

Wessex Blues

7th Meeting Minutes

Started 7th March 2013 20:00

Closed 7th March 2013 21:40

Location: Royal British Legion/Ex Servicemen's Club, North Road, Poole, Dorset

1. Welcome and Introduction

Rob thanked everyone for attending the March meeting (14 in attendance). Apologies from Peter Birbeck, Joanne Sherry, Stephen Eaton, Wayne Willington, Alan Lawrence and Marc Hayes

2. News and Updates

Rob was pleased to announce that we are now an official supporters club. Ash mentioned the current situation with the Wessex Blues website and the previous issues with it concerning downloading too many videos etc on the old website.... Ash suggested that the minutes were placed on the website as a possible alternative to them being sent to individual members via email.

3. Reading Away

Rob mentioned the availability of going to Reading via the train, with respect to four people travelling and only two people paying via a Railcard...initial costs were however ~£12 each way.

Steve and Rob mentioned the problems in getting to Reading at the moment due to fact the train only goes to Basingstoke from Poole and then a bus service to Reading itself due to the upgrade of Reading Station itself. Steve mentioned that there was a significant walk from the train station to Reading's football ground. Steve also mentioned a minibus as an alternative if sixteen of us were willing to go. Ash would look into a rate cost on providing a cost for a minibus. It was mentioned that progressing further in the FA Cup may cause the rearrangement of this fixture.

4. Swansea Away

A message from Kevin Parker, suggested that the Swansea match scheduled for the 4th May that the official Supporters Coaches would like to attend at the Swansea Branch Venue (The George Public House) on route to the match at the Liberty Stadium where a raffle of some prizes would generate some funds towards CITC.

5. Final Membership List

Branches were asked to send a Final Membership List by the end of March with any outstanding subscriptions by return to Howard Burr, Membership Secretary. Steve mentioned that an additional three members were going to be added to the list, suggesting that we had a total of 27 paid members.

6. Want to own a piece of History?

Rob mentioned that the Championship Banner is for sale, priced at £175

7. Frank Swift Book

Mark Metcalf has written a book about Frank Swift. Frank Swift was certainly Manchester City's greatest keeper, who sadly was killed in the Munich air crash. This book looks back on his life back from his humble surroundings of Blackpool to helping Manchester City win the Division One title and the FA Cup in the 1930s. This book was released on the 1st March and costs £15. Mark suggested that he had some of these books priced at £12. Ash suggested that we purchased this book. Steve proposed this and Richard seconded it. Steve was then asked to purchase the book if funds available. Ash also suggested that we started to acquire a library of books and other Man City memorabilia to be used/shared by our members.

8. City Circle

Tom and Martin mentioned about a City Circle Path around the football ground. Prices and options to obtain a different style nugget (steel, glass or bronze) are available at the following website <https://bookings.sportsfusion.eu/mcfc/discs/citycircle/index.htm>

9. Wessex Blues Website

Ash displayed the new Wessex Blues Website on his laptop, suggesting views and ideas to improve the current website <http://the-wessex-blues.webnode.com/>. Russ commented that the site had a professional look about it. Rob and Richard suggested a blog section and information posted with respect to train time prices on away fixtures. It was also suggested by several members that documents, statistics, photographs etc. were uploaded about the club and a link to You Tube showing coverage of Man City past matches etc. It was also mentioned that links to other Man City websites were included. Steve suggested that we placed the website on search engines to gain more web coverage so new potential blues were aware of us. While viewing the website, it was suggested that Dave would kiss Alan's arse in front of the other members, if Man City retained their Premiership title.

10. Meetings and Format

Steve suggested that we contacted other branches (Yeovil etc) for nights out etc.
The OSC website to be updated with details of our Branch
Contact the Bournemouth Echo to have our branch officially opened – with the suggestion of having an ex Man City player to attend (Tommy Booth, David James).
Contact local radio stations for further exposure of the branch and other forms of communication in general to increase exposure.
Look into the option to see if the Premiership Trophy could visit the branch
Pete mentioned the possibility of a new member who may attend in the future that he knew

11. AOB

Raise funds for local charity (Poppy Appeal) from next season onwards

12. Next Meeting

Next meeting to be held on the 11th April at 19:45

Minutes taken by Dr. Richard J. Wild – General Secretary, Wessex Blues