

BERWICK RANGERS SUPPORTERS TRUST

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8th, 2012

in the Black and Gold Club, Tweedmouth, Berwick-upon-Tweed,
commencing at 11:00 a.m.

In Attendance: C.Pike (Chairman), D.Cook (Vice Chairman), G.Dickson
(Treasurer),
W.Purvis (Membership Secretary), D.Spence, K.Hall, R.Kirk,
M.Smyth,
A.Dougall, S.Donnely, K.Taylor, T.Houston, M.Smith,
P.Unwin, G.Smith,
J.Dougall, E.McCall, I.Beresford, M.McCleary, B.Parkin,
D.Jones

Guests: B.Porteous (Chairman, Berwick Rangers F.C.), I.Little (Manager,
Berwick
Rangers F.C.). R.Horn (Assistant Manager, Berwick Rangers
F.C.)

1. The Trust Chairman welcomed everyone and introduced the guests.
2. Apologies for absence: Isla Barber (Secretary), J.Bell (Trust
representative on Berwick Rangers F.C. Board), S.Scott, A.Fitzgerald,
E.Mallory, K.Hamblin (Tweeddale Press)
3. Guest speakers Brian Porteous and Ian Little made presentations and
then took questions from the floor.
4. Trust Chairman's Report: Last year's work was outlined. The Trust now
has a record number of members and continues to give a useful sum of
money every year to the football club.
The latest edition of the newsletter has just been issued to members
along with a calendar for 2013.
The Trust website is regularly updated. D.Cook writes first team match
reports for the Trust website and M.Smyth provides Reserves' match
reports to the club's official website.
The Trust continues to produce and pay for the production of
programmes for Reserves' home games.
5. Treasurer's Report: The accounts for 2011-12 are remarkably similar to

those of 2010-11 though there was an increase in the expense of producing Reserves' programmes.

A loss of £294 for 2011-12 was recorded but the Trust had donated a total of £6,250 to the football club to be spent on such as a grasscutter, floodlights, sprinklers and a coaching course for Robbie Horn (assistant manager). The £6,250 had helped the club make a profit last season.

6. Secretary's Report: Current Secretary Isla Barber was unable to attend. The hard work of her predecessor Karen Thorburn was noted and appreciated.

7. Membership Secretary's Report: In May, 2012, membership stood at 236 (compared to 229 at the same time in 2011). During the annual renewal period, only three members were lost and membership presently stands at 243, an equal record high.

8. Trust Director's Report: In the absence of John Bell, this was read by the Trust Chairman. J.Bell has specific responsibility for youth development and Reserves and match ticketing. He reported that organisation for the Cup tie with Celtic in 2011 had gone well and similar arrangements were being put in place for other big games.

He appealed for more volunteers to assist with the staging of big games.

9. Audit Report: This was contained within a paper available at the meeting. Greaves, West and Ayre were re-appointed as auditors.

10. Any Other Business:

a) Colin Pike announced his resignation as Trust Chairman after three years in post and almost ten years since helping to found the Trust of which he would remain a member.

b) David Cook announced that he was stepping down as Vice-Chairman. He cited a number of reasons. Also a founder member in 2003, he too, would remain a member of the Trust.

c) Michael Smyth and Gordon Dickson had offered to become Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively and this met with approval from the other Board members.

d) David Cook praised M.Smyth and Paul Smith for the quality of the latest news-letter.

e) D.Cook referred to the recent passing of David McLean, a former Chairman of Berwick Rangers, who had helped to save the club in the early 1990s when it was in serious financial difficulties and was instrumental in setting up the 'Friend of Berwick Rangers'. Mr. McLean had donated 1,000 shares in the football club to the Supporters Trust.

f) T.Houston asked who was now running the club shop and why it did not accept payment via cards or chip and pin. D.Spence said the Trust handed over administration of the shop to the football club two years ago. G.Dickson outlined some of the technical issues preventing the shop from taking these forms of payments.

g) M.Smyth said the Board wanted to hear from members about Trust affairs. For example, did they still want calendars and newsletters? New people would be welcomed on the Trust Board as there were still vacancies.

h) A.Dougall commented that he would prefer a fixture card to a calendar.

i) B.Parkin suggested the Trust open a Twitter account to help keep people informed.

The meeting closed at 12:50 p.m.