



Wessex Blues

77th Meeting

Started 12 Sep 2019 19.57

Closed 12 Sep 2019 20.35

Location: Bearwood Community Centre

1. Welcome and Introduction

Dave welcomed everybody for attending the meeting and thanked them for finding their way to the new temporary venue. Sadly, the bar facilities on this occasion were not available. In the absence of the Secretary and Treasurer, Dave hosted the meeting.

Dave asked if everyone had seen and read the minutes. The minutes were verified and proposed as a true record, by Andy Mountford, and seconded by Andy Parkin.

Apologies were received from Rich (E), Claire (E), Norman (E), Phil (J), Carole (J), Paul (E) and Margie.

Comments on previous games – centred mainly on the availability of tickets for the Bournemouth v City game. Dave expressed his thanks to Michael for the tickets he and Gavin got albeit in the Bournemouth End, something that Dave did not enjoy. Luckily, he and Gavin were able to move to the City end at half time. Much frustration however, as Dave pointed out, the number of empty seats in the City End. It still did not explain how so many of the members obtained tickets. Michael did point out that there were probably spares that could have been re-allocated but did not materialise. Dave has emailed the Club, to complain, but as usual, not much in the way of a helpful reply, save to say they did not condone fans being in the “away” end.

Dave said it was good to see the crowd attending the Ladies Derby Match.

Forthcoming games, Dave said he was surprised he had not seen anything regarding tickets for the Home European games, although as a Citizen, you can go online and book them, as Dave has done. It appears apart from Andy Parkin going to the Atalanta game, that there will be minimal travelling by members for European games. Gavin said he was not sure if he had a Norwich ticket or not.

Michael and Andy H both had purchased a 125-year shirt, at differing prices. Andy M stated that the under 21 strip was awful.

The Venue for future meetings was discussed. Dave said it was thanks to Andy M that he got to know about the expulsion from Poole Ex. Dave wrote to them but got a pretty poor reply. The second response to his emails said we could use the upstairs committee room, but Dave chose not to respond! Dave did say he thought initially it was a bolt out of the blue, but then reading the minutes, found that events were happening back at the last meeting, which he did not know about, until he read the minutes. Various options were discussed, 1. To carry on at Bearwood, at a cost, but hopefully with bar access. 2. To meet at Pelham's, where they have a bar, but again at a cost. 3. To have the meetings at the Barking Cat, albeit on different Thursdays. Andy M or Penny can supply the dates, and the intention is still to have the Christmas meeting at the Barking Cat. There were no other options mentioned, and after discussion a vote was taken, and the choice was to have the meetings at the Barking Cat. The immediate meeting dates would be 3rd October, and 12th December for the Christmas meeting, the Thursday November dates are not available at the Barking Cat, so the November meeting will have to be re-arranged. Dates for 2020 to follow.

Dave then asked the members how they felt the Christmas raffle should proceed, and after discussion it was decided by the members that they would prefer the same split as last year, i.e. £50 on City Material, and £50 on Spirits, Chocolates etc. Discount was mentioned for the City store and it was determined that we should be able to get discount, and Dave mentioned that his Sister worked there, so may get a better discount.

New members – Mark Oakley introduced himself to the club and said he “signed on” via the website, he wasn't sure if he was on the contact list, however. Mark was welcomed by the members.

Dave then raised a point about the Minutes of the meeting. He said he will get the minutes out as soon after the meeting as possible, and he would like that to continue to be the practice. In view of some of the items on the last minutes, not coming to light until two days ago, Dave felt it would be prudent for members to be appraised of the minutes, sooner rather than later, or both. Issued ASAP, and no longer than 5 days after the meeting, with a reminder or re-issue nearer the date of the next meeting. Dave proposed that this practice be introduced, and this was agreed by the members.

Dave then suggested that the current rules regarding attendance at meetings after attending a match was a little too ambiguous. He felt that original discussions suggested it should be attendance at Away games, to include European and Cup games. Returning from those games would thus allow members to be excused from Meetings. A question was asked by Mark about attendances and it was pointed out what was required in order to be eligible to obtain a ticket. Further discussion followed and it was agreed to defer the topic until the next meeting.

2. Secretary Update

In the absence of Rich, Dave gave the update. Ticket requests:
Only the game at Crystal Palace (Away) had requests: Graham, Rich, Claire and Norman.
No news on ticket allocations yet.
There were no Birthdays to celebrate.

3. Treasurer Update

In the absence of the Treasurer, Dave gave the update. Current bank balance and transactions up to date, apart from the £14 owed to Dave for the cost of the meeting. Bank balance £709.04.

4. Any Other Business

Michael C stated that he would not be at the next meeting and would be playing his joker, as did Bryan. Michael also said he was driving up to the Atalanta (H) game on the 22nd, back on the 23rd, if anyone was interested in getting a lift, similarly to the Aston Villa (A) game. Dave also said he was travelling up for the Dinamo (H) game and the Atalanta (H) games and would probably be travelling back after the games, or at least one of them.

Addendum: Gavin has a prior engagement due on the date of the October meeting, but because of the change in dates, he will be listed as Exempt. Considering the changes, Bryan will also be listed as Exempt and therefore will retain his Joker.

5. Next Meeting

Next Meeting to be held on the 3rd October 2019 at 19.45 at The Barking Cat, 182-184 Ashley Road, Poole.

Addendum: The Wessex Blues Website will need to be changed to reflect the new Venue

Minutes taken by Dave O'Brien – Chairman.