



**Bath City FC Supporters Society
Annual General Meeting
7.30pm on Thursday 23 June 2016
Randall's
Twerton Park**

Minutes

The AGM was attended by 19 members including the committee and an invited member from the Big Bath City Bid/Community Ownership Committee .

Apologies.

Oliver Holtaway, Phil Weaver, Pete McCormack, Neil Hughes, Maurice Ashman, Alan Finney, Mark Bladwell, John Swatton, Gill Rixson

2) Minutes of the AGM on 30 June 2015

Signed off. Dave Bartholemew proposed, Martin Brush seconded.

3) Chairman's Report (Martin Powell)

(see separate document)

Questions

Dave Bartholemew asked what the benefits were for new members during the interim period before community ownership. There was no definitive answer.

4) Election of committee members and motions - voting and results (James Carlin)

Motion: The Society Board (aka the Committee) shall comprise 12 elected members only. This motion supersedes the motion which reserved one of the 12 Board places for a Bath City Youth representative on the Supporters' Society committee. As per the Society Rules, representatives from affiliated bodies such as Bath City Youth may be invited by elected Board members to join the Board as external directors, without reducing the number of elected Board members.

Proposed by Oliver Holtaway, seconded by Martin Powell.

39 for, 2 against. Motion carried.

Election of committee members: Shane Morgan (41 votes for, 1 vote against), Colin Voutt (39 for, 3 against), Marc Thomas (39 for, 3 against), Jon Bickley (40 for, 2 against), Michael Clayton (42 for, 0 against), Steve Skinner (42 for, 0 against) were all elected

onto the committee. All will serve a two-year term before facing mandatory re-election in 2018.

13 paper and 29 online (via Helios) votes were cast. All votes counted by James Carlin and verified by Paul Brotherton. The feedback on the online system was that it was user-friendly.

5) Board Representative's Report. (Shane Morgan)

SM mentioned that he has been hoping for no need for board representative's report and role this year due to a successful Big Bath City Bid. Shane said last year he would do another year but wasn't expecting to have to do another.

On-field

Good start and very positive but downward after that for a long time. Adie Britton and Lee Howells were honest and worked on very little finances but results weren't what they should be. After AB and LH left, the club advertised for a manager and received lots of good quality applications. These were reduced to a shortlist who were then interviewed. There was early interest from Gary Owers and he was seen as best candidate as he had developed as a coach since last spell at BC and has lots of contacts. There were changes straight away as the team, firstly, became difficult to beat and then loan signings with Liam Kelly from Reading and Tyler Harvey from Plymouth Argyle. Results and players' performances improved with Gary Ower's professional attitude and expectations from players at training and matches. Attendance and effort in training has improved. Gary Owers wants home dressing room improved for players. Gary Owers has been working on the team in close season and the busiest pre-season friendly schedule for some time friendlies with matches against Partick Thistle, Bristol City, Bristol Rovers, Oxford United and Cheltenham sorted were organised with Gary Owers.

Players

Gary Owers and the club have been concentrating on getting the right players rather than players right away. Most players have re-signed. Andy Gallinagh wasn't offered new contract. Weston came in with contract or Sekhani Simpson after he had been playing on non-contract terms at Bath City. Dave Pratt offered improved contract by Chippenham. A decision was made not to match contract deal for Dave Pratt. George Rigg and Stuart Fleetwood are both coming in.

Training

Training has not been ideal. Training on grass twice a week last season not ideal for pitch so team were training on 5 a side pitches. Odd Down were asked about Bath City training on 4G but they can't be accommodated. Exploring other option to train once a week at Twerton Park and once a week at alternative venue somewhere else. Bath Uni only offer late training slots.

Off-field

Bid discussions are on-going between the board and the Bid team who have been given a mandate by Bath City Supporters Society . The controlling directors have committed publicly to a community owned club. Pledged money will not go into club redevelopment, only into community shares. Redevelopment proceeds will go towards club and working capital.

