

# **Berwick Rangers Supporters Trust**

(also known as Berwick Rangers Supporters Society Limited)

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## **MINUTES**

### Meeting of the Society Board

Date: 23/02/19 Time: 11.00am

Place: Pilot Inn, Berwick-upon-Tweed

**PRESENT:** Michael Smyth, Brendan Thorburn, David Spence, Bill Purvis, Ron Kirk, John Bell, Ian Beresford & Stuart Lee.

**APOLOGIES:** Gordon Dickson, David Letham, Isla Barber (Secretary)

**GUESTS:** None

### **1.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Bill Purvis and seconded by John Bell

### **2.0 MATTERS ARISING**

2.1 Juniors Season Tickets: - this subject was raised, and the outcome is covered under Club Report

2.2 Grandparents Day: - the Grandparents Day was mentioned and the general provisions for Grandparents (bringing grandchildren to matches) is covered under Club Report

### **3.0 MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT**

3.1 Member Numbers: - although gains and losses, remains at 220

3.2 Member List: - the Membership Secretary to send the current list to Ian Beresford to post on the Trust Website for visibility.

3.3 Former Players: - it was agreed that the initiative to engage former players, to add more interest and marketability of Club & Trust events, would be supported by inviting players to become Trust Members if not already, and their activities would be managed through The Trust.

3.4 Retirement: - the Membership Secretary formally confirmed his intention to retire from the position after his significant length of service to the Trust Society. There was a vote of thanks from The Board Members to Bill. All Trust Members are invited to please contact The Secretary if they would like to support The Society by being considered for the role.

#### **4.0 TREASURER' S REPORT**

4.1 Balance of Account: - confirmed as £3,954.52, after all recent outgoings.

4.2 Outgoings to Date This Season: - £1,845.00

Donations to Reserves: - it was agreed that The Trust would seek to pay for the reserves laundry bills and to donate £250 towards costs of a meal for the players and officials on the away trip to play Ayr United Reserves on the up-coming Sunday match.

#### **5.0 CLUB REPORT**

5.1 New Season Ticket Prices, Hospitality Fees, Sponsorship Packages and Advertising Fees (Boards & Programme): - this was tabled by John Bell and is attached to these minutes (Appendix A)

5.2 Club Board Progress: - John Bell provided a very encouraging narrative on how the Finance Strand of the recently created overarching strategic plan for the Club was progressing. It was very difficult to see where the club overheads & outgoings could be further restricted, however in terms of increasing our income, there was hard work underway on four key areas, and he briefly explained the work which was being done in each; these being: -

- Advertising
- Hospitality
- Kit Sponsorship
- Match day Attendance

5.3 Club Board Appointments: - a vote of congratulations was proposed by David Spence to John Bell on his forthcoming appointment as incoming Club Chairman, and all Trust Society Board Members unanimously agreed. The Vice Chairman is yet to be confirmed.

#### **6.0 DEVELOPMENT TEAM REPORT**

It was acknowledged that The Reserves were having a difficult time in recent games and with players recently seeking to drop down to EOSL rather than commit themselves to the more difficult, but more potentially career enhancing, life as an apprentice playing in the

SPFL2 Reserve League.

## **7.0 WORKING GROUP REPORT**

The Bobby Thompson Tribute Fundraiser on Saturday March 16th, 7pm start at The Black & Gold, tickets £12 including buffet. There are still tickets available; it was hoped that all Trust Members would try to support the event.

## **8.0 AOCB**

8.1 Supporters Trust Society /Supporters Club: - a discussion took place where it was agreed that The Trust Society was open to explore the potential advantages to The Club, if the two bodies were merged in some way. It was agreed to seek clarification with the SC if this was something they agree would be worthwhile, and if so, to set up a joint working group to explore the potential advantages to The Club.

8.2 Retirement: - Michael Smyth gave formal notice of his intention to stand down from the position of Chairman, and from the Society Board. He asked those present for a volunteer to succeed him. It was agreed that Andrew Allan would work with Michael as co-chairman for the term until the transition could complete, for Andrew to become Chairman from the end of the season.

## **9.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

Date: - Saturday 13th April

Venue: - The Pilot Inn, Low Greens, Berwick-Upon-Tweed

Time: - 11:00