



# Argyle Fans' Trust

## Board Meeting – MINUTES

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2020, 10am, by Zoom (online)

No	Item	Discussion/Summary	Action
1	<b>Welcome and Apologies for Absence</b>	<p><b>Members present:</b> Sue Clark (SCI), Sally Cockell (SCo), Chris Dean (CDea), Chris Dennis (CDen), Sam Down (SD), John Lloyd (JL), Virginia Pike (VP), Emma Sellick (ES), Roger Willis (RW)</p> <p>Tim Chown (TCh, Secretary) Graham Clark (GC, invited)</p> <p>The meeting was quorate (9 of 10 Board members present) and started at 10.05am.</p> <p><b>Apologies received:</b> Tony Cannan (TCa)</p>	
2	<b>Approval of Minutes and Matters Arising from previous meeting</b>	<p>VP welcomed the new board members – Sally Cockell, Chris Dennis and Sam Down.</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020 were approved, with a minor correction to the time the meeting finished (am not pm). The minutes are available at: <a href="https://www.argylefanstrust.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/AFT-Board-Minutes-01nov2020.pdf">https://www.argylefanstrust.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/AFT-Board-Minutes-01nov2020.pdf</a></p>	
3	<b>Secretary's Report (TCh)</b>	<p>TCh reported that the AGM has approved the signed accounts for the 2019/20 financial year and approved the motion to disapply the need for a financial audit for the 2020/21 financial year. The next step is to submit the AR30 return to the FCA by the end of December. TCh will draft. CDen offered to help.</p> <p>TCh then explained the position regarding the Asset of Community Value (ACV) that the AFT has on the HP and HHP land. This is due to expire on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021. Having been invited to the meeting to present his thoughts on the topic, GC then spoke.</p> <p>GC said that the position on HHP has changed since the ACV was granted. The shop and other facilities have now moved into the new stadium, and the GTs have their new building in a new location.</p> <p>Some of the HHP land is being bought back into club ownership by Simon Hallett, but this purchase has yet to be reflected in the Land Registry, so the position of ownership is not (yet) formally clear. James Brent still owns the portion of HHP land upon which an ice rink is proposed to be built.</p>	TCh

		<p>GC recommended that at this stage the AFT renew the ACV on HP, and then considered the HHP plot once the ownership position became clear. GC also offered to take ownership of the submission for the AFT, and to be co-opted to the Board if the Board felt that was appropriate.</p> <p>TCh showed the Board the diagram of HP and HHP.</p> <p>The question of the GT's building and the lease it is on was raised, but this was agreed as a matter for the GTs and the Club.</p> <p>The situation was then discussed, with the result that four options were put forward by TCh for the Board to vote on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To renew the ACV only on HP, and to consider extending the ACV to the part of HHP that PAFC owns once that becomes clear at the Land Registry.</li> <li>2. To renew the ACV on HP and the part of HHP that is being bought back to the Club by Simon Hallett</li> <li>3. To renew the ACV on HP and all of HHP</li> <li>4. To not renew the ACV</li> </ol> <p>When put to the vote, option (1) was unanimously approved.</p> <p>The Land Registry document for reference is title number DN547659.</p> <p>It was then proposed that GC be co-opted to the Board to take the lead on the ACV submission; this was also unanimously approved. GC will draft text and circulate to the Board for approval.</p>	GC
4	<b>Season Tickets and Seating Allocation</b>	<p>VP introduced the situation regarding STs and seat allocations. It was agreed that the Club did a tremendous job to ensure 1,808 fans were offered the chance to attend the Ipswich match, with very little notice.</p> <p>JL said that there had been a suggestion of further communication to come from the Club, but nothing had been stated as yet. The strength of supporter opinion was well understood by the Club.</p> <p>It was stated that the AFT should represent all opinions, though this is clearly a challenge with many longstanding fans not in the 1,808.</p> <p>GC added that the Club has since allocated an additional 192 tickets, making 2000 in total, as allowed by the government regulations for Tier 2.</p>	

