

Berwick Rangers Supporters' Trust Meeting

Minutes

19.00 Tuesday 1st November 2022 by Zoom

1. In Attendance, David Letham, Ruairaidh Ferguson and Andrew Allan
2. Apologies were received from Joe Crawford, Linda Buchanan, Ron Kirk, Jeffrey Roy, and Glyn Farrar
3. **Minutes of Last Meeting** – These were proposed and seconded by David Letham, Ruairaidh Ferguson. The actions around the proposal to help the club promote home games were carried over:-
 - AA undertook to contact Dan Crow to advise that The Trust would post fixtures:-
 - In Morrisons – AA contact champion.berwick@morrisonsplc.co.uk
 - Borders Buses – AA to contact and explore options
4. **Membership Secretary's Report** was provided in absentia by Joe Crawford, stating that there was 165 members in total, 2 corporate and 14 junior members
5. **Treasurer's Report:-** there is currently £1,678.99 in the Bank Account. £4,000 was donated to BRFC to help with player procurement, given the recent injury to David Ferguson.
6. **Club Report;** AA advised that, as a representative of The Supporters Trust, he had been invited to a meeting at Shielfield Park on Saturday 5th November between Brian Porteous, The Football Club Board and Supporters Club. As both fan bodies are major shareholders, Brian wished to discuss the topic of the way ahead for The Club; with his impending resignation at the end of this season 2022 /2023. David Letham kindly agreed to attend, to support The Trust Chairman.
7. **Investment Policy** The action for AA regarding Kevin Bolton, Facilitator for the local group for Andy's Man Club (a charity dedicated to providing mental health support to young adult males) was held over. AA to contact Kevin to confirm The Trusts acceptance their kind offer to become a Community Partner with their local AMC group. Also, to confirm That The Trust will procure a pitch-side advertising board for Andy's Man Club (wall-mounted behind the goal at the turn style end)
8. **A.O.B:- Chairman's Update:-** With AA standing down as Chairman of The Supporters Trust at the next AGM, discussions are on-going to seek a new Chairperson, Treasurer and Social Media Manager (with David Letham also standing down at the next AGM)

A discussion took place to discuss scenarios which may present themselves at the Football Club (FC) /Supporters Club (SC) /Supporters Trust (ST) meeting on 5th November. The feeling was that, regretfully, Fan Ownership has clearly not been successful for Berwick Rangers; evidenced by the club's current position; currently 12th in The Lowland League. It was agreed that, should a new candidate be considering becoming Chairman of the FC, The Trust would seek to transfer it's shares to best effect of The FC (and the new chairman) and encourage the SC to do the same, to remove the unwelcome dynamic of the 'Sword of Damocles' being held over the head of the prospective Chairman and any new Club Directors.

Equally, should a wealthy sponsor /Director be found, then similarly, shares should be offered to them, to provide a degree of control, in return for significant financial investment in The Football Club.

AGM:- It was proposed that the AGM would be held at Shielfield Park on Saturday 14th January 2023 at 11:30, prior to the match v Hearts B. This is to be ratified by The Club Football Secretary.

10. Next Meeting:- As a result of the delay to this meeting, the next meeting will be Thursday 8th December at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 19:40.