

Meeting of Nuneaton Town FC and Nuneaton Town Supporters' Co-operative

Monday 7 April 2014 at The Sperrin Brewery Stadium. Meeting starts at 12.10pm.

Present Ian Neale CEO of NTFC, John Hobson, Jim Skuce, Pete Davis and Mike Turner of NTSC.

1) Action points from last meeting

(NTSC) – a) Possible short term solution to PA system. Despite club replacing 3 speakers, system still not working properly, some parts of ground have no sound. Ian felt that only solution was to set up a locked control box in main stand. This would have 4 controls to control volume as presently it is not possible to adjust volume on blocks of speakers position in different parts of the ground.

Agreed that Ian would obtain competitive quotes. Co-operative will then consider without making any commitment at this stage.

NTFC – a) Firm up administration details for Co-operative assistance with 50/50 and Golden goal tickets. - No tickets were made available at Halifax game for Co-operative to sell from table in Sports bar. Reinforces need for details of arrangements to be set out so volunteer NTSC members know what to expect in terms of procedures. Ian agreed to prepare a crib sheet and sort out money bag etc.

2) Developments re ground sale – Ian was unable to comment other than the fact that it is the intention to ensure the long term security of the club as a priority.

3) Player of the year award – Event planning well advanced, trophies are now being purchased, ready for engraving. NTSC has been approached by a member who like to auction a Wayne Rooney signed Man United shirt, on the night, for Mary Ann Evans Hospice. Agreed this was fine and will be drafted into evening's schedule.

4) Rugby Club access and lighting – NTSC to arrange further meeting to see if matter can be tackled in another way. At last evening home game Rugby Club lights had been left on which were perfectly adequate to illuminate exit. If RC would be prepared to continue this arrangement then funds could be directed to resurfacing drive on 50/50 basis with RC and a matching support grant. In the meantime, NTSC had sanctioned a spend of £200, max £300, to improve lights on steps from Sports Bar and overlooking car park. As this had not been carried out by nominated contractor, Ian asked if there was any objection to him getting alternative quote and NTSC matching previous financial commitment. Agreed in principle.

5) HLF update – Further communication has been received from HLF, seeking clarification of various aspects. We have now been advised that application will now be considered on 28 April.

6) Update from Club/matters for NTSC information.

-Ian introduced Josh Brown, who has joined the sales and marketing team. Ian explained Jason Hood had not been replaced straight away as the busy time for the team was April to September when sponsorship contracts were sought/re-negotiated. Josh will work with Gemma Brown and we may also recruit further once assessed.

-The Club is committed to bring on an under 16 team. This is to be headed up by Boro supporter, David Cook. The team will play in the Midland Junior Premier League and will play their games on Saturday mornings at 'The Cabbage', although part of the agreement will see a couple of games played at 'The Sperrin Stadium'. The team will act as a feeder into the Youth team. In turn some Youth team players may have an opportunity to be considered for the first team squad or found another outlet.

Ian asked if the Co-operative could give any assistance, bearing in mind close involvement with the Youth team. John said the Board would be happy to consider and suggested David Cook comes along to a Board meeting to give us more information. Ian will communicate this to David.

-Ian is looking and exploring development of the club structure and looking to form a Stadium Improvement Group, mix of business and supporters with suitable skillset, to process short, mid and long term development of the stadium, to progress to Football League's exacting standards. Ground capacity has now been re-assessed at 4627, with agreement of Warks Fire Service and SGSA.

Ian stated that one option may be to obtain a mobile unit for the disabled section, this would overcome any problems of obstructing view from Rugby Club. He asked if the Co-operative could investigate sourcing. He would then take forward and felt grants would be available to finance. Mike thought Telford may have similar units and a member of the Co-operative had noted the manufacturers name as he had been suitably impressed. To be investigated by NTSC.

-Ian stated that he was looking to increase supporter engagement via the NTSC. Initially looking how the club should be structured in terms of ownership/representation. He felt it was incumbent upon the Co-operative to approach him if they wished to be involved, detailing any proposals of involvement.

John explained that any increased involvement, over and above our present role, would have to be discussed with Supporters Direct. In the first instance, this initiative will be placed on the agenda for our Board meeting on 9 April.

-Plans for the Big Boro Festival on 31 May, are well advanced, with profits going to the football club. Ian asked if the NTSC could assist with roles such as information points, car parking. NTSC may also wish to have a stall in the community section.

7) Any other business – Is it still the club's intention to offer a special deal to season ticket holders in respect of next seasons 125 anniversary kit ?. Ian confirmed that this is the intention, although it will not be possible to order with season tickets due to clarification of delivery dates, expected before 30 June.

-Mike mentioned the club had kindly hosted a group from 'Independent Support Solutions' last December, when they toured the ground and met with Kelle Roos and Kevin Wilkin. At the time the group had expressed a wish to attend a match. It was suggested that this was left until warmer weather. Is it possible the Club can accommodate their wish. Ian confirmed the club will be happy to provide tickets for the group and their carers at either the Barnet or Dartford game. The club would like an opportunity to share any PR with Co-operative. Mike will make contact with kind offer.

-What is position with e-ticketing ? Ian stated that this could go ahead immediately, however, other priorities have dictated that this has taken a back seat. Ian will be attending on Tuesday which may clarify further. The formation of a Stadium Improvement Group could help to drive a structured introduction.

Date of next meeting – 28 April 2014 at 12 noon, subject to confirmation nearer the time.

Action points for Co-operative -

- a) Discuss possibility of playing a part in any club restructure and convey thoughts/proposals to Ian.
- b) Investigate supplier/manufacturer of mobile disabled seating area and report back to Ian.
- c) Consider if any assistance can be provided to 'Big Boro Fest'. Organise a Stall .
- d) Contact Independent Support Solutions with offer of tickets for Barnet of Dartford game.

Action points for Club-

- a) Prepare administration notes to ensure future assistance of NTSC, selling 50/50 tickets, is co-ordinated in an organised manner.
- b) Obtain competitive quotes for proposed PA control box.
- c) Obtain quote for agreed electrical work.(Per agenda item 4).