



Wessex Blues

21st Meeting Minutes

Started 12th June 2014 20:15

Closed 12th June 2014 21:25

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

1. Welcome and Introduction

Alan thanked everyone for attending the June meeting (7 in attendance plus 1 potential new member). Ash asked branch members if they had received and were happy with the minutes from the previous meeting. No one objected to the minutes from the previous meeting which was moved by Martin and seconded by Bill; however Colin and Russell appeared not to have received them. Richard stated that he would send the email again shortly with the minutes. Alan and Richard commented that the branch was no further forward with securing a treasurer position; however Alan suggested that ~11 new members were likely to join for the new season, with the possibility that a new treasurer may come from one of these new members.

Apologies were mentioned from Pete Armstrong, Margaret Garner, Tom Ockenden, Paul Greenwood, Wayne Millington, Dave O'Brien, Peter Birbeck, Joanne Sherry, Rob Clarke, Ashley Jones, Kay Brooks, Gary Forsey, Penny Ree, Andy Mountford, Andy Parkin, Ian Jakeman, Andy Hebblewaite, Stephen Eaton and Dave Eaton.

A potential new member attended this meeting in the form of David Wood. David throughout the meeting gave suggestions and ideas on how the branch could move forward.

2. Chairperson Update (Mr Alan Crumley)

Alan suggested that we needed a member to potentially design a branch flag and to update our business cards.

Alan stated that Alan Lawrence would advertise our branch details in the Weymouth area, with the Dorset Echo being used as a possibility or alternatively a poster. Alan handed out a first draft of the Code of Conduct/Branch Rules. With a few suggestions from Richard and a few from other branch members, Alan mentioned he would revise the Branch Rules with these comments for the next meeting; however overall the first draft received some positive comments. Alan suggested that for the next season, three spare tickets may be available.

Alan mentioned about tickets for the Community Shield....Richard mentioned to date that no news had been received from MCFC concerning this.

3. General Secretary Update (Dr. Richard Wild)

Richard informed the branch that Marco (Richard's IT guru at his work's office) had agreed to do our new website. Richard confirmed that Marco and Richard would be able to host the site on the office's server at no charge to the branch. Richard confirmed that he had purchased the domain name www.wessexblues.co.uk for £8.98 for the next two years out of his own funds and would ask for the payment back when a new treasurer was appointed. Richard confirmed that Andy and Colin would continue to manage content for Twitter and Facebook respectively and Marco and Richard would manage content for the new website. Marco will design the webpage so it is easy accessible for tablets and smart phones. Marco has also suggested an option for video, so branch members could upload videos from the games etc. Marco also suggested for blogs and forums to be avoided and if anyone wants to make any comments, use Facebook and Twitter respectively so to avoid website spam etc.

Richard confirmed that he had trawled through other Manchester City Official Supporters Club websites for ideas, style, content and suggestions for our own website. Richard also confirmed that the website is likely to be ready for the start of the new season in August and would confirm to members when it was completed. Richard also mentioned to members' present that if anybody had any photographs or videos they would like to share on the Wessex Blues website it would be appreciated.

After discussions with Kevin, for the time being Richard would be the 'interim treasurer' until one was officially appointed.

Richard mentioned that the committee had agreed to purchase a City Circle; however Alan and I had decided that Richard would send out an email shortly asking for views on what branch members would like to see on the plaque. Richard stated again to members that the plaque is allowed 25 characters at the top with 18 characters at the bottom.

Richard mentioned that he was going to contact the Isle of Wight and A34 branches to see if we could have a joint meeting with them at their location or ours to potentially have a social evening/ex players to visit us as a combined unit and help with travelling to home and away grounds.

Richard mentioned at the last meeting he would contact Kevin at MCFC to see who the best contact is to update the Supporters Club Website as information about the Wessex Blues is significantly not of date with content and contact information. Richard made it clear that he had not done this; however he would contact them in the next week or so.

Richard informed branch members that membership fees would be needed for the new season shortly, as the new season will run from 1st August 2014 to the 31st July 2015. Richard and Alan decided that the branch membership would go up to £15 per member from £5 (£10 for OAPs/Juniors); however no monthly subs would be requested from each member at monthly meetings going forward from August 2014.

Richard mentioned that City Live has now been released and it will take place on Thursday 14th August 2014. Details about this event would be available via the following website link:

<http://www.mcfc.co.uk/News/Team-news/2014/June/City-Live>

4. AOB

Richard would send out several emails shortly, with views and comments on purchasing T shirts for the branch as well as car stickers and other merchandise.

Ash confirmed that a barbeque would be present at the next meeting.

5. Next Meeting

Next meeting to be held on the 24th July at 19:45

Minutes taken by Dr. Richard J. Wild – General Secretary