

Nuneaton Town Supporters' Co-Operative Meeting

Thursday, 26th April at Liberty Way.

1. Meeting opens at 7:10pm.

2. Attendance and apologies - Present: Jim Astley, Mark Mortlock, Andy Briggs, John Hobson, Martin Ball, Ray Miller, Jim Skuce, Dave Hall, Roger Barnes, Mike Turner, Kevin Ward, and Mick Bates.
Apologies: Mark Axon and Pete Burdett.

John welcomed Mark Mortlock, who was attending to offer some advice on merchandise opportunities, and Kevin Ward and Mick Bates. Mick has been appointed the Club's Disabled Supporter Advisor.

3. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Action Points 12-4-2012

1. Send off FSA and SD forms – Jim - Done
2. Send out newsletters – Jim - Done
3. Create list of members without an email address – Jim - Done
4. Tidy up website – Andy – To be done
5. Send in content for website – Jim, various – To be done
6. Check corporate letter and make suggestions – all – Roger has done.
7. Confirm FA Cup Bonanza participants – Deadline next Thursday 3rd May.
8. Model rules, email Jacqui Forster regarding process – Jim - Done
9. Meet with Club – Jim, John, Andy, and Mike – Done.
10. Confirm event at Griff and Coton Social Club – Pete – Booked for 10/08/2012

4. Chairman's Report – John said there were still some cash outstanding from the bike ride.

5. Secretary's Report – Jim A. passed out a diary to members detailing upcoming events for the next twelve months. Jim A. also mentioned that Supporters' Direct were re-evaluating their membership fees and were looking for feedback. It is currently £50 a year. Jim A. suggested donating pound per member (so it would be around £140) and board members agreed this.

6. Treasurer's Report – Ray asked if the Co-Op could claim Gift Aid? Jim said he would email SD and ask. Ray then asked if all the membership fees and donations were to be kept in the old Trust account and saved as contingency? Andy said, as he understood it, 20 per cent of any membership fees or donations would go into the contingency fund. If an event were held for a specific thing (such as the defibrillator fund), then 20% of any surplus after the target had been met would be put into the contingency fund. Andy said this should be made clear to members.

7. Report from the meeting with the Club 17/4/12 – Jim A. read out the minutes from the meeting. Andy said that Ian Neale had a reasonable point about events clashing. Roger suggested copying Ian Neale in on our minutes. Jim said he would send over a copy to the Club after they had been signed off.

8. Bike Ride – Many thanks to John and Sandra Hobson, Ron Bradbury, Darren, and Ben for taking part in the Bike Ride.

9. FA Cup Bonanza – Following discussions, the following timetable was agreed;

2pm - Bar opens.

2:30pm to 4pm – Show entire Boro' 2 Swansea 1 match on big screens.

4pm – FA Cup Bonanza Draw.

4:45pm – Buffet.

5:15pm – FA Cup Final kicks off.

Roger asked if we could advertise the day in the press. A raffle was agreed with prizes to include spirits and Boro' shirts. Jim S. asked if we had a speaker? John said the Club had said they would assist, but nothing has been confirmed.

10. Corporate Membership – Roger read out the revised letter and asked for feedback. Jim A. said he had an issue with the line '*you will have voting rights which will allow you to directly influence Co-Operative policy, and ultimately Football Club policy.*' Jim A. asked if the Club might have issue with us appearing to offer the opportunity to influence Club policy? Jim A. added that we should be selling the Corporate Membership on the back of the Co-Operative aims and ambitions, not the Football Club's. Roger said that the Club had agreed to take on a Fan's Representative, and this was an important 'selling point' to potential Corporate Members. A vote was taken and it was agreed to leave the sentence in.

11. Disabled Stand – John introduced Mick Bates, the Club's Disabled Supporter Advisor, and his friend Kevin Ward. Roger asked Mick what it was like to attend a match at Liberty Way as a disabled supporter? Mick said that the stand is superb and the experience has been very positive so far. Kevin said that the staff had been excellent. There were a few issues to be resolved, such as a lack of signage, hard car parking space and a roof to the stand. Mick said there was enough room for two cars to park in the tarmac parking area. Mick then passed around some photographs of the disabled stands at Peterborough and Burnley, perspexed, covered areas costing around £1500 (Andy suggested that a local business may provide such an area for sponsorship opportunities). Mick said that at Liberty Way, and at Peterborough and Burnley, the disabled stand was part of the stand and disabled supporters were not segregated. This was much preferable in his opinion.

Andy asked if a sub-committee could be formed to help this moving forward. Roger agreed to sit on this sub-committee, and would look to attend a future meeting between Mick, Kevin and the Football Club.

Ray leaves the meeting at 8:40pm.

12. 200 Club – Jim A. said he attended a meeting with Ben at the Club regarding the 200 Club. Nothing was sorted however as Ben was understandably unwilling to pass over some of the private documentation with regard to bank accounts etc. Ben suggested contacting Julie, who works in accounts, who should be able to assist further. Roger agreed to arrange a meeting.

13. Merchandise – John introduced Mark Mortlock who had some ideas regarding merchandise opportunities for the Co-Operative. Mark showed some car/window stickers, some t-shirt ideas and old programmes in frames. A sub-committee of Mark, John, Jim, and Roger were formed to move this forward.

14. Any other business.

- Mike reported that he had received an email from the FSA. Mike reported that the FSA claimed it had not received accounts for years ending 2007, 2008, 2009 or 2010. This was obviously of concern. Mike said he would contact Ray and see if he could help clear up the matter. Mike added that it would be best to audit the old Supporters' Club account from the end of July 2011 to 31 December 2011 and submit that to the FSA as well.
- Kevin said that Mick had just begun building a scale model of Manor Park. Mick had done one for Filbert Street that was currently in the reception area at Leicester's new stadium and it was the 'eighth wonder of the World'. Kevin said that any help we could provide to Mick would be appreciated.

15. The next meeting was set for Thursday 3rd May 2012 at venue and time to be confirmed.

Meeting ends at 9:05pm.

Action Points 26/04/2012

1. Collect outstanding Bike Ride sponsorship money – John.
2. Email SD concern annual membership fee – Jim A.
3. Email SD to see if we are able to receive Gift Aid – Jim A.
4. Send a copy of the signed off minutes to the Football Club – Jim A.
5. Advertise FA Cup Bonanza Day – Jim A. email Nathan.
6. Disabled Stand Sub-committee – Roger.
7. 200 Club, meet with Club – Roger.
8. Merchandise sub-committee – Roger, Jim A, John, and Mark.
9. Contact Ray regarding FSA – Mike.