Commercial

Shane said that that Bath City is doing OK commercially. Bob Chester is to be thanked and congratulated for his part in bringing money into the club through shirt sponsorship, board advertising, programme advertising and matchday sponsorship. Gate Revenue has gone up on last year as a percentage. Revenue on bars has reduced and there will be further reductions next year as Bridge club had cancelled three nights a week rental (£15000pa). Bridge club wanted 24 hour access to the bar for the three days that they booked. They have gone to Oldfield Rugby Club who have promised the sole access to bar for the three days rental. No prize money from cup runs this year. Last season's loss larger than the season before due to lack of cup runs. Revenue has held up due to the work of a small band of volunteers

Goalden Gate Lottery

Old lottery has been replaced and is getting £200pw and growing compared to the old lottery bringing in £0 due to admin costs.

Property development.

Due to legal restrictions, little can be recorded but the Bid Group agreed to redevelopment. Nothing been seen of great weight so far. Any changes to set up of club or redevelopment will be changed in AGM. No date for AGM is yet forthcoming until redevelopment plans (and accompanying public consultation) have been done.

Questions.

Dave Bartholomew asked who is doing the feasibility report and was informed by SM that it was Adapt. Martin Brush asked where the taxi company went who used the premises were. SM said that they were no longer trading. Arcs and Sparks still use the premises. SM then informed us that the old board room will be used again from next season and that there are no regular bookings of Charlies/Randalls on Saturday nights.

Thanks to Shane were given for his report and his continued hard work on behalf of the Supporters' Society.

6) Community Ownership update (Nick Blofeld)

Nick informed us that he had been involved from a few months ago to progress from the £300,000 already pledged for the Bid and to

regain momentum. The £300,000 was not enough as the 5 majority shareholders required £750,000 to give over the club to community ownership. Bridging loan has been suggested to the shareholders and they have agreed for the prospectus to be relaunched to increase pledged monies. A shareholders' agreement is needed between shareholders, Community Ownership Committee and lenders. Legal affairs related to this are ongoing. Agreement expected to be signed the next couple of weeks. After completion of shareholders' agreement, prospectus to be relaunched. There is not much to change in the prospectus due to Oliver Holtaway's original and recent work. Micro Genius have said that the deadline can be extended to the end of September (from end of June). High worth investors also being sought. Supporters' Direct have agreed to changes. PR company will be employed for a month on relaunch. Interim board to be created until redevelopment. Interim board will be largely populated by Bath City Supporters' Society committee members or mandated representatives

- 4 Bath City Supporters' Society Board members, 2 independent Board members, 2 existing Board members. This will make full advantage of the experience of current board mixed with new input from incoming Board members. Paul Williams knows the ins and outs of the running of the club. Some existing shareholders will step away and some will stay. Full time general manager to be employed by interim board. Draft job application for this role has been written. Several sub-groups have or will be set up - 1000BC already up and running looking after sales and marketing, Commercial group (Bob Chester, Nick Blofeld and possibly Simon Tapscott, Operations (working with Shane Morgan) and Community group (Sally Harris and Jamie Luck), Redevelopment group (Charles Whately is interested) and a Football group as well.

Business plan.

Ambitious but sensible projections are needed and Peter Thompson has been helping on the business plan with Paul Williams.

Triodos may be approached (a social lending bank) to remove

Natwest. A bridging loan would free up working capital to run the Club and build up the commercial side. Once the redevelopment is complete it should allow the buyout of the old majority shareholders, so conversion to the CBS. Oliver Holtaway to be congratulated and thanked for all his hard work.

Redevelopment

A rough concept for this has been seen. North side will be redeveloped with building going over car park so as to keep same traditional spirit of ground on three sides. Adapt Real Estate are a new company and are middle men rather than developers but funding for redevelopment has been agreed.

Questions

Marc Thomas asked whether, however much people (particularly high worth investors) put in, they will get one share as agreed in the original Bid. Nick confirmed this would be the case.

Peter Metcalfe introduced himself as chairman of the Bath World Heritage Site steering group (advisory group for UNESCO heritage site consultative board) and pointed out that, within the next few weeks, any new plans for developments will be on their website so he suggested checking the site for updates. He also mentioned that Bath City Farm may have important views on redevelopment. UNESCO insist that communities need to be represented on plans for any development. NB said that an independent planning consultant will be involved for Community Ownership Committee so he will pass this on.

