



## Wessex Blues

108<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes

Started 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023 19:20

Closed 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023 19:53

Location: The Royal British Legion, Ferndown

### 1. Welcome and Introduction

Robbie thanked and welcomed old and new members to our new venue for our meeting (18 members were present, plus one new potential member for this season).

Paul M and Dave approved the previous minutes from September.

Apologies received – Bill (J), Margaret (J) (her birthday and having a family party), Mark (J), Tony, Joe, Graham (broken his wrist), Pat, Phil W (watching Michael McIntyre), Neil, Arthur, Mark, Andy M (J) and Penny (J)

### 2. Agenda Items

Feedback from attendance from previous games between late September to early October

West Ham United v Manchester City (1-3) – 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Manchester City v Red Star Belgrade (3-1) – 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Manchester City v Notts Forest (2-0) – 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2023

Newcastle United v Manchester City (1-0) – 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Wolves v Manchester City (2-1) – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Leipzig v Manchester City (1-3) – 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Arsenal v Manchester City (1-0) – 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Main comments included that Marilyn stated that ‘we could do better’. Many members stated that Arsenal were not a good side and City’s performance overall was good but not at their best. Robbie mentioned that three consecutive defeats with Rodri unable to play in them due to his suspension may have been a key factor in City’s overall performance.

Comments regarding forthcoming games in late September and early October

Brighton (H), Young Boys (A), Manchester United (A), Bournemouth (H), Young Boys (H)

Paul mentioned that he could offer a lift to anyone who was going to the Brighton game. Robbie mentioned that tickets were available for the home game against Bournemouth via the club.

Current membership – 53

New Members – Tony Thornton, Deanne Parkin, Pat Reid, Christine Jeffers, Liam Barrett, Lukas Waszczyszyn, Helen Speller, Gracie Speller, Danny Speller, Craig Jevons, Janet Connor, Lindsey Sturman, Oliver Sturman, Mark Sturman, Graham Haine, Riette Jevons

Any other news about new Members (from other members etc.) Andy H mentioned that his son's friend and his mother are interested in becoming members, while Robbie mentioned that he had received an enquiry from a Manchester City fan that was working down here if anyone was going to the Wolves match and enquired to join our Facebook page. Robbie asked should we allow people to be a part of our Facebook page who are not members of the Wessex Blues. Andy P in his view stated that we should remain a closed group for members only. Robbie confirmed that the person who had enquired had obtained a lift to the game.

### 3. General Secretary Update

Ticket requests made between late September and early October for the following games:

Young Boys (H) – 0

Leipzig (H) – 2 (Paul M and Marilyn)

Bournemouth (H) – 6 (Paul, Oli, Mark, Andy H, Joel, and Jasmine)

Chelsea (A) – 7 (Gavin, Daniel S, Helen S, Robbie, Andy P, Joe, and Ryan)

Red Star Belgrade (A) – 2 (Andy M and Andy P)

Birthday wishes: - Margaret (12<sup>th</sup>), Carole (30<sup>th</sup>) and Penny (3<sup>rd</sup>)

### 4. Treasurer Update

Current Bank balance and recent transactions - £1,376.08 (as of 12<sup>th</sup> October), which due to no ticket payments anymore is the same amount as last month. Andy P mentioned that it was good that ticket payments etc. come from the club; however sometime the message comes via email and/or text, therefore no consistency. Richard confirmed that the tickets themselves will sometimes be in paper format, e-ticket or via your phone. The kind of game depending on the competition itself will also likely determine the type of ticket issued and, but it will remain likely that the ticket will still be issued only a few days before the game itself.

### 5. Any Other Business (AOB)

Any news on the Bournemouth game? Andy H placed a message on Facebook, but only Paul responded. Andy H mentioned that twenty-four people viewed the post, but Paul was the only one who responded. Andy H mentioned this was shame as it would be nice to a trip once in a while. Gavin asked what the highest number of requests has the branch applied for a home game. Richard confirmed that Bournemouth this season with six has been the highest and we were allocated all of

them. With reference to Christmas, the meeting will be on the 14<sup>th</sup> December. Richard mentioned that the bank account was healthy and after a few discussions it was agreed that the budget this year would be ~£200-£250, split as evenly as possible between Manchester City items and alcohol. Previous budget for this was £100, again split evenly between alcohol and Manchester City items. Andy P asked why do we need such a large fund in the bank with no ticket movement anymore? This was due to a contingency plan, bus trips, a visit to another branch, seeing the trophies, budget for food, budget for membership fees to MCFC etc. Dave mentioned that the Royal British Legion has a new cook and is very good, but she does not work on a Thursday and only works on a Tuesday and a Sunday. Dave suggested a buffet for 30 people would be ~£150 (£5 per head) plus the cooks' time of 2-3 hours. Dave also suggested having food delivered (local chip shop and curry are possible nearby). Dave mentioned that the new cook did a good chicken chorizo stew on her trial with a roast and burger and chips were the other alternatives. Robbie asked members would they refer a hot or cold buffet...the majority of members suggested hot. It was agreed that Dave would ask the new cook if two hot dishes could be arranged, and the cost involved. Marilyn mentioned she could not believe how Joe did not get the job at Manchester City as the lad who was employed for the role is absolutely useless doing the interviews last week. Finally, Robbie mentioned how did the social gathering get on at Fiveways and how many people use Facebook? It was agreed that Richard would send Robbie email addresses of Wessex Blues members to encourage social gatherings.

Next Meeting – 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 19:15 Royal British Legion, Ferndown