



Wessex Blues

102nd Meeting Minutes

Started 13th March 2023 19:20

Closed 13th March 2023 19:39

Location: The Cricketers, Bournemouth

1. Welcome and Introduction

Robbie thanked and welcomed members for coming to the meeting (16 members were present).

Martin and Bill approved the previous minutes from February. Apologies received – Penny, Andy M, Paul G, Mete and Daniel

2. Agenda Items

Feedback from attendance from previous games between late February to early March

Arsenal v Manchester City – 15th February 2023 (1-3)
Nottingham Forest v Manchester City – 18th February 2023 (1-1)
Leipzig v Manchester City – 22nd February 2023 (1-1)
Bournemouth v Manchester City – 25th February 2023 (1-4)
Bristol City v Manchester City – 28th February 2023 (0-3)
Manchester City v Newcastle United – 4th March 2023 (2-0)
Crystal Palace v Manchester City – 11th March 2023 (0-1)

No significant comments made except that Martin, Bill and Robbie enjoyed the game at Bournemouth and Alan J mentioned how the Newcastle fans did not sit down, with many not wearing shirts etc. Andy P asked about how we obtained a considerable number of Bournemouth tickets only several days before the game. Richard confirmed that he had received an email from Kevin at 07:23 on the 21st and sent back all the names of all the members who had applied for a ticket. Richard continued to say that it sounded that Kevin had ~25 tickets and could not give them all to us but would give as many as possible. Richard then stated that by 08:33, a further email went out stating that all the Bournemouth tickets had been allocated to all branches.

Comments regarding forthcoming games in late March to early April

Leipzig (H), Burnley (H), and Liverpool (H)

No significant comments made except that Martin commented that a rail strike was planned on the day of the Liverpool game.

Current membership – 38 with new members Alan Bennett and Phil M both present..... Both Alan and Phil M gave a brief account of themselves why they were Manchester City fans. Phil M stated that he had been watching Manchester City since the mid-1970s as he used to live halfway between Liverpool and Manchester with most of his friends supporting Manchester United or Liverpool. Phil M commented that his first game was with his Dad back in 1980 against Liverpool, with Manchester City losing 4-1. In the same season, Phil saw City's first win against Ipswich. Phil M was not aware of us at first and tried to join the A34 Winchester but was refused as he was outside their allocation zone. Alan mentioned that he has been a blue since 1966, even though his entire family were Manchester United fans. As Alan's father was a Manchester United fan, Alan never got to see Manchester City play as a child and did not go to Maine Road until being a late teenager. Alan moved to the Poole area 4 years ago but has only been to one game in this time as he has been caring for this wife who sadly passed away back in December. Alan also mentioned that in played for the East Lancashire Football team and played against Ken Barnes for a time.

Any other news about new Members (from other members etc.) - None

3. General Secretary Update

Ticket requests made between late February and early March for the following games:

Bristol City (A) – 5 (Penny, Andy M, Andy P, Gavin, and Jamie)

Newcastle (H) – 1 (Mark)

Fulham (A) – 9 (Ryan, Phil W, Joe, Paul, Michael, Andy P, Gavin, Jamie, and Graham)

Southampton (A) – 17 + 3 (Phil W, Rana, Mete, Mustafa, Joe, Michael, Robbie, Andy H, Paul, Andy P, Gavin, Jamie, Danny, Hayden, Mason, Bill, and Graham)

Liverpool (H) – 1 (Dave)

West Ham (H) – 1 + 1 (Mark)

Brighton (A) – 13 (Graham, Phil W, Dave, Martin, Andy M, Robbie, Michael, Paul, Jamie, Bill, Margie, Andy P and Gavin)

Burnley (H) – 0

Andy P mentioned that certain games may have to moved due to FA Cup and European games, so Richard mentioned that the games where tickets have been allocated may become void and/or members may have to be reapply like with the Arsenal game earlier in the season. Richard mentioned any details on this would be forthcoming if needed.

Birthday wishes: - Martin (13th), Dave (18th), and Paul G (24th)

4. Treasurer Update

Current Bank balance and recent transactions - £390.60 (as of 13th March). Richard asked members could they please pay for their Bournemouth tickets if not already done so, as Richard mentioned that the balance seemed low. Initially the account did not have enough funds to cover the tickets for Bournemouth and the first transaction failed. To avoid this, Richard confirmed that he placed personally funds into the account to cover the Bournemouth ticket payment and then retrieved these funds at a later date, once members had paid for their tickets.

5. Social Secretary Update

Joe not present, so no comments to make.

5. Any Other Business (AOB)

Robbie mentioned that Yates was likely to be pub again to meet up for a drink prior to the Southampton game. Robbie mentioned that future details on this would be forthcoming. Martin mentioned about change of venue, as the Cricketers does appear to be noisy, as previously mentioned at the meeting in February. Dave mentioned the British Legion at Ferndown again and would look into this for next season with respect to cost and opportunities for us to use this as an alternative. Dave mentioned that parking was also considerably better. Once details on this would emerge from Dave, it was agreed that a vote would then be casted amongst members to determine if we leave the Cricketers or not later this season. Andy P mentioned that getting into Leipzig was difficult as tickets were on our mobiles and some people had issues getting into the ground. Andy P mentioned that having mobile tickets could be advantageous or equally problematic as no system was perfect. Certain members, especially Dave mentioned the new proposals of the North Stand, with respect to the increased capacity, a new hotel, a new concert venue and transportation. Finally, Robbie asked new members to sign up to the Wessex Blues Facebook page.

Next Meeting – 3rd April 2023 at 19:15 (The Cricketers)