



Argyle Fans' Trust
 Board Meeting – MINUTES
 Saturday 11th April 2015; 10.30am Sally's House

No	Item	Discussion/Summary	Action
1	Members Present / Apologies for Absence	Members Present: Bob Foale (BF), Tim Chown (TC), Sam Down (SD), Sally Snow (SS), Celia Ellacott (CE), Virginia Pike (VP) Apologies: Ed Shillabeer (ES), Bob Wright (BW), Paul Bartolini (PB)	
2	Minutes of last meeting	The minutes of the last meeting will be formally approved at the meeting of 25 th April.	
3	Matters arising	All matters from previous minutes should be covered in today's agenda.	
4	Financial Report	The financial position is as follows: Bank: £11491.13 PayPal £1384.38 Coop: £0.21 Total: £12,875.72 The RBL shirt pot still requires more fundraising.	
5	Membership Report	With BW away, the latest membership report will be presented at the meeting on 25 th April.	
6	ACV	TC will circulate latest draft to the board in advance of the next meeting.	TC
7	Roles and Responsibilities	TC is continuing as Acting Secretary. The hunt for a new Secretary or Assistant Secretary is going. Action on all to put out feelers for candidates for the role(s). TC to email members with a description of the role and an invite for expressions of interest.	TC
8	Fanzine	Positive comments continue to come in. Issue 4 is now out with around 400 sold to date, including a boxful at Pompey. CE to arrange for another box of fanzines for the remaining games. SD has continued his dialogue with a Trust member who wishes to write for the fanzine. SD to firm up interest It was unanimously agreed that we should continue the fanzine next season. A discussion was held on price. Many fans have said it is very cheap, but at the same time 50p	CE SD



		<p>makes it easier to sell, and gets the content to more eyeballs. It was agreed we would seek to keep the price low and instead to look at ways to get more funds in via advertising. Action on all to find advertisers.</p>	ALL
9	Future Trust Activities	<p>A round table discussion was held on the Trust's activities, what is working well, and what we should prioritise.</p> <p>The positives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new fanzine, selling strongly, with good feedback, reaching more supporters. • Retaining 1,000 members even though there is no immediate crisis at the Club. • The RBL back of the shirt sponsorship, building a relationship with the RBL community. • Establishing regular (monthly) dialogue with the CEO. • Building relationships with PCC, and encouraged PCC and the Club to talk regarding the Grandstand. • Raising £1,000 for the Club behind the bar at the St. Patrick's Night event. • Raising money and supplies for the Plymouth Foodbank. • Raising money for PADSAs and for the Community Trust (through the calendar photo competition). • Raising £2,000 for the Milk Cup team through advertising for player sponsorships. • Established path to submit ACV to help protect Home Park for the future. • Playing role in encouraging Club to support provision of a new Far Post Club. • Suggesting Club redecorate the iconic Mayflower turnstiles, and offering to pay for material costs. • Getting a team for the static bike event. <p>Amongst the challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting more volunteers to get involved in activities and to help the Trust. • Focusing on specific goals to maximise the use of the time/people that we do have. • Ensuring we have the schedules and structures in place to get projects done. • Looking for more ways to fundraise. • Balancing the 'critical' and 'friend' with the Club, supporting it (as we have done for example with the shirt sponsorship) yet also being upfront with concerns when necessary. <p>It was agreed that we need to ensure we remember the</p>	



		<p>Trust's core objectives, as shared by 100+ other Trusts around the country, and listed on our web site.</p> <p>It was agreed that we should seek to be a 'critical friend' to the Club.</p> <p>There was a brief discussion around forming contingency plans for various possible eventualities around the Club.</p> <p>It was agreed we should engage with other Trusts, including Exeter and the fledgling Torquay Trust (where around 80 fans met, with their local MP present). BF will contact both.</p>	BF
10	Fundraising	<p>A discussion was held around fundraising for the remainder of the RBL shirt fund. It was agreed that the shirt fund fundraising must be completed by the end of the close season (so for example a cricket match could be one idea to pursue).</p> <p>There are some opportunities in the medium term to hold events to fundraise, e.g. around the Trust's 5th anniversary at the end of the year.</p> <p>There will be a car boot sale at HP on 26th April. Action on SD and ES to coordinate.</p> <p>CE described some ideas for merchandising. CE to take forward. Perhaps using the 'Resurgam' flag.</p> <p>A calendar was discussed. SS to progress the possibility of a season-long calendar.</p> <p>VP asked all to send ideas to her to draw up a list of possible events / initiatives.</p>	SD, ES CE SS ALL
11	AOB	<p>It was agreed that we would announce JP's resignation as soon as possible. SD will contact JP for a statement. Action on all to consider who we might co-opt as a replacement (following the Trust's Rules).</p> <p>SD reported that the Player of the Year trophy is all arranged through Leigh Rapson. Deadline for votes is 23rd, including postal votes from 'offline' members. Action on SD to arrange a time to present. We should have access to player(s) through the RBL sponsorship.</p> <p>A letter of support for a community football project being led by the new Sports Dean at Marjons was discussed. It was agreed that VP would check this is OK with Mark Lovell at the Community Trust and if so BF to give letter of</p>	ALL SD VP, BF



		<p>support.</p> <p>TC to contact JL to arrange this year's close season survey. This typically draws in several hundred responses. Action on all to consider extra questions to add.</p> <p>It was agreed we should seek to build an inventory of skills of our members, such that we can draw on appropriate expertise when needed. VP to draft a letter for TC to email (and BW/SS to post) to members.</p> <p>It was agreed we should contribute to the upcoming Milk Cup trip by the youth team. More specific ideas to be discussed at next meeting. Last year we raised £2,000.</p> <p>It was agreed that VP would accompany BF to the next meeting with CEO Martyn Starnes on 1st May.</p>	<p>TC, ALL</p> <p>VP</p>
12	Next Meeting	The next board meeting is at 10.30am on 25 th April at Sally's house.	