

Nuneaton Town Supporters' Co-operative

1. Meeting opens 7.35pm on 28th February 2013 at Liberty Way.
2. Present: Jim Astley, Ben Bruce, John Hobson, Dave Hall, Pete Burdett, Ray Miller, Martin Ball, Jim Skuce, and Mike Turner.
Apologies: Mark Axon, Mark Mortlock, Andy Briggs, and Roger Barnes.
3. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Action Plan from 14/2/13

1. Contact Jim/Mike if you wish to attend Co-op Networking Lunch, 22 March – ongoing.
 2. Plan Newsletter – All – ongoing – Ben offered to help contribute to the newsletter (liaise with Martin).
 3. Contact SD re Fan Ownership – Jim - ongoing
 4. Response from Council re Localism Act 2011 – Mike (see agenda)
 5. Response to Membership skills list for projects – Jim – only one response – Ben.
 6. Add 'Membership' to agenda for next meeting – Jim – done.
 7. Respond to Ian Neale's 'wish list' / Arrange early March meeting – Jim – ongoing.
4. Chairman's Report – John reported that he, Mike, Mark and Jim A had attended the West Midland's Regional Meeting at Telford the previous week. There were a couple of interesting discussions to do with the Localism Act and the Supporters' Liaison Officer initiative that may be of use to us moving forward.
5. Secretary's Report – Jim A said he received a response from the Rugby Club regarding a meeting. It was agreed Mike, John, Ben and Jim A would attend. Jim A also said he had received an email about the Supporters' Direct Supporters' Summit. This year it is due to take place on 21st June at St. George's Park, Burton.

AGM – Jim A explained that the date for the AGM would have to be set fairly soon, and would coincide with the Model Rules being voted in as the Constitution. It was agreed that Mike would look at the process for introducing the Model Rules, while Jim A would look at the AGM. It was agreed that Jim A, Mike and John would meet and discuss before the next meeting.

Jim A read out an email from Ian Neale and the responses were as follows: 1. Drag Race – Ben and Jim A agreed to do it this year. Other members would assist with fund-raising and promotion as required. 2. Sportsman's Evening – Pete said he had looked into it. Prices were roughly £2k for a speaker, £500 for a comedian with food at £10 per head. The room can hold 140, so 140 tickets at £30 is £4200, minus £3900 costs would leave a small profit (130 break even figure). Jim A agreed to contact Ian Neale and request some meeting dates. 3. Help promoting matches – Mike said that we had requested a list of retailers from the Club, but this has not arrived. Ben said that the Club's target of car parks etc is aimed at the wrong demographic. It was agreed to request the list from Ian Neale again and Ben would produce some posters that could be placed in pubs. 4. Three turnstiles - Ian Neale requested some assistance in purchasing three turnstiles. Jim A said he would contact Ian to get some details. Mike suggested arranging a bucket collection to help pay for the turnstiles. Ray said that any purchases would need to be invoiced directly. Jim A said he would look at turnstiles online. It was noted that Ian Neale's response was not complete and missed out answers to several questions.

6. Treasurer's Report – Ray said that the 200 Club had raised £2115 for the Co-Operative to date, with £431 going into the Contingency Fund and £1724 moving into the main account. There is currently £3394.07 in the contingency fund and £3557.51 in the 'current' account. Ray added that there had been an issue with the Easyfundraising payments, but this was hopefully sorted out.

7. 200 Club – Dave reported that the prize money had fallen slightly. As always we should be looking to increase members.

8. Fan Ownership – Localism Act – Mike said that the Localism Act had been passed in 2011, and Supporters' Direct had recommended that Trusts and Co-Operative's use the Act to register football stadiums/grounds as a 'Community Asset' with the local authority. If a ground is registered as a Community Asset, then the Co-Operative are given an opportunity to purchase the stadium at market price should it ever go up for sale. It costs no fee to register it with the Council. It was agreed for Mike to move ahead with this. Jim A agreed to contact Ian Neale and explain the Localism Act.

9. Fan on the Board – Jim A read out the press release he had written. Ben said he thought it important to mention that Ian Neale had suggested that the Fan Director might be suited to the secretary role. Jim A agreed to amend and distribute.

Jim A said that at the West Midland's Regional Meeting in Telford, there had been a presentation and discussion on the role of Supporter Liaison Officers. These are new roles that have been created at Club across Europe as part of the Financial Fair Play agreement due to come in next season. Each Club in the English League would appoint a person to liaise with fans over tickets, security, match day experience etc. As the Co-Operative had decided not to move forward with a fan director, it was agreed to investigate this role. Jim A said he would do some research and present it to the Co-Op Board and Ian Neale at our upcoming, to-be-arranged meeting.

10. Rugby Club/Access - Jim A said he received a response from the Rugby Club regarding a meeting. It was agreed Mike, John, Ben and Jim A would attend. Jim A would contact Robert Ryan and arrange a meeting.

11. FA Cup Bonanza – Jim A said he would look for some sort of raffle or lottery. Entrance was suggested at £10 with a buffet or maybe just snacks. Ben said it was his stag do, and he could easily arrange for it to begin at the Club, to watch the Cup Final, so there would be decent numbers. It was suggested that we show a video. Jim A said he would sort a list out for Ben to look at, as he has VHS to DVD capabilities.

12. Store Room/Kit Room – Jim A said that he would be attending on Monday 4th March to start work on the room. Ben agreed to assist. Several other members said they would try and attend.

13. Membership – Dave said he was surprised by how few members had renewed and suggested that Jim A had enough on his plate and that a membership secretary should be appointed. John agreed to take this on moving forward. Ben suggested that we contact people who have failed to renew and ask why they haven't re-joined. Jim A suggested that we make all 200 Club members automatically members of the Co-Operative. Dave said he disagreed and felt that people should pay to be part of the Co-Operative, not just receive it tagged onto something else where they may not appreciate it. John said he could understand Dave's point, but in the future it may be more important to have members rather than money.

14. Newsletter – send content to Martin. Ben said he would assist.

15. Any other business.

- Dave said he had received a reply from the FSA about the name change. They had not accepted the name change. Jim A said he would contact Jacqui Forster at SD for advice.

16. The next meeting was set for Thursday, 14th March 2013 at Liberty Way.

Meeting ends at 9:45pm

Action Plan

1. Plan Newsletter – All
2. Prepare for AGM – Jim A.
3. Investigate process for Model Rules – Mike.
4. Arrange meeting with Ian Neale regarding Sportsman's Evening
5. Prepare posters – Ben – Distribute posters – all.
6. Investigate turnstiles – Jim A
7. Register ground as a 'community asset' – ongoing – Mike.
8. Contact Ian Neale regarding Localism Act – Jim A
9. Amend and distribute Fan Director Update – Jim A
10. Research SLO – Jim A.
11. Arrange meeting with Rugby Club – Jim A, Mike, Ben and John.
12. FA Cup Bonanza – Jim A.
13. VHS to DVDs – Jim A and Ben
14. Store Room/ Kit Room – All
15. Review Membership – John
16. Contact Jacqui Forster at SD regarding FSA – Jim A.