

Berwick Rangers Supporters Trust

(also known as Berwick Rangers Supporters Society Limited)

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MINUTES

Meeting of the Society Board

Date: 03/11/10
Time: 19:00
Place The Pilot Inn

PRESENT

David Spence, Bill Purvis, Colin Pike, Gordon Dickson, Karen Thorburn, Derek Purvis, Eric Deighton, David Cook, Callie Denholm, Gemma Law, John Bell, Steven Scott, and Youth Trust members, Dale Jones, James Thompson and Gregor Thomson.

1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOCIETY BOARD HELD ON 02/10/10, DECISION:

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Society Board held on 02/10/10, proposed by David Cook, seconded by John Bell.

2. MATTERS ARISING

There had been discussion about acquiring more shares. We need to get a copy of the Club Constitution. John did explain that there was nothing regarding this in the constitution. It was felt that there was no strong business case for acquiring more shares. The decision not to take it further was proposed by David Cook and seconded by Gordon Dickson. Shareholders would be written to and would be informed that we do not wish to purchase shares at this time, and thanked.

3. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARIES REPORT

Stands at 217, 4 new members have signed up.
Bill needs more Trust car stickers for members packs, and will approach Paul Smith.

4. TREASURERS REPORT

£4047.81 in bank. Four lots of Reserves programmes have been paid. Web site costs are £190. £1,000 has been paid to the Club. The question was asked 'should we retract sponsorship of Reserves Programmes?' It was felt that it was a goodwill gesture and should generate membership.

Gordon had done a piece of work which found that it costs £4,000 to service Trust (webfees, professional fees, newsletters etc) which equals £12 for each member.

It was wondered if we could approach anyone who could examine the books for us rather than an accountant as we no longer needed a full audit. David Brigham would be approached.

Various upgrading is needed at the stadium, to obtain grants and get a full UEFA licence.

Colin Pike reiterated the need for *us* to retain the say on how Trust money is spent.

Supporters Club have approached David Cook. Their income was down and they were asking if the Trust would consider buying another block of ten seats. 77 are required to finish the stand. The stand is rarely full but any Cup draw would mean ticket allocations. Some Trust Board members said they would buy some personally.

5. YOUTH SECTION

The Youth Section now has a Chairperson, Secretary and Membership Secretary. The Launch of the YS would feature in the next Newsletter and the Advertiser. Youth Section membership stands at 16. Four letters of consent have been received for photographs to be used for the launch.

A grant for £50 has been obtained.

John Bell had talked to Brian Porteous and agreed a Youth Section season ticket. This would bridge the gap between paying no entry fee to matches and full adult fee.

It was hoped to add a link to the High School website, and that a survey could be sent out to pupils. This work is to be part of A-level studies, and could be followed by a further survey to Middle School pupils.

A 5-a-side tournament was also being planned.

6. CLUB REPORT

John mentioned again the Youth season ticket.

The Club will put £100 towards a supporter's bus to the Cove match if this is matched by the Trust and also the Supporters Club.

It was agreed that 2 thirds of seats should be held for Trust/Supporters Club members to have first chance of purchasing. Cost of bus would probably be £15 per person, with concessions for youths. The Team are travelling up the night before and accommodation is being paid for by the Directors.

Youth team have approached and gained funding for floodlighting at old Shielfield.

7. WORKING GROUP REPORTS

Communications.

Paul and Ian Beresford were co-opted on to sub-group.

Colin Pike continues to update the official website; Ian will update the Trust website.

Paul is sending out the electronic newsletters.

Mailchimp is reporting back a 51% open rate on e-mails.

Karen will write an article for the newsletter encouraging everyone to update e-mail details so that we can maximise communication with members.

Contributions by e-mail are invited for the next newsletter which is reaching copy deadline.

Events.

David passed round a printed diary sheet with a draft list of events for 2011. He asked everyone to check the list and inform him if they are unable to help at the event pencilled in for them.

Strategy.

Actions are ongoing and the 'Youth section' and 'one to one' campaign have been launched. Paul is designing a poster for the campaign.

8. A.O.B.

- 1) £12,500 in shop stock and cash donations have been given to the club, as well as the £5,000 promised donations. This needs to be publicised in the newsletter and the website updated.
- 2) In future the Club will be expected to formally ask for a contribution at the start of the year and set out what it intends to spend the money on.
- 3) A need was felt for players to be getting into local schools.
- 4) Keith Hall had approached the Trust to donate merchandise to help raise funds for injured fireman David Melrose. Gordon had gladly given some items.
- 5) Trust member Alex Mathews has asked a question regarding signage on the A1. This can be a long and costly process. Gordon will look into it.

9. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting will be the AGM in the Black and Gold, on Saturday the 4th December at 11.30.