



NUNEATON TOWN SUPPORTERS' CO-OPERATIVE

Meeting opens at 7.30pm, Coton Sports Club, 25th January 2017

Present: B. Bruce, J. Hobson, D. Hall, J. Skuce, P. Davis, M. Ball, M. Turner, R. Barnes. Harry Warren sat in on the meeting, with the possibility of being co-opted on to the board

Apologies: R. Miller, S. Forsdick

Minutes of last meeting: Signed off as true record.

Treasurers' report: G/A: £8866.53, C/F: £8141.07. Payments: Room hire £40, Receipts: Donation from former youth team £176. Subs: £2
Yearly accounts now with auditor.

Community Ownership/James Mathie meeting: John and Martin reported on a meeting in Nuneaton with James Mathie of Supporters' Direct on community ownership and the viability of the football club at present.

James suggested that Nick Igoe could possibly help us with the production of the business plan, which could be done quite quickly. It was suggested that we could speak to Nick via Skype if necessary. John will contact James later in the week.

Several fan ownership models up and down the country were discussed, including football and other sporting bodies working together in community set-ups.

Lee Thorn has requested a meeting with the Co-operative as soon as possible. He has been asked to name the date, but nothing has been forthcoming.

The meeting between the football club and rugby club seems to have not resolved the removal of the skips, the football club are now talking of installing turnstiles which would have access from off their own land.

Meeting with Rugby Club: John reported on a meeting between four members of the committee and four members of the rugby club committee to have a general discussion about our present relationship with the rugby club, and also into the future.

They apologised for their chairman and vice-chairman missing the meeting due to a meeting, that evening, with the football club chairman.

A discussion took place about the possible community benefits that could take place between both clubs, and others, for the benefit of the town.

They felt they have already made a good start with this, when 300+ kids take part in junior rugby at the club.

Several ideas were put forward by both sides, such as joint sponsorships etc, which would benefit both clubs.

It was asked about a substantial loan that they were offered by the RFU to develop their facilities at their pitch. They explained that they would have to match the loan, which wasn't possible. They considered a possible move from Liberty Way, but it was felt that they would be staying. It was pointed out that they have 50 acres of land at Liberty Way, whereas the football club owned about 6 acres.

The present situation of them using skips to block entrances to the football ground followed.

Our views were expressed to them on the impact to our members, and also any effect on the possible sale of the football club, and they replied with their reasons for this situation.

It seems as though some agreements had been made between both parties for access to play on the pitch. One being, for the football club to use some of rugby club's land for training purposes, in exchange for pitch time, this hasn't happened, and their committee felt that these agreements have been reneged upon.

An example was stated, of them receiving a very late refusal for them to play on the pitch, which had cost them a considerable amount of money through corporate entertainment etc, and they felt that the skips were their last resort after getting nowhere with the football club.

They said the football club had been telephoned three times, asking them to move the mini-bus from the gateway, with no response.

They asked about what the Co-operative knew about the two offers for the football club and ground. The Co-operative explained that we had no idea about these two possible offers.

The meeting lasted for a considerable amount of time, and it was agreed that further discussions should take place in near future.

2017 Planner: AGM accounts completed by auditor, AGM 31st May, 2017. End of season event, it would have to be before contracts expire? Email to club asking of interest in this. Roger has the offer of 6, 10 seater tables, if we are interested, storage needed. Quiz in October, Charity event?

200 Club: No publication on club's website of results since Ben left club. Dave has notified the club of this, with no reply. Ben to check this with club.

January draw took place after meeting.

AOB: Make sure minutes are up to date on website.

FTTT project: 9,000 people responded to recent post on Nuneaton Memories website

Ash Hawkins has 42 DVDs of games, 2012-2014, asking £150 the lot. Could buy them for FTTT project.

Meeting closed: 8.45pm Next meeting: Coton Sports Club, Wednesday, 8th February, 7.30pm

