



BWFC Supporters' Trust

Minutes

Subject: BWFC & BWFCST Quarterly Meeting No 17

Venue: The Bolton Stadium Hotel

Meeting Date: 3rd October 2025 @ 10.00am

Present:

BWFC: David Ray (DR), Paul Holliday (PH)
BWFCST: Martin Parnell (MP), Ian Pegg (IP), Mike Smith Alan Houghton (AH),
Shane Stopforth (SS), Jamie Adams Mercer (JM) & Robin Fletcher (RF)

Apologies: Sue Higson (SH), Terence Rigby (TR) & Paul Wood (PW)

Purpose of Meeting:

Action

The meeting is the seventeenth 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. Apologies

Apologies are recorded above.

2. Previous Minutes

Minutes of the quarterly meeting held on 8th August 2025 were accepted and are available on the Trusts' website.

3. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

- The proposed theming of the concourses to recount the Clubs history continues to be developed and it is proposed to regularly rotate and refresh the displays. The public areas within the Hotel can also be used.
- The guided tours of the stadium have proven to be a success.
- AH is liaising with Simon Marland and Mike Gething to catalogue the Club memorabilia. Linking in with the theming of the concourses it is requested that artifacts of interest can be put on display. **AH**
- The Trust maintain an ambition for a location for a museum be found. PH suggested stadium and hotel as a whole could serve this purpose.
- The bringing together of the Clubs and supporters memorabilia to mark BWFC 150th anniversary, which also coincides with 30th since the move from Burnden Park to the Toughsheet Stadium. BWiTC are looking to support this initiative by applying for Heritage Lottery Funding. The Trust has been developing a similar idea, together with a project being promoted by the Youth Advisory Group. **PH/AH/IP**



- Recycling bins for plastic are now available. It is thought some further information might be needed to encourage customers to use the bins correctly. **PH**
- DR & PH confirmed the Club's backing of a sustainable Women's team. In light of some of the messaging on social media following the departure of the first team coach RF asked if the Club would be issuing a formal message in response. The Club have removed the comments and will limit posts until further notice while the Club investigates the comments.
- MP confirmed he had looked into the current ruling on the size of bags permitted to be brought into the ground on matchdays and found them to be reasonable and in line with good security practice.
- The Club have reflected on the options available pre and post-match for hotel guests and considers the current options to be the most economically viable.
- DR reported he anticipates making an announcement in the coming weeks of giving away fans an opportunity to purchase food and drink within the environs of the stadium. **DR**

4. The Trust's 10th Anniversary

The Trust have previously expressed a desire to hold a couple of Q&A events in the autumn of 2025 and spring of 2026. DR advised he was in the later stages of making an announcement on a Q&A being put on by the Club, MP asked if the Trust could be represented on the panel and DR confirmed he was happy for them to do so.

In light of the above the Trust propose their own dedicated Q&A to be held in February or March 2026. DR asked for a proposed date and he will seek availability. **RF**

5. Fan Engagement

The Trust are seeking collaboration with other organized fan groups in addition to the already established affiliations (e.g. Disabled, London Whites etc.) with the aim of offering a conduit for communication with the Club. A meeting is arranged with the Remembrance Group for next week. **PW/MS/SS**

6. Youngest Team Commemoration

A project to make a commemoration of the youngest team fielded by BWFC on the 10th of August 2019 is underway by the YAG. It is proposed it be displayed on the route of the Stadium Tours **AH**

7. Manbassadors Initiative

The Trust are supporting Bolton at Homes Manbassadors scheme, which is directed at helping men struggling with their mental health. A walk from the Town Hall to the Stadium is to place on Saturday the 4th of October 2025 to raise awareness. **IP/SH/RF**

8. Survey of the Kiosk Offers

The Trust have received comments that food and drink offer in the concourse kiosks could be improved. DR announced a comprehensive fan survey is being prepared and it is anticipated it will be sent out before the end of the year. **DR**



9. Any Other Business

- DR asked if there is support to create a remembrance space around the Nat Lofthouse statue. PH also felt it could be a better location for those who wanted to cast ashes at the ground (the pitch being regularly disturbed). A further suggestion is plant commemorative trees within the car park/hard landscaped areas.
- MP asked if the training dome is being replaced at Lostock? DR reported the long running saga with the insurers had been resolved, however the replacement of the dome is a mid-rather short-term project.

10. Next Meeting

10am in the Inspire Board Room on

9th of January 2026

10th of April 2026

3rd of July 2026

2nd of October 2026

