



Wessex Blues

103rd Meeting Minutes

Started 3rd April 2023 19:16

Closed 3rd April 2023 19:41

Location: The Cricketers, Bournemouth

1. Welcome and Introduction

Robbie thanked and welcomed members for coming to the meeting (21 members were present).

Multiple people approved the previous minutes from March; however, Dave commented that Richard stated that Southampton game would have to be revised rather than may have to be revised.

Apologies received from Joe (J), Jamie (J), Alan B and Mete (J)

2. Agenda Items

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

Manchester City v Leipzig – 14th March 2023 (7-0)

Manchester City v Burnley – 18th March 2023 (6-0)

Manchester City v Liverpool – 1st April 2023 (4-1)

No significant comments made except that Robbie commented that scoring seventeen goals and only conceded one was 'not too bad'. Marilyn stated after those scorelines that there was 'nothing much more to say is there and hope it carries on in the same way'. Paul M also stated that it was 'brilliant'.

Comments regarding forthcoming games in late April to early May

Southampton (A), Bayern München (H), Leicester (H), Bayern München (A), Sheffield United (N), Brighton (A), Arsenal (H), Fulham (A), West Ham (H), Leeds (H) and Everton (A)

No significant comments made except that Robbie asked if anybody was going up early would like to meet at Yates at around 3.30 to 4pm. Richard confirmed to Paul if any spares were made available than as normal an email would be circulated to members. Robbie commented that availability in the Southampton end was still widely available. Robbie commented that a post

would be made shortly on which pub we would meet at with respect to the game at Wembley with Sheffield United.

Current membership – 38

Our latest new member had turned up (Arthur Botham) for the first time....Arthur commented that he was pleased to be here and see everybody. Arthur stated that he was born in Wythenshawe and served in the Royal Air Force as a Computer Engineer and Programmer and Systems Manager. Arthur then explained that he then left the RAF and briefly worked in the IT industry before becoming a vicar in the Church of England which he has done for the last 20 years before recently retiring. Arthur stated that he lives in Broadstone. Arthur stated that he started to support Manchester City at the age of 13 in the year 1966 and resided in the Kippax with a couple of school mates and went to as many of the homes games possible before joining the RAF. After leaving the RAF, Arthur then moved to Portsmouth and started to return to watching Manchester City games again. In doing so, Arthur further mentioned that he was able to convert his wife, daughter, grandson and two granddaughters to become City supporters, unlike his son who is a Portsmouth fan as he was raised up in the city.

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

3. General Secretary Update

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

Leicester City (H) – 0

Bayern Munich (A) – 5 (Andy P, Jamie, Penny, Andy M, and Gavin)

Bayern Munich (H) – 1 (Arthur)

Sheffield United (N) – 19 + 2 (Phil W, Alan B, Arthur, Joe, Robbie, Dave, Paul G, Mark O, Andy M, Penny, Bill, Margaret, Hayden, Mason, Andy H, Jasmine, Joel, Alan J, Rich)

Leeds (H) – 0

West Ham United (H) - 0

Birthday wishes: - Paul M (3rd), and Bill (7th)

4. Treasurer Update

Current Bank balance and recent transactions - £1,216.60 (as of 3rd April). Richard mentioned that the balance is significantly high at present due to the fact that MCFC have not taken the money for the tickets against Sheffield United to date, with ~£900 to be taken shortly. Andy P mentioned that at the last meeting that Richard had to pay money into the account to cover ticket costs, so wondered if we could obtain an overdraft on our account. Richard's reply was as we are defined as a charity and not as a business that option sadly was not available to us. Richard further commented that this only happens on 'big games' (Wembley/Southampton/Bournemouth etc.) where ticket requests are numerous rather than a few ticket requests for normal everyday games, where the bank account can handle the transaction. Richard continued to mention that initially the transaction for the Southampton game was declined before adding personal funds to the account, so hence the request for members to pay for their ticket as soon as soon as possible to prevent a repeat episode for the Sheffield United game. Andy P and Alan J further commented that could we do something different for next season to prevent this. Richard mentioned that we had done several alternatives over previous seasons that each member paid in 'extra money' to cover ticket requests but as ticket prices varied and then some members did not apply for tickets, significant refunds and transactions prevailed and it became messy and time consuming. By just adding a certain fixed amount quickly and then taking it back from the account when available was simple and prevented failed ticket transactions, which Richard stated that it was happy to continue to do to prevent future brief problems. Marilyn mentioned that

based on the current table that Bournemouth and Southampton may not be present in the Premiership next season, therefore this problem may not prevail in the future.

5. Social Secretary Update

None as Joe was not present as he had returned to Manchester for the Easter break....

6. Any Other Business (AOB)

Dave gave an update about the British Legion and stated that they were happy for us to have our meetings there in a particular room; however due to Darts, we would have to change our Monday night, to a Tuesday, Wednesday, or a Thursday night. No cost for our meetings would be made, based on it is likely that everybody would purchase a drink or more. Paul M mentioned that changing it to a Tuesday or Wednesday night may be problematic due to Champions League matches but it sounds initially ideal. Robbie mentioned that we would take a vote around June for the Thursday option. Michael then commented why do we not just ask the question would they refer to have meetings at the Cricketers or at Ferndown as personally I am fed up with the noise and the parking. The group then took a vote based on the question 'to relocate to Ferndown'. This was voted for, so Dave would go back to the British Legion and ask for the second Thursday every month and confirm this between the seasons.

Southampton tickets were handed out.

Bill asked if the Sheffield United tickets would be paper tickets. Richard confirmed at present that he did not know the answer to that.

Next Meeting – 15th May 2023 at 19:15 (The Cricketers)