



Wessex Blues

86th Meeting Minutes

Started 11th October 2021 19:15
Closed 11th October 2021 19:50

Location: Barking Cat, Ashley Road, Parkstone

1. Welcome and Introduction

Richard thanked members for coming to the meeting (11 members were present). Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed by Marilyn and seconded by Andy P. Dave however wanted to revoke people missing the meeting in July as the minutes were agreed in August. Dave was concerned in case it affected allocation of future tickets. Several members were unable to attend the July meeting because it was planned for the normal second week. Dave had no alternative but to book the third week of July due to Covid restrictions. Richard mentioned in the bigger picture it is highly unlikely it would influence any future ticket allocation as it appears so far, all allocation requests have been agreed. Nobody else at the meeting had any views on this matter with only Paul mentioning that is likely to be a one off as all future meeting now will be on the second Monday so everybody was aware of this. If July's meeting caused a shortfall in ticket allocation later this year with people not attending, Richard would take a call on this. Richard confirmed at the previous meeting with members support and again at this meeting that Michael and Graham would not be penalised for missing the meeting tonight as they had already got previous commitments/holiday etc in advance of the date changed.

Apologies were received from Graham (E), Michael (E), Penny, Andy M, Rana (J), Mustafa (J) and Mete (J). Richard confirmed to Paul that two jokers were permitted per season.

2. Agenda Items

Feedback from attendance and/or views from previous games between late September through to early October included that several members had enjoyed the victory against Leicester, Wycombe and Leipzig. Andy P mentioned that the game in Paris was good and people were only allowed to leave 10 at a time after staying behind after the match for 45 minutes. Andy P also mentioned that

he did not get back to his hotel until 1am after a long walk due to the tube service closing. Andy P mentioned that the ground inside was ok and confirmed that the netting is still present as away supporters still need to watch the game through this netting. Andy P finally mentioned that it was inevitable that Messi would score.

Comments regarding forthcoming games in late September/early October included Dave mentioning that the purchase of home tickets for Brugge were now available via the website. Andy P asked why are tickets sent out so late. Richard confirmed it was due to security and limiting the time to pass the ticket on to a third party. Richard also reassured Andy P that at worst case the ticket can be reissued at the away stadium. This option was available with respect to Paris. Dave asked the ticket if the ticket was a paper ticket and why it could not be a mobile ticket. Andy P suggested it may have not got the support across Europe for this option unlike within the Premiership at present. Andy P stated that he is traditionalist and likes the paper ticket as a souvenir afterwards.

Richard confirmed that no new members had been in contact with the club and that no one applied for the chairperson and treasurer roles, hence the no votes to cast. Richard confirmed that no one person can hold all three committee positions, but one person can hold two roles. Richard confirmed that in recent days that he had to reject the 10 pending members as they had not paid any fees/sent in any membership forms/joined via the website etc. None of the 10 members rejected to date had tried to re-join since. Richard confirmed to each of them why their membership got rejected. Richard confirmed that he had sent a cheque off to MCFC for our twenty-two members (£65). Dave asked what happens if MCFC finds out we are not operating with no chairperson etc. Richard replied that I would worry about that if it happens. Richard confirmed it would be best for the club to continue rather than place it in a dormant state so members could still get tickets etc.

Paul stated that we need to get the chairperson position sorted sooner rather than later. Eventually, Rob casted his name forward for the role and we agreed that Richard would send out an email again later this month for a further vote on nominations. Andy P stated this was a positive move that someone had put their name in the hat. Richard confirmed that he would continue to look after the treasurer role for the time being and would review it again in the new year as MCFC have already been informed that he was currently looking after the role. Richard confirmed to Robbie that he hoped that in would be Chairperson as he did not want to chair the meetings going forward as well as during the other roles every month.

3. General Secretary Update (Dr Richard Wild)

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

PSG (A) – 2 (Paul & Andy)
Man Utd (A) – 2 (Paul & Andy)
West Ham (A) – 3 (Paul, Andy & Phil)
PSG (H) – 3 (Phil, DOB & Rich)
Club Brugge (A) – 2 (Paul & Andy)
West Ham (H) – 0
Wycombe (H) – 0
Everton (H) - 0

Two draws took place, based on membership attendance, just in case of a short fall in ticket allocation. The draw outcome via Robbie in order was Paul and Andy for Manchester United, while PSG was Dave, Rich and Phil* (*The draw made at the time had to be voided later as Phil had not attended any previous meetings this season, so the tickets were allocated on attendance).

Richard confirmed current membership was 22 (Annie joining in the last month), with 0 pending.

Birthday wishes were mentioned to Carole (30th October) and Penny (3rd November).

3. Treasurer Update (interim Dr Richard Wild)

Richard confirmed that the balance was £824.22 as of the 10th October. All ticket payments had been paid by members for forthcoming games. All members have paid for their membership, however Richard confirmed that he was still waiting for a completed form from Bill.

4. AOB

Richard handed out Christmas presents from last year to members who had not previously obtained them. Dave asked what would happen to the remainder of the Christmas presents not handed out from last year. Richard confirmed that a final email would go to ask members that would they still like their presents or they would get entered again for this coming Christmas raffle if no reply by the 30th November. Richard reminded members that he may not be present at the November meeting due to court appearances due to his job in Edinburgh and Glasgow respectively. Dave asked about Facebook membership. Richard confirmed that only members who had paid up their membership had access to it and Claire had removed all non-members. Paul asked would this venue be available for Christmas. Richard confirmed he would drop Mark a text to confirm this. Paul said as we have £800 why we do not spend it. Richard confirmed that the normal budget of £100 was split between £50 on alcohol and £50 on City items. Several members such as Paul and Annie wanted the budget to be increased however Dave said no. After a brief discussion, as member totals this year was significantly lower and that we could still use presents from last year, it was agreed to continue with the previous format and budget with a Chinese and/or fish and chips for food. Paul mentioned that he still had a load of books if anyone would like to read/borrow them. Any P asked where the Wessex Blues flag was and Dave confirmed that it was in his possession and Andy M had an old one.

5. Next Meeting:

Next meeting to be held on the 8th November 2021 at 19:45 at the Barking Cat, Ashley Road, Parkstone.

Minutes taken by Dr Richard Wild – General Secretary