

Minutes of the July 2015 BCFCSA Meeting – 29/6/15

Present – Les Pegler, Richard Williams, Mike Ishmael, Mark Jones, Matt Johnson, Glynne Roberts, Peter Davies, Peter Crew, Dylan Fernley, Geraint Parry, Pete Jones, Dick Rigby, Anora Rigby, John Gibson, Linda Roberts, Ceri Roberts, Sid Bird, Eifion Jones, Daniel Jones, Julian Davies, Alannah Davies, Dave Roberts. Neil Harold, Patrick Barry, Yvonne Thomas, Derek Jones, Pete Banham, Alwyn Roberts, Selly, Brian Evans, Nick Redfern, Dave Halliday, Daniel Halliday, David Jones, Glyn Groundsell, Marc Owen, Mike Fraser, Robin Edwards

Apologies – Einion Williams, Phil Rigby

Les P – “It’s great to see so many people here”

1. Dilwyn’s statement

There have been many unfounded rumours recently so I would like to state that I’m not resigning and the club is not going bankrupt.

Basically speaking there are several areas in which the club has to improve. The facilities are underperforming, especially midweek events, and the PR management has fallen short. We need to rectify these matters urgently. We also need help in HR matters and financial administration.

The sponsorship situation is looking more hopeful, we are in discussion with a shirt sponsor and a ground sponsor.

Due to our financial situation we are reliant upon attracting good crowds to the pre-season matches, especially the Tranmere match.

When it come to the terrace there are several options, we could build the terrace or ringfence the BCFCSA’s contribution but either of those option could result in the closure of the club. As a consequence the terrace will have to be put on hold.

The BCFCSA are now the majority shareholder in the club.

The board and the manager are all committed fans and we have all recognised that the club needs help. For the first time under this board we are making a cry for help, we need help, we need new directors and we need to get the facilities being used more.

2. Les’ statement

The BCFCSA committee and Club Board met three weeks ago, generally the club has made a loss and the directors have been funding the club from their own pockets over the last few months. We decided to hand over the remaining funds in our terrace fund (£9,000) to make up the shortfall. The £41,000 that we have donated will be used for its intended purpose in due course.

The club now only has 4 directors so they desperately need new directors. We have met a candidate that's interested in becoming a general manager for the club. This sounds positive as there doesn't appear to be a down side. The sponsor situation now looks more hopeful.

Today was originally due to be our AGM but we decided to defer it until 13/7/15 because we wanted to give our members the chance to mull over our actions and decide whether they would like, or are able, to help matters. If supporters are unhappy about the way the committee have conducted themselves in relation to the financial matters of the club they are free to elect a new committee at the AGM.

As I see it the BCFCSA need more people to get involved so we need more volunteers to take ideas forward. The club also needs more help, they need more directors and they need to generate more income. I throw the matters to the floor.

3. General thoughts from the meeting

- The communication between fans and club is awful. This must improve to stop rumours / gossip. It is a problem that needs sorting
- We need to attract more business.
- A business plan is needed
- The BCFCSA are now the club's biggest shareholders, but having said that the club's always been owned by supporters. In a sense nothing has changed apart from the increase our shareholding, the club still has the same structure.
- The Club and the Fans are now more of a partnership.
- It's taken 10 / 15 years to get the BCFCSA to this level. It would be a shame if we were to give up just after this journey. If we accept that we're going to be in for a bumpy ride over the forthcoming months and then we all give our all to help the club we can get through this.
- It looks like we might have missed a trick with the move to Nantporth.
- We have gone from a small situation in Farrar Road to a large situation in Nantporth but we've still kept them same basic club structure. It's no wonder there are problems; the same people are working harder and they can only do so much. We have to remember that the board are still Bangor City die-hards. We also have to remember just how much the board does for the club.
- Would a new broom sort everything out?
- On the other hand, if the board stepped down what would happen next?
- Sometimes the Nantporth's lights and heating system appear to be on longer than they need to be.

4. The way forward

Everyone is annoyed about the situation but what are we going to do about it?

- We need to ensure the gates are higher, we could reduce the entry cost to £8.
- We can charge people to park.
- We can revamp the BCFCSA website (The club are looking at revamping their website)
- We could start advertising what we do for the club more.

- We could fund a PR position; positive stuff is coming we need to let people know.
- The club has huge potential we need to start realising it.
- We need a business plan.
- We need new directors.
- We have to do something as we can't just throw away over 140 years of history.
- We could look at special one off shirts to help raise funds.
- The club could offer itself as a training base.
- Could we have a share issue?
- Can we revamp the 200 club, is it a bit old hat?
- The club has fallen behind other in terms of social media.

5. Summing Up

- The club could be in trouble but we can help it recover.
- Club communication needs to change.
- The club needs specific people for specific jobs (HR, Finance, PR etc)
- A business plan is needed.
- We need to stick together, we may be in for a bumpy ride but we will get through this together.
- The BCFCSA AGM is coming up. It would be great to have new committee members with fresh ideas.

Les P - "We would like to thank our members for attending tonight's meeting and making it productive."

Date of Next Meeting – 13/7/15 (The AGM)