

Berwick Rangers Supporters Trust

(also known as Berwick Rangers Supporters Society Limited)

c/o 10 Golden Square
Berwick-upon-Tweed
Northumberland
TD15 1BG

Telephone: 01289 333100
E-mail: trust@berwickrangers.co.uk
Website: www.berwicktrust.co.uk



MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: 13/02/10

Time: 11:30

Place The Black and Gold Club

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Alan Beith M.P.

2. GUEST SPEAKERS

(i) **Brian Porteous – Director, Berwick Rangers Football Club**

- Have progressed as a Club on and off the field.
- Supporters Club, Trust and Club are working together for benefit of Football Club.
- Sure fans are delighted with Jimmy and the Management.
- All involved are concerned about the pitch condition.
- Are close to gaining SFA licensing.
- Financial climate causes concern re sponsorship.
- Colin Pike thanked Brian on behalf of the Trust for all the hard work he has put in and for being easy to work with.

(ii) **Jimmy Crease - Manager**

- Has been with the club on previous occasions but this has been the happiest.
- Happy to attend Trust AGM and mix with supporters.
- Thanked Chair and Board for support.
- Good season so far but with injury and suspension problems.
- No one resting n their laurels.
- Support form others is high priority for the Club.

(iii) **Bill Parking – Supporters Club Chairman**

- Time to pull together.
- Spoke about pitch condition.
- Will have help from Golf Club to fix pitch drainage.
- Ageing Stadium with Health and Safety and Disability issues.
- Will work with other groups on fundraising etc.

3. CHAIRMANS REPORT – John Bell

Written Report tabled in annual accounts.

4. TREASURERS REPORT – Gordon Dickson

- Trust had deficit until 2009, because shares have no monetary value and were used as an asset.
- £48,000 shares at £1 each.
- This means a 23/24% shareholding, no one party having enough shares to take control.

5. SECRETARIES REPORT - Karen Thorburn

- Confirmed that the Trust Board had conducted its meetings, election arrangements and annual meeting arrangements in accordance with the model rules of the Trust constitution.
- Also confirmed her willingness to remain Trust Secretary if the Membership is happy with this.

6. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARIES REPORT – Bill Purvis

Written Report tabled.

The survey was explained to all and the need for guarding against complacency with the membership.

7. AUDITORS REPORT – Gordon Dickson

- Web costs had increased to £2k.
- Donations to the Club have increased.
- Fundraising costs have increased.
- Income has not increased.
- Stock in shop is down.
- Shop sales continue to be flat.
- Shop may return to Club.
- Newsletter costs have doubled.
-

8. APPOINTMENT OF BOARD

There are 13 valid nominations, therefore no requirement for an election. Two more Board members are needed for a full Board.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Questions were invited from the floor.

Elaine Mallory said that she felt she could increase her subs and asked how this could be done and if a letter inviting people to pay more could be sent out. Bill replied that at the moment it was up to the member to instruct their bank to pay more.

Elaine asked a second question about increasing the merchandise range to include mousemats, coasters etc. She was reminded of the possibility that the shop will be given over to the club.

Eddie McCall pointed out that AGM attendance was disappointing and asked how this could be addressed. One possible reason is that there is no conflict so members are not unhappy and keen to raise concerns.