



Notes of the CFU meeting held on 17th November 2016 at 7.30pm

In the Blues Bar – Lookers Vauxhall Stadium

The meeting was attended 33 CFU members and a total of 75 members were listening via the streaming service.

1. **Welcome and apologies** – apologies were received from Laurence Kirby.
2. **Notes of the meeting held on 18th August, 2016** – these had been published on the CFU website and were accepted as a correct record; there were no matters arising.
3. **Introduction of chair** - Jonny Hughes thanked Simon Olorenshaw for his time as chairman and also Jackie Olorenshaw in her volunteer role and introduced Alan Povey as the newly elected chair of the CFU board.
4. **Chair's update** – AP referred to his role over the last year which had been focussing on the community side which included exiles, senior blues, junior blues and inclusive blues. In respect of the recent appointments of Mark Maguire and Jim Green, he said their involvement in various aspects of the day to day business of running the club and developing initiatives in the community was having a real impact, also Jon McCarthy managing the football side. In respect of his election as Chair of the CFU board, AP said that prior to the actual election the board had reviewed the role and redefined it; full details would be published on the CFU website. In respect of communications he said that a lot of work had been undertaken in this area including the new email - fans@chesterfc.com and this had proved very successful. AP concluded by saying that he was available for the membership and the importance of the need to grow our CFU membership.
5. **Strategy update** – Brian Burns referred to the work that SO had led on relating to the development of a 5 year strategy and emphasised that this work was being taken forward to identify the specific actions that would be needed to fully develop the strands of the strategy which had previously been identified as:
 - a. **CFU**
 - b. **Community**
 - c. **Organisation**
 - d. **Football**
 - e. **Facilities**BB said the board would be meeting shortly to start identify the key tasks and those responsible for taking them forward.
6. **Youth development** – Mike Day provided an update:
 - a. There had been some delays in obtaining international clearance
 - b. Player recruitment had gone well
 - c. Some quality fixtures had been arranged with league sides

- d. The new professional development centre that had been organised jointly with the community trust had been successful and would be a pathway through to the youth system
 - e. The under 17's had progressed in the Cheshire Senior Cup
 - f. The youth team had progressed in the FA Youth cup and would be playing Broxbourne Borough in the next round with the fixture due to be played before 17th December.
7. **Communications** – Neil Bellis provided an update in respect of the replacement for the website, he said that MBNA were working on this on behalf of the club and that good progress was being made. The aim would be that it would be easier to use than the current website and it will be important that we are able to archive current content. In respect of the newsletter NB said he was behind with production on this and will get back on track as soon as possible.
8. **Big city survey** – Marion Needham referred to the headlines from the survey that had been shared at the AGM and said that the full report would be available shortly. Details will be published on both the CFU website and in the newsletter.
9. **Q and A session**
- a. MD said an alternative database is being explored and there would be a cost to this
 - b. Noted there would not be a Christmas raffle this year but more likely an end of season raffle. MM said he was trying to get the fund raising committee to work in a slightly different way and the plan was to have some key projects which would contribute to sustainable income e.g. increased membership of Seals Lottery.
 - c. Evening Leader office in Watergate Street to be the base for a city centre outlet and Marketing Cheshire were giving the club space on their Christmas Market stall.
 - d. MM said that part of his role was to ensure that players contracts were done properly and there was a need to protect the club and players with the ethos being that contracts would be dealt with on a whole squad basis.
10. **Dates of future meetings**
- a. 19th January – informal with Jim Green as the speaker
 - b. 16th February – formal
 - c. 16th March – informal
 - d. 20th April formal

The meeting closed at 8.55pm