



Notes of the CFU meeting held on 5th October 2015 at 7.30pm

In the Blues Bar – Lookers Vauxhall Stadium

Notes are not normally produced for informal CFU meetings but these were produced to ensure a correction was made to the notes from last time and to deal with a small number of important matters arising.

The meeting was attended by approximately 60 CFU members and was streamed on a trial basis to a number of exiles.

1. **Welcome** – Grenville Millington welcomed members and Steve Burr as the guest speaker.
2. **Q and A for Steve Burr** – A wide range of questions were put to SB and his responses provided a real insight into a whole range of aspects relating to the management of the team. He said he felt that the team are stronger this season and expressed his appreciation to the fans for the money raised through Crowdfunder. The net amount raised is in the region of £16k/£18k and this will enable him to bring in some loan signings to further strengthen the squad. Members were also reminded about the on going Squadbuilder initiative and the blue boxes that have now been put around the ground for fans to contribute their small change on match days. SB outlined his scouting arrangements and the arrangements for assessing the opposition prior to games. He said that he was impressed with the youth team and that members of the youth team were given opportunities to train with the first team so that he could assess their future potential and give them a chance to prove themselves. In respect of the FA Trophy he said it was still his ambition to take a team to Wembley. SB concluded by saying that the players will always try to do their best; GM thanked him and said what a great team spirit there is amongst the players.
3. **Notes of the meeting held on 7th September 2015** – these had been posted on the CFU website and the following were matters arising:
 - a. Marion Needham said that there was one correction relating to the minutes - the statement that all ball and programme sponsor slots were filled being incorrect as there are still some sponsorship opportunities available. Otherwise the notes were accepted as a correct record.
 - b. Noted that GM had been contacting lapsed CFU members with some success.
 - c. Jim Keegan referred to the statement made at the end of the last meeting relating to the appointment of Tony Allan. Following this there had been comments on social media that had claimed that Brian Burns had not told the truth regarding a complaint the Club had received from a member regarding this appointment. JK said that BB had indeed been truthful in that there had been no complaint during the week of 3rd August 2015, which was the week Brian was referring to. The one complaint that had been received was during the following week of 10th August,

2015. That complaint had been received by another director (Neil Bellis) and was not known to BB. JK said that personal abuse and calling peoples' personal integrity into question was neither nice, nor fair and will discourage CFU members from standing for the Board and could ultimately lead to putting the fan owned model in danger. Although the big city survey had shown that communications had improved, there were lessons to be learned from this issue, which the Board accepted and the Board were committed to improving communications.

4. Safety Advisory Group – JK said that following the annual safety inspection the capacity had been increased from 4168 to 4959; the remaining safety issue that is being addressed as a matter of urgency is the replacement of the PA system. JK also highlighted a number of other issues including:

- a. the redecoration and fitting of new lights in the Blues Bar also the new outside smoking area paid for by the away travel. It was also noted that the actual bar area is to be refurbished and it was hoped that it would be possible to buy new carpet too.
- b. There had been a small amount of damage at the Wrexham game and this will be costed and Wrexham will be asked to pay. Before the away game at Wrexham, fans will be reminded of the cost to the club last time and it was hoped that there would be improved stewarding and that no alcohol would be served on the day. Noted that the policing costs for the home game were in the region of £8k. The away game will still be a bubble game but the position will be reviewed for next season.
- c. Steve Ollerenshaw will be leaving shortly having been successful in obtaining a job in Scotland; consideration is being given to arrangement to replace him.
- d. John Needham had been shortlisted for the unsung hero by the North West Football Awards.

5. Q and A

- a. A vote of thanks to the directors was proposed and a reminder of the small number of paid staff that actually work at the club on a day to day basis.
- b. Non league day – the Community Trust is planning some activity on the pitch at half time.
- c. FA cup qualifying round – date confirmed as 24th October, 2015.
- d. Fa youth cup being played 7th October v Cheadle Town KO 7.30pm

6. Date of next meeting – members were given the opportunity to choose the day of the week and it was agreed that the meeting should continue to be held on a Monday evening, with the next meeting being held on Monday 2nd November, 2015 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 10pm