

	City Fans United 2023 AGM Minutes	
	Meeting date:	Thursday 23rd November 2023
	Location:	Cestrian Bar, Leap76 Stadium
Attendees:	Chair: Kieron Shiel Directors: Adam Langan Jeff Banks Matt Dickenson Nick Phillipson Oliver Hill Mike Day Jim Green In Attendance: Georgina Slawinski James Hargreaves Independent Scrutineer: Mark Williams Secretary: Christine Robson 55 CFU members attended in person. 159 CFU members registered online and 20 CFU members voted through proxy	
Apologies:	Directors: Mike Vickers Members: Marion and John Needham	
MINUTES		
23/1	<u>Resolution 1 – Adoption of the minutes of the AGM held in 2022.</u> The Minutes of the AGM 2022 were distributed to members with the AGM papers. There were no matters arising. Resolved that 20 proxy votes and the majority in the room approved the minutes.	
23/2	<u>Resolution 2(i), 2(ii), 2(iii) and 2(iv) – Affirmative vote that Jim Green, Stephen Jones, William Lamb and Mike Vickers be elected to the board.</u> Christine Robson thanked Mark Williams from Wrexham Supporters Trust (Chair and Independent Scrutineer), Chris Robertson and Marion Needham for the work they had undertaken as members of the Election Management Group to ensure that the process had complied with the Election Policy. <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Item 23/2 continued</i></p>	

	<p>Item 23/2 continued</p> <p>Christine Robson also thanked Mike Day for the preparation of the AGM mail shots. Members were reminded that if they had already used a proxy vote, that they could not vote again. For election to the board, the requirement is that candidates must secure the support of more than half of those present at the meeting and those who have expressed their preference by proxy vote.</p> <p>The results were as follows: Jim Green was re-elected and received 100% support of the 20 proxy votes and the majority in the room. Stephen Jones was elected and received 100% support of the 20 proxy votes and the majority in the room. William Lamb was elected and received 100% of the 20 proxy votes and the majority in the room. Mike Vickers was re-elected and received 19/20 support of the proxy votes and the majority in the room.</p> <p>Resolved that Jim Green, Stephen Jones, William Lamb and Mike Vickers were elected to the Board.</p>
23/3	<p><u>Chair's Report</u></p> <p>Kieron Shiel thanked Kate Mylchreest and Ian Swettenham for work on the board as co-opted Directors.</p> <p>Kieron stated that he stood again last year to serve on the board with the intent of continuing as CFU Chair. He was successful in being appointed Chair after the AGM 2022 and intended to stand for the position again this year.</p> <p>The Board had co-opted Kate Mylchreest to the board for another year having already served since April 2022. We had also co-opted long-term sponsor Ian Swettenham to the board having served since August 2022. We have seen a rise in self-assessment scores against our principles as a board since inception and these very much remain in place (Respect, Integrity, Visionary, Passion, Fans First, Belief and Reliability).</p> <p>Football</p> <p>Jim Green (Football Director/Vice Chair) then gave a report on the First Team. Team performance has been excellent and thanked everybody for all their efforts. Went on to explain that professionalization is the basis to create a professional team within the limits of what we currently have. We are strengthening our coaching team, have taken on a new goal coach. We are fortunate to have the King George Building at our level of football. All our "Away" matches have been preceded with an overnight stay, which gives the team a chance to relax and play better on the field.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Chair's Report continued</i></p>

Chair's Report continued

Recruitment/Retention – We are trying to keep all our good players and recruiting new players, which takes a great deal of work. If our recruitment is right, we have the best chance of a good team.

Academy/Youth

As Mike Vickers was not able to attend on the evening, Kieron delivered his report.

Under 19 team finished a respectable 4th in the National League Alliance. The club competed well against several well-funded National League club programmes.

Under 18 team got through six rounds of the FA Youth Cup before suffering a penalty shootout defeat to Bradford City. An excellent achievement to go so deep into the competition. In the Northwest Youth Alliance, the side finished mid table.

Former Youth Team Captain Reece Daly signed his first professional contract with the club.

Under 17 team finished a very creditable 4th in the Division of the Northwest Youth Alliance having finished bottom the season before. Manager Paul Reid and Lead Coach Jack Green, which resulted in many of the players being taken on in the Scholars programme for 23/24, have done great work on a volunteer basis.

Membership/Fan Engagement

Jeff Banks started his report by stating that the club tries to make everyone valued. The incident with Brackley Town had caused severe restrictions on how many fans could attend matches. Membership as of 31st May 2023 was 1470 (up 49% from 982 in 2022).

CFU members voted on both kit choices for 2023.

Member Discounts – Members can access even more discounts via the Lifestyle Card.

Season Tickets are up to 1394 from 1206 in 2022.

School Season Tickets – Over 70 schools, which means a possible 280 tickets.

Cestrian 11 – 42 have been sold up from 10 in 2022.

Matchday Themes, - Remembrance Day, Christmas and Easter.

Chair's Report continued

	<p>Chair's Report continued</p> <p>Online Season Ticketing – Following the back of COVID regulations, fans were able to renew their season tickets online – we had a 15% increase in sales during 2022/23 compared to 2021/22.</p> <p>Online Ticketing Stat – in the 22/23 period, we had 33,534 transactions on the box office with a total value of £667,646.</p> <p>Other Items – Junior Blues Membership, Student Discounted Games, and MBNA ticket day, Matchday sponsorship and Hospitality online.</p> <p>Fundraising/Volunteering</p> <p>Adam Langan delivered his report stating that the club is in a strong position, but this requires a lot of work to maintain where we are.</p> <p>The club had hit and increased the Boost the Budget target yet again – Adam had been worried that fatigue of giving would kick in, but support had been great.</p> <p>We had another successful “Claim your Turf”.</p> <p>50/50 on matchday now has sellers in every area of the stadium.</p> <p>Increase in the number of media volunteers has improved social media content, such as videos etc.</p> <p>Infrastructure</p> <p>Nick Phillipson stated that it is an ongoing job keeping the building working. Seat repairs, mending doors, painting of several areas within the ground. The stadium repair group (which are volunteers) always turn out when asked. Looking for some volunteers to help with putting out the frost covers, as the club has 4 matches coming up in December.</p> <p>We have a list of backlog maintenance repairs and additions, which are ongoing. Oliver Hill is helping with this. We are involved in a Facilities Improvement Programme (hopefully through Grant funding)</p> <p>We now have new catering contractors (GWG) which now run both the kiosks and the bars.</p> <p>We have new matchday hospitality (via Olive Tree).</p> <p>Several electrical upgrades to the kiosks.</p> <p>Introduction of new Waste and Recycling system.</p> <p>Initially looking for a Fan Zone area and how it would work, (helped by Oliver Hill).</p>
23/4	<p>Resolution 3 – Receive the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 28th May 2023. Financial Report – Accounts 2022-2023</p> <p>Matt Dickenson delivered a power point presentation of the unaudited financial statements for the year ended May 2023, which had been circulated to all CFU members.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Item 23/4 continued</i></p>

	<p>Item 23/4 continued</p> <p>The club’s on-field performance was a vast improvement on the prior year with an increased league finish from 16th to 3rd culminating in a home playoff semi-final. Another key highlight was the club’s FA Cup run, which brought us to within a whisker of the first round proper.</p> <p>Financially, this drove significant increases in revenue with total income of £1.29m (+£291k) from prior year. Match day income was up £230k (+51%) due to higher attendances, season ticket sales and the additional cup and playoff games. This was supported by strong commercial performance with increased income of £75k (+43%) and club shop sales which were £29k higher than prior year (+58%).</p> <p>The increases in income, including unbudgeted income, enabled additional funds to be made available to the playing budget alongside other increases in match related costs. Total expenditure for the year was £1.33m (+£244k) from prior year.</p> <p>Other increases in cost of sales (linked to higher commercial/shop revenues) of £48k and facilities costs £19k, due to high electricity costs also contributed to the overall expenditure. The club made a post-tax loss of £43k for the year.</p> <p>Notably the club received two loan notes in the year (£50k) which bolstered the year-end reserve position to a very healthy £258k (£251k prior year).</p> <p>Resolved that 20 proxy votes and a majority in the room approved the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 28th May 2023. These will be submitted to the Financial Conduct Authority.</p>
23/5	<p><u>Resolution 4- Arrangements for financial statements for the year ending 28th May 2024</u></p> <p>Matt Dickenson put the motion to the members that the Society continues with the arrangement to undertake an independent examination of the accounts in place of a full audit in accordance with rule 89 of the constitution.</p> <p>Resolved that 20 proxy votes and the majority in the room approve an independent examination of the accounts in place of a full audit for the year ending 28th May 2024 in accordance with rule 89 of the constitution.</p>
23/6	<p><u>Resolution 5 – Re-appoint Hargreaves & wood as Independent Chartered Accountants</u></p> <p>Matt Dickenson put this motion to members.</p> <p>Resolved that Hargreaves & wood of Cholmondeley House, Dee Hills Park, Chester be re-appointed as Independent Chartered Accountants, to report for the members on the unaudited accounts of the society for the year ending 28th May 2024 by 20 proxy votes and the majority in the room.</p>

KS asked if anyone had questions. There was a query about the loan note, which was described by the finance director as an independent granted loan.

When would capacity of club be back to full strength? - After the club had produced an action plan to SAG/Police, it was received positively. The club is currently talking to get the reduction lifted. All stakeholders (Police, Fire, Ambulance, and CWAC) must agree it.

Was any money ring-fenced? The club had raised the ring-fenced money from £100,000 to £125,000.

What was the club doing regarding Disability facilities? Nick Phillipson (Infrastructure Director) stated that this has been looked at and is still ongoing. It is difficult to decide what type of shelter would be needed and where it could be constructed without blocking the view of other fans. It is a work in progress.

Minutes agreed as a true record of the AGM held on

Signed

Signed