Ken Loach mentioned there is frustration felt amongst supporters that events are still dragging on. He recognised that movement is happening and that the heads of agreement is delaying matters and that is all that is presently being waited for.

Ken Loach mentioned that the redevelopment and the community elements together will bring in all the community and give them a sense of ownership of the club. Sally Harris will help to drive the link between the community and the club in the building of the redevelopment. Architecture should be as good as elsewhere in Bath. How the community links in with the redevelopment is important. Social and commercial hubs as well as low cost gyms have been mentioned.

Paul Brotherton asked about what the risk on the bridging loan would be if the redevelopment didn't happen. Nick Blofeld said that as the investors aren't a commercial bank but positive financial contributors who are interested in the welfare of the club.

Martin Powell thanked Nick Blofeld for his report and all his work. Nick Blofeld thanked Oliver Holtaway and the Bid team.

7) Financial Report (Colin Voutt)

Apologies as accounts are usually approved by committee. Accounts have gone to auditor and they have said that accounts will be ready for June 30th so Oliver Holtaway hasn't signed them but they will be signed on his return and a copy will be put on the Financial Services Authority site.

(Accounts on separate sheet)

Questions.

Dave Bartholemew asked why Bath City Supporters' Society pay interest on a loan to the club? Colin Voutt answered that Bath City Supporters' Society made a loan to the club to pay off Manda

Rigby.

Colin Voutt was thanked by Martin Powell for his report and hard work.

8) Community Sports Foundation Report (Steve Skinner)

It has been a good year for Foundation. There has been a focus on coaching at primary schools although expansion into secondary schools - Ralph Allen, St Marks and St Gregory - and especially girls' football. Girls' match in May brought publicity to the Foundation's work.

Charlie Griffin and Jordan Guard have both taken on larger roles. Charlie Griffin deals with appointing staff to run other sessions and liaising with schools. Staff has been consistent with University students doing a great deal but several of the the students who have worked regularly for the Foundation are either finishing their course this year of going out on a placement year. Jordan Guard, who has been on a placement year, will be returning to the University in September to complete her final year but will still do sessions with the Foundation when available. Jordan has made recommendations regarding additional staff for next year to fill the gaps due to students finishing or going on placement. Dan Bowman worked with Foundation until Christmas when his Uni commitments curtailed his work but he coaches sessions where he can. Louis Perry doing sessions. Josh Barrington has also done sessions. Links with Academy have been strengthened by Charlie Griffin helping Billy Clark with Academy coaching at Odd Down.

Next season, the Foundation will be applying for funding for boys' after school club and Saturday morning sessions. The Foundation is working with a group called Swallow - a charity working with adults with learning disabilities - running a session at Chilcompton with Charlie Griffin. They have a team who play in the Somerset Ability Football League. Several schools tournaments have been arranged including mixed 8 a side tournaments - 4 girls and 4 boys. Several new schools have come on board. Soccer schools have been successful - 90-100 participants last summer. Summer schools this summer on 25/26/27 July at Hayesfield. Funding being sought for short, focussed sessions with disadvantaged children with the help of Mentoring Plus. These were done in February and May - supported by volunteer groups from Herman Miller as well as coaches. Bath Community Academy now showing interest and, hopefully, there will be work with them in September. For the first time the Foundation is working with local schools to provide work experience for groups of girls and boys during June and July.

Questions

David Bartholomew asked if there was anything organised for older people. Steve Skinner said that walking football is already being done elsewhere and there are walking football matches played at Twerton Park during the season.

Marc Thomas asked whether it is just University students that coach. Steve Skinner confirmed this and that this arrangement works best.

Martin Powell thanked Steve Skinner for his report and his hard work.

9) Appointment of auditors: Blomfield

Proposer Martin Brush and seconded by Roger Wilsdon

10) AOB

Chris Cox asked why Dave Pratt was not offered a new contract. Shane Morgan explained that the player was determined to leave for a more attractive contract offered by Chippenham.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm