

NUNEATON TOWN SUPPORTERS' CO-OPERATIVE

Meeting opens at 7.35pm, Wednesday, 6th November 2013

Present: John Hobson, Ray Miller, Mike Turner, Jim Skuce, Dave Hall, Martin Ball, Roger Barnes.

Apologies: Andy Briggs, Peter Burdett, Pete Davis

Chairman's report: An action plan wasn't available but, meeting with club, Christmas draw, drive and lights, membership survey were on the agenda. He said that now was the time to remind members of Easy Fundraising with Christmas approaching, where we have raised £500 so far. Martin Ball said that if we could just get a percentage of the membership using it for the Co-op, big money is there. Minutes were signed off as a true record.

Secretary's report: Situation still vacant. Mike Turner suggested that we contact members to see if anybody is interested in taking up the role. Roger Barnes suggested perhaps a younger member if possible.

Treasurer's report: Ray said nothing to report. Mike Turner asked if the total balance published in the last minutes included the £900+ "200 club money" that belongs to the club, Ray said that it was still held in the 200 Club account waiting for them to claim. Roger Barnes suggested that the Co-op publish monthly in the minutes what moneys are held in which accounts, to make things completely transparent. It was agreed that when accounts are minuted, we state the amount held for the football club, proposed Roger Barnes, seconded Jim Skuce, vote carried.

Remembrance: Mike Turner has bought a wreath on behalf of the Co-operative, but with not having a home game nearest Remembrance Sunday, it was agreed to lay the wreath, with a minute's silence, on Monday, 11th November, 11am at the Memorial Garden. Member's were invited to attend, several said they would. The football club would be invited by Roger Barnes.

Heritage Project: As outlined in the previous minutes, John Hobson said that Thursday would be a busy day, with Judy Crabb attending meetings at Nuneaton and Hinckley. Mike Turner said that the only development recently was after a meeting with Louise Essex at the library. Their collection of Boro football programmes were up to 2005-6 and it was suggested that this could be brought more up-to-date, making it an important social history collection at the library. It was suggested we make an appeal for copies, the club have said we could have any spare programmes from the club shop to make up a set and they would save copies of future programmes for the collection. Jim Skuce suggested perhaps we could copy some programmes from people's collections.

Meeting with club: Mike Turner said stewards were now opening both entrance gates.

Ian Neale said the ground sale would be coming up shortly, but he did not know when, and he had not received any direct approaches, but rumours of three interested parties.

He asked when it happens, what would the Co-operative's position be, he was told we would have to know more details before commenting on that.

Ian Neale was asked what the position was with the lease on the ground, and he said there was no problem with that, with it being there for another seven years.

Gemma Brown acknowledged that Roger Barnes had been trying to get in touch with her, regarding the end of season event, but she had been off ill and a meeting would be arranged soon.

Ian Neale said that the disabled shelter would need plans drawing up, and he would pay for that out of his own pocket. He was confident of getting grants for the project and asked if the Co-op could do the same. Roger Barnes pointed out that the last time we had plans drawn up for a similar project we needed to own that piece of the ground it would stand on to enable us to get grants. Those plans had now expired. John Hobson questioned what would happen to the project should the ground sale proceed. Disabled parking would be discussed at a later date.

The football club was told about the Co-op's recent meetings with the Rugby Club.

The football club would shortly be announcing the appointment of a community director/club chaplain.

The football club had met with the prison service and would be getting some help with community work, part of the pay-back scheme.

There was some talk about stewarding at games and Ian Neale pointed out that it was difficult at some of the bigger matches, when stewards have to take directions from the police, but normally, he would hope the stewards would take a common sense approach to some of the less serious situations.

Andy Briggs asked about the electronic entrancing at matches, but apparently Skrill had pulled out of it, so other arrangements would have to be made regarding this.

It was agreed that it was a positive meeting. Next meeting pencilled in for Monday, 9th December.

Christmas Draw: Dave Hall reported £90 in sales up to now, but we needed to take £230 to break even, so he urged people to sell as many as possible. John Hobson said the youth team sales still had to come in. Martin Ball asked to the meeting to look out for any possible vouchers, prizes etc., that people might like to donate as prizes.

Drive and Lighting: Roger Barnes reported a meeting the previous Saturday he and Pete Davis had with Mr Whitmore from the rugby club and Steve Smith from a company called GSTC regarding the holes in the driveway. He provided several

quotes, £900 to fill in the holes and maintain them, £13,000 to lay tarmac the full length and width of the drive to a certain depth and more expensive quotes depending on the depth of tarmac laid. He offered references and testimonials of his company's work.

The rugby club's representative said that they were keen to get on and do something about the driveway. Roger pointed out that the costs would be shared between ourselves and the rugby club. Mr Whitmore suggested that the rugby club might have a problem raising the money; it would probably have to come from donations etc.

Jim Skuce pointed out, to our meeting, that the rugby club had recently sold a piece of their land for allegedly £230,000.

Going on from the driveway discussion, Mr Whitmore said that they had 3 pylons that they would donate towards the lighting project on the driveway.

John Hobson suggested that we try and move on with the project as soon as possible, even if it's only a temporary fix and perhaps to come to an arrangement with the rugby club regarding payment.

Mike Turner pointed out that there were costs involved with the lighting also, even though the rugby club had offered to donate pylons, and we should bear this in mind.

Pete Davis was due to meet with the electrician regarding lighting to the driveway this week.

John Hobson suggested that after we receive more details of the lighting, we should approach the rugby club with a view to get on with it as soon as possible.

Events: Christmas Event, both dates in December clash with away games on 7th & 14th Dec, it was agreed we should support it, but the dates will cause problems, would it be possible to move it to a Friday date?

Membership survey: John Hobson and Mike Turner will work on some questions for the survey.

A.O.B. Roger Barnes reported on a conversation with Martin Winstanley on the end of season event, a date of May 10th was suggested. John Hobson suggested that the club should drive this event. Ian Neale has trophies.

Jim Skuce suggested we should approach rugby club about roped off area being used as possible disabled parking for both football and rugby club's disabled fans.

Dave Hall said in the 200 Club two players have left, leaving us two short, perhaps the football club office could replace them. Dave thought that one of the invalid chairs was missing, but it was agreed that we had them all.

Roger Barnes asked if we have approached the stewards about handing out ponchos on wet days.

Mentioned was made about the filing cabinet that belongs to us, perhaps it could be made available to store things in, such as ponchos etc. Suggestions were made as to where it could put to make easily available, perhaps the club shop, Dave would approach him with the suggestion.

SD meeting, the guest speaker has pulled out, said Mike Turner, but Jacqui of SD was working on a replacement. She was approaching other trusts about attending. Mike said that it was important we get as many people there as possible. Martin Winstanley is doing the catering for probably 20, paid for by the Co-operative. Mike asked for items for the Co-op's table.

200 Club November draw arranged for Tuesday, 26th or the following Saturday, depending on a home game in the trophy

Next meeting: Thursday, 21st November at Liberty Way

Meeting closed: 9.10pm