



Wessex Blues

93rd Meeting Minutes

Started 9th May 2022 19:20

Closed 9th May 2022 19:55

Location: Barking Cat, Ashley Road, Parkstone

1. Welcome and Introduction

Richard thanked and welcomed members for coming to the meeting (12 members were present) as Robbie had not turned up for the start of the meeting. Richard confirmed he was not aware why Robbie was late or if he was going to turn up. Andy P stated that it looks like a record low attendance, end of season blues etc. possibly down to the Champions League defeat the previous week. Andy P mentioned that Ake was injured (ankle problem) and the trip back from the game against Newcastle was a tough shift as Junction 10 on the M6 was closed, resulting in a 20-minute delay. Andy P went on to mention that he was not paying £7 to go on the toll road for that short of a delay. Dave mentioned that it always uses the toll road and Richard confirmed that the service station on the toll road is very good. Richard asked members to propose and second the minutes which was duly done by Graham and Annie. Richard apologised for losing the transcript for the last minute of the previous meeting. Apologies were received from Paul H – still unable to attend due to Covid, and Martin (J) also got covid, Phil (no reason given for being absent) and Rana, Mustafa and Mete are absent due to work related issues. Robbie mentioned when he arrived that Joe was running late.

2. Agenda Items

Feedback from attendance and/or views from previous games between late April to early May

Atletico Madrid v Manchester City 0-0 (13th April 2022)

Manchester City v Liverpool 2-3 (16th April 2022)

Manchester City v Brighton 3-0 (20th April 2022)

Manchester City v Watford 5-1 (23rd April 2022)

Manchester City v Real Madrid 4-3 (26th April 2022)

Leeds v Manchester City 0-4 (30th April 2022)
Real Madrid v Manchester City 3-1 (4th May 2022)
Manchester City v Newcastle 5-0 (8th May 2022)

Marilyn mentioned that beside the match on the 4th May, it has been pretty good. Graham also mentioned that the match at Wembley against Liverpool was also disappointing. Andy and Michael mentioned that game against Real Madrid was entertaining with great goals, just spoilt by the last few moments. At this point, Robbie turned up. Andy P and Michael mentioned that the atmosphere at the Leeds game was great and felt very old school. Robbie confirmed he was late due to being turned around by the police by turning down a no right turn....thankfully no caution. Michael asked Andy P how was getting into and leaving the ground in Madrid like? Andy confirmed that there were ten levels of stewards with no way of jumping the turnstiles. Andy mentioned that names were checked to see that no Tippex had been used to cover up any names by shining their torches. Andy P confirmed he saw no trouble and had to wait 45 minutes before leaving the stadium. Andy P saw many bars with celebrating Real Madrid fans as he walked back to the tube for his trip back to the hotel. Andy P also mentioned that Gavin ended up on the floor when the goal went in and smashed his designer sunglasses....why we was wearing them at eleven o'clock a night we will never know...Andy P mentioned that Gavin said that at the 89th minute that City were going to the final for the dream to be wiped out within minutes. Andy P mentioned that is probably why Gavin has not turned up tonight. Robbie also thought we were heading to the final as well at the 89th minute. Michael asked had a previous game occurred where City fans had to get their ticket from the Etihad. Andy P mentioned that this time was due to the fact that Real Madrid would not issue a duplicate ticket and possibly the ticket getting lost in the post. Michael commented that City just make it as difficult as possible.

Richard handed over the meeting to Robbie at this point to continue with comments regarding forthcoming games in late May

Wolves (A), West Ham (A) and Aston Villa (H)

Marilyn mentioned that we need to win them all. Robbie mentioned that he was in Cyprus for two of those games. Marilyn mentioned that Aguero will be at the Etihad this coming Friday for the 10th year anniversary of the QPR match and to unveil his statue. At this point Gavin turned up and Robbie asked Gavin how the Cricketers was getting on with the refurbishment. Gavin confirmed he had not been in recently. Paul mentioned that he would update us with this later in the meeting. Michael and Andy P confirmed that they were going to cancel their hotels in Paris. Michael also mentioned at this point he also needed to sell his ferry ticket from Poole to Cherbourg which cost £100 return.

No new members were forthcoming.

3. General Secretary Update

Ticket requests between late April and early May were made for the following games:

Real Madrid (A) – 2 (Andy P and Gavin)
Real Madrid (H) – 1 (Dave)
West Ham (A) – 1 (Andy P)
Wolves (A) – 1 (Andy P)
Aston Villa – 2 (Paul and Marilyn)

Birthday wishes: - Marilyn & Graham (16th May), Gavin (7th June), Annie (12th June), Charlotte (24th June) and Phil (7th July). Richard mentioned that it was Charlotte's 16th birthday and was already asking for driving lessons which Andy P confirmed.

4. Treasurer Update

Richard confirmed that current bank balance and recent transactions - £315.87 (as of 9th May)

5. Any Other Business (AOB)

Richard handed out Wolves and West Ham tickets. Richard confirmed that the Wolves ticket arrived on Friday and West Ham this morning. Gavin asked Richard to let him know if any spare West Ham tickets became available. Joe turned up at this point. Joe confirmed he was late due to playing football. Paul confirmed that the refurbishment has been delayed and would start on the 15th June and hopefully finish on the 15th July, so the next meeting may again be the Barking Cat or at The Cricketers. Andy P asked if any of the branch rules would be changed at all for the forthcoming season. Andy P commented that it seemed to have gone well without any 'bust ups'. Richard confirmed that nothing was planned. Paul asked when committee roles were due. Richard confirmed that the General Secretary role was in September, while role of Chairperson was not until next year. It was agreed that all committee roles would take place in September including old and new roles that have not been used to date. Andy P asked about do we think we will scrape 20 members this coming season....Richard confirmed it was a worry and asked all members to do their best to get numbers to the 20 mark....Dave commented that this may be closer than you think as he and Annie are considering leaving the supporters club as he felt he was not getting any benefit from being a member. Joe confirmed that he sees a guy in the George Tapps wearing the full City Kit and wonders why he has not become a member. Joe confirmed he would approach this supporter on the next occasion. Dave commented that many people are just not interested in joining supporter clubs. Robbie also mentioned he feels the same as he sees a lot of Manchester City supporters going to Southampton from Bournemouth for the game. Andy P asked with respect to the game at Bournemouth, would anybody be able to get a ticket for the game. Paul mentioned he should be able to get two tickets in the Bournemouth end. Andy P hoped it would be in the winter or a mid-week game to give us a better chance of getting a ticket. Richard confirmed that every year an email would go out to previous members to re-join. Robbie confirmed that East Sussex had acquired previous Weymouth members and had mini-buses to go to the game. Dave confirmed this. Richard confirmed that we are as a supporters' club one of the smallest in the country. Richard asked members do the best to acquire extra member in the summer months and at worst we would make family members official members to get us over the line. Joe asked if anybody was going to Wembley on Sunday to watch the women, while Paul asked if any one was going to the Villa game. Richard remained members that the supporters club was 10 years old in September and that Paul would organise some food via the Cricketers. Richard confirmed to Marilyn that based on an email of yesterday that they had a 50/50 chance of getting their Villa tickets. Joe confirmed that he may have two season ticket holders' tickets for Villa as they are unable to go. Paul also confirmed the same.

Next Meeting – 11th July 2022 at 19:15 (The Cricketers)