

# NUNEATON TOWN SUPPORTERS' CO-OPERATIVE

**Meeting opens at 7.30 pm, Coton Liberal Club, 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2014**

**Attending:** J. Hobson, P. Burdett, R. Barnes, D. Hall, J. Skuce, M. Ball, M. Turner. A. Briggs. R. Miller

**Apologies:** E. Stevens, D. Cook, P. Davis

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

**Chairman's report:** Nothing to report

**Treasurer's report:** Nothing to report

**Supporter's Summit:** On 26 July, John Hobson and Mike Turner represented Nuneaton Town Supporters' Co-operative at this years Supporters Summit held at Wembley Stadium.

The event was jointly hosted by Supporters Direct (SD) and the Football Supporters Federation, (FSF).

The day began with a tour of the impressive stadium and also behind the scenes such as dressing rooms and press room.

The opening session was a chance for delegates to discuss changes they would like to see to improve the state of the game. Following a video interview with Gregg Dyke sharing his view on the suggested 'B' league and other ideas to improve England's lot, the discussion became more grounded with pleas to divert more funds to 'grass roots', reduce the prohibitive cost for coaches wishing to obtain coaching badges and even a suggestion for the FA to take over pitches from the local authorities and upgrade from central funds- this received a very mixed reception.

A variety of workshops were held during the course of the day, including 'Away Fans Matter'. This concentrated on FSF campaigns such as 'twenty's plenty', a bid to get clubs to lower ticket prices and let away fans in for £20, in this respect reports from delegates indicated that they had seen some positive movement over the past season. Also discussed was the 'safe standing' campaign and looking at ways to improve facilities and change attitudes towards travelling supporters.

The afternoon workshop attended discussed Supporters Trusts, the main panel consisted of Board members from Spurs, Charlton Athletic, Cambridge United and the Brakes Trust, represented by Vice Chairman, Peter Davis.

The Co-operative polo shirts proved to be great icebreakers as contacts were made with numerous other Trusts, including Cambridge United, Northampton Town, Port Vale, Leamington and Wrexham.

**Newsletter:** Martin presented copies of the proposed newsletter, and asked for more information to fill the 8pp plus any alts or corrections to it. Dave Hall would send upto date figures for 200 Club feature, John had pictures of sponsored shirts etc and a Youth Team report. Martin would get a printing price. Andy suggested offering him a corporate sponsorship. Hopefully it would be printed ready for the second home game.

**Membership:** John said that some had come in. Emails would be sent out reminding members that they could pay at the table in the club and we would have a table at the gate for the first game.

**Heritage Project:** Interviews were on going for the local co-ordinator role. Several good candidates had been interviewed with impressive work submitted on previous projects.

**Youth Team/U16s:** No report.

**Memorial Garden:** Work was needed on the turf, bench and railings need painting. A working party would be formed. It was reported that children attending events at the football club weren't been supervised properly, this should be pointed out to the club. It was pointed out by Jim Skuce that this was consecrated ground. A suggestion of replacing the grass with artificial turf, a cost would be obtained. The original idea of a plaque on the gate saying who had created the garden should be done.

**A.O.B.:** Roger Barnes mentioned a bill for decorations for the presentation evening had been emailed to him, when it had already been paid. The chairman told Roger that in the event of any further concerns about this, to tell them to telephone John Hobson.

Dave Hall reported the date of the first home league game for the Youth Team, Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Aug, Newcastle Town.

Andy Briggs would email IN about the next meeting with them.

The chairman reported that we would be having a meeting with AFC Hinckley.

Roger Barnes reported that the PA system had been fixed after a conversation with Jules, by a local firm that Jules knew, at a moderate cost.

John asked treasurer to prepare cheque for SD affiliation fees.

**200 Club:** Draw for July took place after meeting.

**Date of next meeting:** Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> August, at football club

**Meeting closed:** 8.35pm

