



Argyle Fans' Trust
Board Meeting - MINUTES
Saturday 13th February 2016; 12 noon
Ed's house.

No	Item	Discussion/Summary	Action
1	Members present / Apologies for absence	Members Present: Elected members Bob Foale (BF) Chair Celia Ellacott (CE) Vice Chair Virginia Pike (VP) Frazer Lloyd-Davies (FLD) Ed Shillabeer (ES) Co-Opted members Tony Cannan (TC) Secretary Tom Moore Apologies: Bob Wright (BW) Tony Sherlock (TS)	
2	Minutes of last meeting	Minutes from last meeting agreed.	All
3	Financial Report	<p>This has been deferred until next meeting. TS has said he will take on the Treasurer role but still has not had an official handover from Paul. TS has previously requested he would like his handover to be face-to-face until he would consider taking the role and responsibilities of Treasurer. All agreed this was completely reasonable.</p> <p>There is nothing that needs urgent attention, but the issue of the payments owed to Tim, Bob and Mike were discussed, as well as the issue ref the Royal British Legion shirt sponsorship.</p>	BF, TS



		<p>The current board <i>did not agree</i> to the terms set out in this agreement and were not party to it, but as discussed in the last meeting, we feel there is an AFT Board obligation to make good these payments. We must wait for TS and Paul to conclude their handover so we can then investigate the paperwork involved with this process before we decide how to proceed.</p> <p>BF motioned that we look to start the 2016/17 season with a clean slate and to eliminate any financial commitments with regards to anything owed to any parties. We are talking in the realm of £3500 worth of 'monies owed'. All agreed this was a good target and gives us a good six months to sort out any loose ends.</p>	
<p>4</p>	<p>Secretary's correspondence</p>	<p>TC advised the Board that they may wish to consider giving the Council a target date for the ACV decision. He read out a template letter from Supporters Direct who recommended we send it to the Council as we are still in the dark as to why they have still not reached a decision, or if they have, why they have not communicated it.</p> <p>TC recommended February 29th, which still gives them another two weeks. Supporters Direct have recommended contacting the Ombudsman if they fail to give us a decision by the date we specify. The Board agreed that Feb 29th should be the absolute maximum.</p> <p>TC will now contact the Council to say that we require a decision by Feb 29 as more than enough time has been given for a decision to have been made. The original date for the decision was December 29. Then deferred to January 29 which we accepted. But here on Feb</p>	<p>TC</p>



		<p>13 we are still none the wiser despite TC's constant requests for an update.</p> <p>FLD confirmed that TC would receive any emails that Tim previously received. All that remains tech-wise is for TC to set up his own Outlook account as he cannot send emails as 'secretary@' as Gmail seems not to be compatible.</p> <p>TC confirmed he will allocate any 'snail mail' to be diverted to his home address so that nothing is missed.</p>	
5	<p>Membership report and future role of the membership secretary</p>	<p>TC advised he would temporarily take on the responsibility of handling any 'paper' requests on a temporary basis and would seek advice from Bob Wright about getting details transferred over. VP will act as support.</p> <p>TM provided the current membership details:</p> <p>Number of shareholding members = 846 Junior members = 151 Total = 998</p> <p>Lapsed members = 907</p> <p>FLD advised that the main challenge is to maintain the memberships we currently have as it is harder to regain them once they've left.</p> <p>FLD and TM have said they can update the online setup to automatically send reminders and then to take any due membership payments, rather than the current set-up which just lets the memberships' lapse. This was raised as a priority issue as our attrition rate is currently very high. They advised that we can</p>	TC, TM, FLD



		have this, as well as a new website up and running by the start of the new season as there needs to be improvements to the platform on which the website works before any changes and/or improvements to the website can be made.	
6	Scarf, shirt, Gazebo.	<p>We have Michael Foot's scarf and need to take steps as to what to do with it – getting it framed/displaying etc. BF has current custody of it.</p> <p>CE to contact the Club ref a signed Luke McCormick shirt.</p> <p>What has happened to the Gazebo? Images of it were seen in the pics at the ladies event last year. TC to contact Paul to ask of its whereabouts.</p>	CE, TC, BF
7	Progress on OxVox event 5th March	<p>FLD advised that contact has been very minimal from the Oxford side of things. Because of this he has been unable to make a booking at Goals because they don't have enough information about our requirements.</p> <p>BF offered to write to them as Chair to ask if they are still keen for the event to go ahead. FLD will instead try to make contact again in the first instance.</p>	FLD, BF
8	Wembley Reunion evening – 19th March	We have currently booked a 9+1 table (9 people and 1 player). Current attendees from AFT Board are: BF, CE, VP +1, ES +1 and TS. So 2 spaces are still available. We would like offer these spaces to Paul and Bob as their parting gift for their service to AFT.	VP, BF



		Ideally, we would like to host another table. VP to check availability with the hotel.	
9	Programme/ memorabilia fair – Easter Sunday, March 27th .	CE advised that the AFT has been offered a free table. We will take up this offer. Flyers will be put into the fanzines as well as at the gazebo where we will publicise this event. This is another good opportunity to raise the AFT profile and perhaps gain some members.	All
10	Pedal for Pounds update	Just two people are doing this event. TC to contact Mark Edwards to ask how he's doing with sponsorship and if we can help in any way.	TC, ES
11	Hartlepool sponsored game	Unsure of how and when this should be advertised. Argyle's current dip in form would probably mean that now is not the best time. However, it is likely that Argyle will be promoted this season and that this match will host the promotion celebrations so perhaps it is? Some suggestion of a raffle too. As yet, this topic was undecided. However, BF asked that any Board members wishing to attend please state their intentions within the next two weeks so that we can take this forward as we need to fill 10 spaces.	All
12	Fanzine report	CE advised next issue out on Easter Monday and we still have a lot of the current one to sell. She highlighted several names interested in writing pieces for the Fanzine. CE to pursue further. TM put forward recommendations for future printing – highlighting the firm 'Kingfisher' for the project as they could give us substantial savings in costs.	CE, TM



		<p>Currently, for 700 copies we are paying a total of £820.80 inc VAT. The new quote for the exact same spec is £481. BF seconded this and we will now use Kingfisher due to the obvious savings involved. Kingfisher have also previously printed the official match-day programme so have good pedigree.</p>	
<p>13</p>	<p>Proposed Action plan for next 3-5 years</p>	<p>After a lengthy discussion which involved a multitude of tabled ideas, BF along with CE will take responsibility of the action plan, delegating certain people to take on projects.</p> <p>BF advised the plan would be 3-year-rolling. All agreed that we need a definitive plan but there was no unanimous decision about exactly what should be involved, with the exception of the ACV which all agree should be our current top priority. TC to continue to manage this project with the emphasis placed on getting it by the 29th Feb as previously discussed. TC to advise the Board of progress as it happens.</p> <p>Second priority is then to find out about plans for a new Far Post Club.</p> <p>More people needed to come on board to help with projects. As committed as we are on the AFT Board, it was agreed that more time needs to be spent on certain things and donating more time is very difficult sometimes. Need to look at our resourcing.</p> <p>A new slogan needs to be agreed.</p> <p>Input on the Mayflower 2020 event is imperative.</p>	<p>All</p>



		BF will advise further after he and CE have managed to look at this together. This includes speaking with other Trusts to see how they run their projects/initiatives.	
14	Date and venue for open meeting with fans	We are looking at Saturday April 9. VP to look at potential venues as close to Home Park as possible.	VP
15	Date of next meeting	19 th March. 5:30pm Duke of Cornwall Hotel.	All