



**Argyle Fans' Trust**  
**Board Meeting – MINUTES**  
**Wednesday 9 August 2023, 7.00pm, by Zoom (online)**

No	Item	Discussion/Summary	Action
1	<b>Welcome and Apologies for Absence</b>	<p><b>Members present:</b> Tony Cannan (TCa) Sue Clark (SCI) Chris Dean (CDea) Virginia Pike (VP) Emma Sellick (ES)</p> <p>Tim Chown (TCh, Secretary)</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Sally Cockell (SCo) Chris Dennis (CDen) Sam Down (SD) Roger Willis (RW)</p> <p>The meeting was not quorate at 7pm, but VP allowed informal discussions until TCa arrived shortly after at which point we were quorate with 5/9 Board members present.</p>	
2	<b>Approval of Minutes and Matters Arising from previous meeting</b>	<p>The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and are available online at <a href="https://www.argylefanstrust.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/AFT-Board-Minutes-03may2023.pdf">https://www.argylefanstrust.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/AFT-Board-Minutes-03may2023.pdf</a>.</p> <p>VP reported she was liaising with the bank to provide further information including updating the signatories.</p> <p>The GTs have confirmed we could have the £1,000 investment back whenever we wished, but at the moment we are happy to leave the money with them.</p> <p>SurveyMonkey has been renewed to allow us to run the Close Season Survey.</p> <p>TCh will look at quotes for stickers to include in membership renewal packs.</p>	<p>VP</p> <p>TCh</p>
3	<b>Secretary's Report</b>	<p>TCh reminded the board the date for the AGM needs to be set for by the end of November. It could be at HP or by Zoom, or hybrid. In recent years we have been somewhat forced to use Zoom but have been quorate each time. An online or hybrid meeting helps distant fans attend more easily.</p>	

		<p>VP pointed out there are England games on 17<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> November, and Argyle are home on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November. VP will consider the options for an AGM date.</p> <p>The FSA would like us to adopt their new Model Rules, which are very similar to before but updated for example to clarify meetings being allowed online. TCh will send the details to the Board.</p>	<p>VP</p> <p>TCh</p>
4	<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	<p>Ray Stidwell has kindly again assisted the Board by producing a set of draft accounts for our year end 31 May 2023, and has circulated these to the Board for comments.</p> <p>VP has restored her access to online banking.</p> <p>TCh noted that we should appoint an 'independent examiner' to check the accounts (the need for a full audit was waived by the previous AGM). There are at least three options, including someone Ray has approached, a former Board member from a few years ago and someone else known to a current Board member. VP will talk to Ray.</p> <p>The balance of our PayPal and bank accounts is approximately £8,400, plus the £1,000 with the GTs.</p> <p>TCh is owed for the SurveyMonkey subscription.</p> <p>The women's team sponsorship is yet to be paid.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>VP</p>
5	<b>Membership Report</b>	<p>TCh has posted out renewal letters up to the end of May and will post June's very soon. VP is producing the list for July.</p> <p>TCh / VP will work with SCo to contact any members who are lapsing.</p> <p>There were 361 members in July.</p> <p>VP will ask the 50/50 organisers whether AFT membership could be a prize.</p>	<p>TCh/ VP</p> <p>TCh/ VP / SCo</p> <p>VP</p>
6	<b>Events</b>	None currently organised.	
7	<b>Communication and Marketing</b>	<p>The Close Season Survey has drawn 570 responses which John Lloyd is kindly analysing for the Board.</p> <p>VP will contact Andrew Parkinson about publishing.</p> <p>The AFT has had assistance from the FSA on an issue with rights to one image that was used on the web site. The image has been removed and the FSA is liaising with the rights holder.</p>	VP



		It was agreed that the Board would approach the Club to source photos for future articles, e.g., for our sponsored players, the manager, etc.	
8	AOB	<p>VP will check the date of the next Fans Assembly meeting.</p> <p>TCh will write up the recently held Fans Forum, which is also available on YouTube.</p> <p>It was agreed we will seek to use SurveyMonkey more for topical issues.</p> <p>VP reported she has volunteered for the FSA's Away Fans Working Group, to raise issues affecting travelling fans.</p> <p>VP raised the suggestion of exploring reciprocal pricing for away fans, noting the Leeds away tickets would be over £40 each, but Andrew Parkinson is not in favour as he feels some fans may not be happy to be paying more for their home ticket than visiting fans may be paying for theirs. TCh will ask the FSA for a list of away ticket prices for the Championship.</p> <p>Sue suggested that the AFT joins Level Playing Field given it is free; this was agreed unanimously. TCh will follow up.</p> <p>There was a number of disability-related comments in the free text section of the Close Season Survey, e.g., about hearing loops. SCI will look through these further and report back to the Board.</p> <p>SCI will find out the status of PADSA who we believe are now re-forming.</p> <p>There are other disability-related questions to be asked, e.g., why the low counter in the shop is not being used for wheelchair supporters.</p>	<p>VP</p> <p>TCh</p> <p>TCh</p> <p>TCh</p> <p>SCI</p> <p>SCI</p>
9	Date of next meeting	The date of the next meeting will be determined by an online poll.	
10	Close of Meeting	The meeting closed at 8.40pm	

TCh  
16 August 2023