



Wessex Blues

44th Meeting Minutes

Started 8th September 2016 20:00

Closed 8th September 2016 20:35

Location: Smugglers Run, 184 Ashley Road, Poole, Dorset, BH14 9BY

1. Welcome and Introduction

Dave thanked everyone for attending the September meeting (20 in attendance). Members present were asked if the previous minutes from the last meeting were satisfactory, no objections were made, with Paul and Billy approving the minutes.

No apologies were mentioned as of 5pm with the exception that Bill G and Margaret were not present due to being in Dubai and David M who was absent due to sorting out arrangements of his new flat. Richard confirmed that David M had used his joker card with respect to this.

Dave commented about Ashley's wake, that he thought Michael was pleased on how it had gone. Dave also mentioned on that he was pleased by how many people from Wessex Blues had attended the wake and also how good the food, the company and drink was. A 'good send-off' for Ashley was all agreed.

Richard confirmed that out of the 27 current branch members, he had been re-elected to serve as General Secretary for the next 24 months as 25 branch members had emailed him to state that they would like for him to continue in the role (Richard required 14 branch members to confirm this). Everyone was pleased with the result and Richard thanked everyone for their votes.

Dave merged feedback and attendance from previous games in August with forthcoming games in September and early October. Dave commented was there a lot of value in this. Several branch members commented on matches that were played during late August and early September, but no significant points were made. Paul asked do we need to discuss this as everyone views this as a 'damp squid'. Dave confirmed it was put on the agenda to confirm who was going to games and how they were getting there.

Andy M confirmed that he was trying to organise a mini-bus to the home game against Everton, stay up after the game and come back on the Sunday. After a meal and a few drinks etc. Andy H had confirmed that he had placed the information on Facebook etc and that seven people were confirmed to date. Andy M confirmed that it was going to cost about £40 per head for the mini-bus. Andy M confirmed he would

be the central point for any confirmation and details. Dave suggested in staying in Altrincham with Pete suggesting Belle View. Richard confirmed he would try and make any meal or drink after the game; however with the recent passing of his mum, he was not sure with being behind with work due to his honeymoon and now losing his mum that his not sure from week to week where he would be, especially with trying to organise his father with his home and future plans of him coming down to Bournemouth etc.

New signings/loans were mentioned with a few views commenting about Bony going to Stoke City.

2. General Secretary Update (Dr. Richard Wild)

Richard mentioned that ticket requests had been made for Celtic (A) (Joe, Gary, Pete, Andy M, Dave M, Dave, Rich), Everton (H) (Andy H, Dave M, Andy M), Barcelona (A) (Dave), Swansea (A) (No requests), Middlesbrough (H) (No requests) and Southampton (H) (No requests).

Richard confirmed that we have 27 paid up members. Richard also mentioned that he had dropped emails to Kay, Colin, Phil, Nick, Tom and Martin, but to date no return correspondence had occurred to date. Richard therefore confirmed that our paid up members of 37 from last season is likely to fall to ~30 members for the coming season. Richard also mentioned that Rob would not be renewing due to work. Andy M commented that the people here present tonight are likely to be the hard core. Pete mentioned did not we have officially 40 members?...Richard confirmed that the highest number of members we have ever had was 39. People passing away, resigning, moving away, work and family commitments had accounted for the majority of branches numbers dropping significantly. The primary concern is that we hit the 20 mark for the branch to exist and that had been achieved.

Birthday wishes were sent out for Stephen Charlton (8th September), Alan (3rd October) and Margaret (12th October)

3. Treasurer Update (Claire Wild)

Claire mentioned that the current balance was just over £1000 so looking healthy, so likely we could spend some money on social events. Billy and a few other members suggested due to having a healthy balance would the branch pay for the mini-bus rather than paying for fish and chips etc. Dave said 'on your bike'. Penny confirmed the cost for a bowling night at £16.99 per head for two games with buffet food with winners and losers certificates with cup and some wine. Dave mentioned about having a skittles night at the Smugglers when it was finished. Annie asked that the current funds in the bank would need to remain for the season as beside raffles etc, no further money would be placed into the bank. Some car boot sale funds would hopefully be included shortly as well.

Several members including Andy H, Andy M and Paul suggested that we subsidise the cost of the mini-bus to Everton. Billy proposed that the branch subsidised a mini bus for home travel occasionally with a minimum of no less than eight people. Dave commented that the branch would subsidise £50 for the mini bus to Everton and

review this again for home games as needed. All branch members approved this after a vote. Claire finally thanked everyone for paying for their tickets recently. Claire handed out Manchester United tickets to members who requested them.

4. AOB

Bowling/skittle night would be brought up again at the next meeting. The bowling/skittle night would then be considered for the November and/or December meeting.

Richard confirmed that he had sent news about the passing about Ashley....Richard hoped it would be placed in the next home programme in the supporters section which would be Bournemouth. Claire confirmed that our wedding was mentioned in the West Ham programme.

Richard stated that he was doing the Great North Run on the 11th September and it was in Newcastle and its distance is 13.1 miles. Richard mentioned he would put pictures on Facebook etc.

Dave asked if anyone knew what City had been given for the Celtic game. Billy mentioned that City had been allocated 2,700 seats.

Andy P asked when would we know about allocation tickets for Tottenham. Richard said this news is likely to be imminently.

5. Next Meeting:

Next meeting to be held on the 13th October 2016 at 19:45 at the Ex Serviceman's Club.

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