		<p>There is a Tier consideration being held on Wednesday for Plymouth, but this is unlikely to change.</p> <p>Ticketmaster run the ticket system for the Club. Some supporters said that had had their online ticketing history wiped. SCl reported she has this issue, while ES had also had a problem.</p> <p>TCh reported that some clubs are using Ticketmaster to do the “lottery” for which fans can attend; those who indicate they wish to go are drawn randomly.</p> <p>GC had posted a potential solution on Pasoti based on the season ticket T&amp;C’s. The Club can at any time change the T&amp;C’s and have already changed them as they had originally said no refunds were possible, but this option was later given. GC’s proposal is that given the Club have email addresses they ask the question to supporters whether they wish to offer their seat for rotation, by a certain date. This would then be set up for whoever decides to do so.</p> <p>It was noted that the AFT does not know the specific limitations the Club are working to, e.g., whether they can replace individual fans each week, or whether some fans are sat in groups that must remain as groups. However, ES reminded the Board that the AFT should focus on being the supporters’ voice.</p> <p>After discussion, it was agreed unanimously that the AFT would write to the Club to encourage it to consult the season ticket holders on whether they would join a voluntary seat sharing scheme. While the AFT could consult its members, the key question here is what those with season tickets, and who are in the 2,000 who have match access, wish to do.</p> <p>GC left meeting.</p>	VP
5	<b>Treasurer’s Report</b>	<p>VP reported that the AFT has paid £300 to sponsor the away shirt for Kelland Watts for the rest of the season.</p> <p>VP added that there is £7611.69 in the bank as of this weekend, and a further £84.69 in PayPal.</p>	
6	<b>Membership Report</b>	<p>RW reported the membership was at 398 as of the date of the AGM, including juniors.</p> <p>The membership database, InTouch, was briefly discussed. This is the system recommended by the FSA. It was agreed to stay with InTouch and move to annual payment to gain a 10% cost saving.</p>	

		<p>CDeN has experience of membership systems and would be happy to look at InTouch to see if we can make better use of it. He and SD will be added for InTouch access to review the system and, once it becomes possible, be shown how to use it so the load of operating it and sending out member emails can be shared. TCh will add access.</p> <p>SCo offered to help with membership tasks, especially phoning members who may be about to lapse, and to check email details when member emails bounce.</p>	TCh
7	Events (ES)	It was noted that the AFT's 10 <sup>th</sup> birthday was yesterday. We will arrange appropriate celebrations when we can.	
8	Communication and Marketing (JL, ES)	<p>SCo offered to help on social media. ES will advise.</p> <p>SD was asked about the fanzine and producing an electronic version. He will consider it in January.</p> <p>The question of kiosk use was raised. It had been agreed we would not use it for the Ipswich game, with everything else that was happening for the first match with fans back.</p> <p>VP will consider this further. There could likely be only one person in the kiosk, and a queueing system would be needed. Signage with AFT information will be put up on the kiosk in the meantime.</p> <p>SCI pointed out there is a Council helpline; VP will check this.</p>	<p>ES</p> <p>SD</p> <p>VP</p> <p>VP</p>
9	AOB	<p>VP is collecting for the Plymouth Foodbank tomorrow and next Sunday and delivering 50 meals with the GTs for Christmas.</p> <p>VP would like to get a Christmas themed mailshot sent to members. TCh needs text, photos and articles to include.</p> <p>TCh reminded the Board that where local volunteers are needed, we can determine Plymouth-based members to ask from the InTouch database, if needed.</p> <p>VP reported that the special AGM prize went to Mark Jones who predicted the 2-0 win (only he had done so, where about 12 people predicted 2-1!).</p> <p>VP added that we still have six season tickets from the Platinum Sponsorship. She is asking Jamie about options for using these, or possibly deferring them to next season.</p>	<p>VP</p> <p>VP</p>



		<p>VP also asked about the six sponsorship shirts. It was agreed we should look to distribute these asap. JL will ask Josh whether we might do this via one of his online raffles, with perhaps half the funds going to the AFT, half back to the Club.</p> <p>TCh raised the issue of email bounces for new Board members on our current Board mail list. He will set up an alternative list asap.</p> <p>SCI noted that stamps are going up in price in January, so we may wish to pre-buy some.</p> <p>VP reported thanks from the Plymouth football boot charity for whom we collected boots recently.</p> <p>VP confirmed she has the contactless card reader, which needs a test, but we can't use it anyway until the kiosk open.</p>	JL  TCh
10	Date of next meeting	TC will issue a doodle for the next meeting.	
11	Close of Meeting	The meeting closed at 11:55 pm	

TC  
21 Dec 2020