



Whitley Bay FC Supporter's Club

Annual General Meeting Minutes

22 May 2019

Attendees:

Keith Gibson (KG); Lynn Bone (LB); David Moore (DM); Doug Parker (DP); Bryan Clarke (BC); Paul Athey (PA); Richard Reeves (RR); Stephen Tyley (ST); Ann Barkass (AB); Chris Smith (CS); Neil Smith (NS); Gordon Carr (GC); Martin Kelly (MK); Nathan Haslam (NH); Peter James (PJ); James Wright (JW); Stuart Fitzgerald (SF).

Apologies for absence: None received.

DM read out the minutes of the previous AGM. They were accepted as accurate; proposed by KG and seconded by PA.

Chairman's Report – We must maximise the use of social media. Last year the SC bought a new stretcher, tactics board, ball inflator, oil for the boilers, defibrillator batteries, window for the dressing room and paid for the repair to the grass cutter. KG thanked all of the supporters. We also made a contribution to the academy for their trip to the Netherlands. The Reserve team were given new match balls. KG read through all of the work required around the ground and asked for volunteers to help. Some working dates will be advertised. AB would like help sorting out the area behind the bar in the Board room. LB was concerned that there were no team photos in the bar. GC said that the Friends of Brierdene meet one day per week to tidy the dene and get help from the council and corporate volunteers. A skip is provided. Could WBFC do something similar?

Treasurer's Report – ST distributed a copy of the Treasurer's Account for the 2018/19 season. ST stated that DP's figures do not quite tally with his but that the opening and closing figures are accurate. He then read through the report and highlighted the Altrincham trip profit, tea hut stock purchase and various other purchases and expenses. The SC also made 3 charitable donations to Cancer Research, the Livermore family, and Prostate Cancer (Ashington fans). The balance carried forward into the 2019/20 season is £1873.26.

Martin Kelly – MK has had a meeting with Paul McIllduff and will be more actively involved in the club. We need more sponsorship, especially a main sponsor, and also need to ensure that ground advertising is maximised. We get good support but need to increase it and create a family atmosphere. We need to use resources to the full to create more income. If it goes well on the pitch, everything else will fall into place. MK made a very generous gesture by donating £200 to the roof fund. He has business contacts and is trying to obtain advertising. We also need to maximise social media opportunities and should try to get Adam back.

Nathan Haslam – NH highlighted communication as a very important factor across the club. He has an open door policy. SF asked if his budget was OK and he confirmed that it was manageable. NH has had 27 meetings with potential new players since the end of the season but has no firm offers yet. He wants people to look at WBFC and say 'I want to be part of that'. GC asked about the feed from the Academy to the Reserves and NH confirmed that we were in a good position because of the youth teams but that it would take about 3 years to get it sorted out. AB asked if we would have a Reserve team and NH responded that we would and that all first team players would be signed on for the Reserves. LB said was good news as it provided a solid link. SF asked if it was likely that some Reserve players may also be signed on for other clubs and NH said was not ideal and should not happen. Players will be training on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and friendlies will start with weaker opposition and work up. A few friendlies have been pencilled in and we are awaiting confirmation. NH would like 7 pre season friendlies. AB asked about support staff for NH. He said he had a good network across the north east. AB stated that it had been difficult in the past to get players to attend functions and the club bar. NH said that all players need to feel part of the club. It will be good to get to know everyone on first name terms. KG asked if NH had made other applications for management positions. No he hadn't but he missed the involvement so made a call when he saw the advert.

Election of Officials – David Hall resigned his position as Vice Chairman due to work commitments and Paul Athey was elected in to fill the vacancy. All other officials were re-elected: Chairman KG; Treasurer ST and Secretary DM. Proposed by BC and seconded by GC.

Chairman closed the meeting at 20.05.