

# Wessex Blues

**3rd Meeting Minutes**

**26th Oct 2012 8PM**

## **1. Welcome & Introduction**

A record 18 members attended the meeting.

A warm welcome to Vicki Brown and Stephen Eaton.

An official register has now been introduced and this has been back dated to first meeting.

## **2. Previous Minutes**

One of the action points from the previous minutes was the introduction of a contact card for the Wessex Blues.

Paul Greenwood exceeded expectations and produced an amazing high quality contact card! He received a well deserved round of applause for his efforts.

Cards have now been distributed to all members. Please contact Rob if you need any more.

## **3. Treasurer Update** (Steve Hayhurst)

### **Banking**

Barclays are offering us an account that suits our needs. A community account, with no fees as long as we remain in the black. A cheque book and debit card will be provided and an online facility. A minimum of two and maximum of three signatories are needed for the account. Application pack is on its way to Steve. The floor happily agreed to this and the three signatures will consist of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

It was suggested that once the bank account is set up, Steve (treasurer), Richard (secretary) and Rob (chairman) meet up to get the official forms filled in and sent off to City to make our supporters club official!

### **Coach Travel**

Steve had several points to make based on the figure of 520 pounds – The bottom line (as advised by Ash Jones) is that it will cost a minimum of 1,100 pounds due to the fact of two drivers being required (as Ash will not be accepted to drive as a non employee of Seaview.) Ash informed us that if we were to go ahead with Seaview Coaches, they require full payment 7 days in advance. This price also covers fuel. They would also require a minimum of 30 days notice for a booking and if we had to cancel that booking then we would still need to pay in full or it would be reduced if 7 days or more notice were given, percentage of reduction depending on amount of time given for cancellation.

Steve suggested that to secure a seat on the coach, we should pay a £10.00 deposit up front and also that it be non refundable as that would cover the basic cost of the empty seat (if the person decided not to travel). But the £10.00 could be refunded if we were able to fill that seat. This was put to the floor and we all agreed.

Steve also proposed that if someone wanted a one way journey up there only (due to spending a few days up there visiting relatives etc), then that would be acceptable if the coach was not fully booked with return journeys, BUT the cost of that one way travel should still be £20.00 as it still represents good value and that the empty seat on half of the journey is not being subsidized by others or the branch. This was put to the floor and we all agreed.

Paul Greenwood suggested that we go to an away game (non televised) once a month? He also put forward the idea of possibly using a 16 seater bus or 2 x 8 seater buses instead, as there may not be enough people to fill a 52 seater coach.

Steve also said we do not necessarily have to get a coach every time.

Ash Jones did some research on coach companies with these results:

South Coast Link Rider did not want to take us on! (Rags)

Poole Bay Transport wants £1100 for Manchester return for a 52 seater coach.

Turners Coaches of Dorchester (Mercedes Executive Travel), the owner being a City season ticket holder himself – 16 seater £500 (£31.25 per head) or a 24 seater £640 (£25 per head).

We could combine with a supporters club in Yeovil which may bring down the cost. The owner of Turners Coaches has gone on holiday until the end of November so Ash will catch up with him soon after that. Ash made the suggestion that possibly himself, Rob and Steve (committee members), go to Yeovil to meet with this other supporters club to discuss that option further.

Ash put the question to the floor that “if we could go to a city game tomorrow who would go”? 6 people raised their hands. He then asked if we had 3 weeks notice, how many would then go? 14 people raised their hands. So Ash said if we had 8 to 10 people on a regular basis, we could mix with Yeovil. They could possibly become a co-club.

### **Payment of Subs**

Steve discussed the idea of subs to build up the branch bank account.

Ash put to the floor the possibility of everyone paying a £1 sub on the night at each meeting, to help keep the club funds topped up. We all agreed that this was a good and acceptable idea. So from now on if everyone could get their name ticked off on the register on arrival when paying their £1 sub. Rob reminded us all that the Club room is free hire to us. We started our collection subs and register tonight.

All monies collected so far since the first meeting, were passed over to Steve (treasurer) tonight.

Steve mentioned that he will not be hounding people for their subs/monies etc. but made the suggestion that, to make it a little easier, and to make it fairer to those who are fully paid up, that when it comes to allocation of away tickets, that anyone who is not fully paid up without a genuine reason does not qualify for away tickets. This was put to the floor and we all agreed.

### **Christmas Raffle**

Steve put forward the idea of a Christmas Raffle. Steve did a little research and has seen that for an outlay of £25.00 we could purchase around 5 City related items for a raffle. If we sold around 25 tickets for £2 each, we could double our outlay or at £3, treble it and boost our funds. This was put to the floor and we all agreed that Steve should go ahead and purchase these items, ready for our Christmas Raffle – to be held at our next meeting.

Dave Eaton said he will look into possibly getting a signed shirt (but can't promise anything); A suggestion was made that we could auction something like that (as it would be worth more than a raffle ticket).

There were also suggestions of a Christmas Party, any ideas welcome.

We all agreed that we could make more of a social occasion of our next meeting by all bringing a plate of food to share, to put towards a small buffett and possibly a quiz.

### **Great South Run**

On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October, Steve ran 10 miles of Portsmouth and Southsea. He left us a sponsor form and very kindly said that any amount raised would be paid into our branch funds as a donation! Huge thanks to Steve for doing this. Many of us filled in the sponsor form at the meeting but if any one else would like to contribute then monies for this will be collected at our next meeting.

Dr Richard Wild was also doing this run, raising money for MS, (dressed as a tiger as that is the colour of the MS charity logo). If any one would like to contribute to that then please see Richard at the next meeting.

### **5. Acknowledgements**

Paul Greenwood for amazing job on contact cards  
Steve for input regarding the branch finances  
Ash for research into travel

**Next meeting has had to be re scheduled to Thurs  
29<sup>th</sup> November at 7.45pm (the club could not keep  
original date of the 6<sup>th</sup> Dec as they are already  
booked). Hope to see as many of you there as  
possible!**