



## NUNEATON TOWN SUPPORTERS' CO-OPERATIVE

**Meeting opens at 7.30pm, Coton Liberal Club, 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2015**

**Present:** R. Miller, R. Barnes, J. Hobson, D. Hall, J. Skuce, P. Davis, M. Turner, M. Ball, P. Burdett

**Apologies:** A. Briggs, D. Cook

**Minutes of last meeting:** Passed as correct

**Treasurer's Report:** General account: £6,730.60; Contingency account: £7,096.94. Payments out: FCA Membership £60; Printing Christmas Raffle Tickets £33.95; Payments in: Easyfundraising £54.66.

**Membership:** Still some members to renew. New memberships to be taken at gate or table in bar at home games.

**Disabled Facility:** R. Barnes reported meeting previous evening of sub-committee. Plan being re-drawn, O/S site plan would be required. Quotes required for shelter. Present to Football Club when new plan is presented.

**Christmas Raffle:** Tickets being distributed by D. Hall. Table at gate on Saturday, and in bar for the next two home games. Draw Chorley game, 19<sup>th</sup> December in bar. More prizes needed.

**Middlesbrough Reunited:** Mike sent out update email. DVD acquired of the games, including feature interviews etc. Video to be produced of the event, which can be used by FTTT. Raffle suggested for Hospice? Ticket design produced, 200 to be printed. Souvenir programme could be produced. Further meeting arranged for next week to finalise things.

**FTTT:** Further meetings have taken place. Up to WW2 with e-books.

**A.O.B.:** 200 Club November draw at Alfreton game on 28<sup>th</sup> November.

Roger Barnes suggested that we put forward a policy to the Football Club regarding a minute's silence at home games. It was stated that the club's present way of honouring people's passing is very haphazard, to say the least.

Roger Barnes said, that having gone back and read our constitution, he disputed the Co-operative's policy of not helping the Football Club financially, as discussed at the last meeting. He went on to point out that the Co-operative had paid for things in the past that benefited the community, and this was no exception. There are several grey areas there, and suggests that the Co-operative should have a re-think about their relationship with the Football Club.

The chairman pointed out that the Co-operative have contacted Supporters' Direct on this matter, and an email was read out, from the secretary of SD, stating that "a Supporters' Trust was an independent organisation for supporters of the supporters' club, and not a cash-cow for the Football Club. Money owned in it's bank accounts by the Trust, is for the Trust's purposes, and aims, the community, and all supporters of Nuneaton Town Football Club. The Football Club should budget for expenditure and emergencies, like any business.

The decision is ultimately the committees to decide. If the members of the Trust were balloted on this matter, they might very well say 'yes', but this would be setting a very dangerous precedent in Supporters' Direct's opinion. When you have said 'yes' once where would it end, they could keep coming back for more. The Trust could very well end up with very little in their bank accounts."

She went on to say that this was not official advice, but an opinion, based on her experience.

It was pointed out that the Co-operative continue to help the Football Club financially, every month, to the tune of several hundreds of pounds in several ways.

Although the Co-operative have paid for items in the past, these must be considered assets of the Co-operative.

After much continued discussion, the chairman stated that perhaps there were "grey areas" on what the Co-operative should do for the Football Club, but in his opinion we should go by the suggestions of Supporters' Direct, after all, the Co-operative does not have any monies, it is our members' monies.

**Next meeting:** Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December, Liberal Club

**Meeting closed:** 8.45pm

