



BWFC Supporters' Trust

Minutes

Subject: BWFC & BWFCST Quarterly Meeting No 12

Venue: Toughsheet Community Stadium

Meeting Date: 05 July 2024 @ 10.00am

Present:

BWFC: Neil Hart (NH),

BWFCST: Ian Bridge (IB) Robin Fletcher (RF) Alan Houghton (AH), Ian Pegg (IP), Mike Smith (MS)

Apologies: Phil Mason(PM), Sue Higson (SH), Terence Rigby (TR), Shane Stopforth (SS), Maggie Tetlow (MT), Paul Wood (PW) Martin Parnell(MP)

Purpose of Meeting:

The meeting is the twelfth scheduled quarterly meeting between senior BWFC personnel and BWFCST board representatives as referenced in the Joint Memorandum of Understanding signed by both parties in August 2021.

1. Previous Minutes

Minutes of the quarterly meeting held on 5th April 2024 were accepted and are available on the trust website.

2. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

MP had requested, in his absence, for it to be recorded his gratitude to NH for the book "Total Belief" is now being sold at the Club shop.

3. 24/25 Season Ticket Sales

NH confirmed that season ticket sales were continuing to sell well. The number Away tickets has been increased for the coming season has been increased from 300 to 500.

A review of possible upgrades to Ticketmaster is being carried out.

It was agreed the ST would prepare a fan survey to gauge the enthusiasm for a Loyalty scheme to be used as and when tickets for cup and/or away games are in short supply. The draft survey to be discussed with NH prior to being sent out to the Trust Members.

4. Youth Involvement/Advisory Group

IB, AH & IP have formed a working group on behalf of the ST to promote a YAG including drafting a constitution. IB reported there has been expressions of interest from a number of secondary schools and discussions have taken place with Bolton Lads and Girls Club and Bolton at Home. NH suggested at the previous meeting that two age groups, namely 14-18 and up to 21 years old, could be formed with monthly



meetings. It was suggested nominated players (Men & Women) and other local sporting personalities would be asked to act as Ambassadors.

5. Fan Zone

NH advised the Club are seeking to convert the FZ from a temporary to a permanent facility, including the possibility of increasing the capacity. There are a few matters to be resolved with the Council, etc.

IB is looking to providing free Wi-Fi for ST members located in and around their cabin.

6. 1923 Medal

MS reported the display cabinet and graphic boards were ready for installation. Memorabilia to be brought together over next couple of weeks. NH will organize for the 1923 shirt to be available and IB has located the Dick Pym Tankard (collection will have to be arranged from Exeter Museum).

The flip side of the medal to be photographed for display in the cabinet.

It was agreed the first day of the display should be launched with a fan-fare including present and past players. NH proposed the 25th of July 2024.

7. Trust Podcast

NH suggested that possibly Chris Markham could be invited to be a participant. The ST to provide a topics for discussion and alternative dates.

8. Disabled Supporter Association

IP updated the meeting on the continuing progress the DSA were making with the formation of a proactive board, the adoption of a written constitution and collaboration with Debbie Davies from BWitC.

The DSA have requested IP and RF continue to work with Danny Scott to implement the recommendations of the Level Playing Field Audit for the Stadium including the FZ. Level Playing Field have recently issued a nationwide survey of the matchday day experience of disabled supporters and their carers.

RF confirmed the Changing Place Toilet has been signed off by Bolton Council and there remained some directional signage to be completed, which is anticipated imminently. The DSA will be asked to seek sponsorship to cover the cost of the ongoing maintenance of the equipment and the Feature Wall.

9. Trust Event – Q & A with Neil Hart and Ian Evatt

NH was asked to provide a proposed date in the autumn.

10. Update on the Projects carried out during the Closed Season

NH stated that the facilities team have and are continuing to be fully occupied with a wide ranging number of projects over the summer. NH will be issuing a coordinated statement before the start of the season.



11. Any other Business

- .1** IB has resigned his position with FSA as he has found their conflict of interest with being funded by the Premier League no longer tenable. IB confirmed his and the Trusts' commitment to Fair Game and the implantation of the Independent Regulator.
- .2** RF and IB have been in dialogue with GMP as to the ways and means of maintaining/improving the matchday experience with particular regard to a safe and secure environment. Overtures have been made to Bolton Council to permit the Trust to be proactively involved in the 'Safety at Grounds' meetings.
- .3** A discussion took place regarding the selection of the Men's home kit for the 2025/2026 season and NH that the fans will be afforded the opportunity to pick their preference from a limited selection.

12. Next Meeting

10am on the 4th of October 2024. Date to be confirmed

