p>LS to return audit to FSA and then work to set the AGM date and arrangements.</p>
9. AOB	<p>TC asked if there are specific examples we could publish about the club acting on kiosk feedback. WB confirmed this is already happening.</p> <p>TC raised the issue of the £700,000 recently raised by the club and whether this should at least in part go to fund staff payments acceleration?</p>	<p>WB to get examples from Dave Boobyer.</p> <p>Agreed to include the question in the letter to JB about the 20% offer.</p>
10. Date of next meeting	<p>Saturday 21st April 2012. Location and time tbc.</p>	