

Minutes of the BCFCSA meeting held on 23rd January 2019

Present - Einion Williams, Les Pegler, Richard Williams, Matt Johnson, Glynne Roberts, Dafydd Hughes, Mark Jones, Pete Jones, Dylan Fernley, Daniel Jones, Chernise Rouse, David Jones, John Gibson, Chris Dogan, Andrew Dogan, Phil Rigby, Anora Rigby, Vera Owen, Linda Roberts, Ceri Roberts, Sara Roberts, Hywel Hughes, Steve Lunn, Dafydd James, Phil Burton, Dave Roberts, Peter Davies, Eilian Williams, Rob Lewis, Pete Banham, Liam Jones, Gareth Owen, Richard Jones, Stuart Kewley, Kevin Coleman, Matthew Hughes, Cameron Kewley, Ian Roberts, D Dowson, J Alwyn Roberts, Ryan Murray, Reece Owen, Trevor Jones, Will Pritchard, Liz Williams, Sion Williams, N Rowlands, Dafydd Williams, Jim Conway, Kevin Owen

Apologies - Jonathan Ervine, Ianto Parry, Geraint Parry, Ifan Jones, Nick Redfern

1. Treasurer's Update

There is a total of **£5887.34** in both of the BCFCSA's accounts

2. Update on legal advice

Glynne R provided an update on the legal situation and the steps that were agreed in November 2018's BCFCSA meeting.

Firstly, we sent a letter to the club requesting the postponement of the club's AGM. We have not received any further information or correspondence from the club.

Secondly, one of the recommendations in the latest legal advice was to incorporate the BCFCSA in order to protect our shareholding. Basically speaking incorporation means the creation or formation of a legal corporation so this means that the BCFCSA would become a company rather than an association. Incorporation will not change the general outlook or role of the BCFCSA.

Incorporation will be discussed in more detail during Agenda item 4

3. Report from meeting with Supporters Direct

Matt J presented this summary as both Jonathan E and Geraint P were absent.

On 20TH December 2018 Jonathan and Geraint conducted a conference call with Supporters Direct (SD) in order to discuss our concerns about the way the club has been run. Basically speaking SD is a body that was created by the British government in order to help fan groups run football clubs.

We received input from three different members of SD concerning matters such as the role of directors of the club, the ownership of the club, other financial matters concerning the club, and ways that supporters could potentially challenge the way in which the club is being run.

SD has been aware of VSM's involvement with Bangor City, and is aware of the Vaughan family's previous involvement in running a number of football clubs, so they asked BCFCSA for further details of its concerns about how Bangor City is being run.

SD are also carrying out research into both the situation (which will include contact the FAW in order to ascertain the nature of the licensing situation) and the potential methods of challenging the situation through the appropriate sporting and legal mechanisms.

We hope to have follow-up discussions with SD in the coming weeks. The contacts made with SD are important because they can potentially provide access to a useful support network.

Action Point – Members should direct any questions that they would like to put to SD towards the committee.

4. The incorporation of BCFCSA

Dafydd H gave a presentation, here is the summary;

The BCFCSA committee took heed of their legal advice and began to research various models of incorporation (Limited Liability Company, Charitable Trust, CIC etc). The committee opted for a CIC model as the most suitable way forward.

There are several positive aspects of a CIC model;

- The company is not run for profit
- There is an asset lock that prevents speculation
- it is democratic due to regular meetings and the ability of the members to elect directors
- it is transparent due to the annual report
- It is both a public and private body so grants can be secured.

One of the biggest benefits of a CIC model is that by its very nature it is community centred. Therefore a CIC model could allow us to promote the use of Nantporth as a community asset, for example Nantporth could become a genuine community football hub for Bangor and the surrounding areas.

The committee also looked at a model CIC constitution based upon a private company limited by guarantee. (The model is designed to work for bodies that have more members than directors).

This model would allow the incorporated BCFCSA to function in the same general manner as the present BCFCSA because it allows members to retain a strong role in the CIC. For example members would be able to elect directors in the same manner as the BCFCSA presently elects its committee and decisions/policies could be ratified during meetings.

If we adopted this model our present constitution could be adapted to become the CIC's statement of objects. A decision would need to be taken about the name of the CIC and should contain the initial "CIC" or their Welsh equivalents "CBC" or "CCC"

While the committee presently favours a CIC model this opinion may change if our legal guidance recommends another model of incorporation.

Dafydd and Les also had a meeting with Andrew Howard to discuss matters. Suffice to say Mr Howard offered very warm words about the place of Bangor City in Welsh football. The meeting also offered the following practical steps; Barry Town United could us offer a template, a new club would have to be registered by June.

Questions

We have heard worrying rumours about Nantporth, the CIC and loans. Are these reports true?

The situation may be slightly complicated because the CIC being the landlord of the site and the nature of funding the 3G pitch's construction but there are no real issues here. If there were, or had been, serious issues in this area the club would have failed FAW license applications on more than one occasion, as we all know the club has only failed to gain a license once (2018) since the Licensing process began. That failure had nothing to do with the CIC.

Could a CIC encourage the use of 3G?

Yes

Could a CIC encourage a woman's structure? The CIC could use this as a foundation.

Yes and the academy

Votes

Should there be a vote to decide on the nature of the BCFCSA's incorporation?

There was unanimous support for this idea.

Should the BCFCSA continue to research the matter (whilst guided by legal advice)?

There was unanimous support for this idea.

Action Point – We need to formulate information sheets regarding various models so that our members can decide which model of incorporation the BCFCSA should adopt

Action Point – Set up meeting with legal advisor to seek legal advice,

Action Point – Continue to research incorporation options.

Action Point – Contact Supporters Direct

5. Fundraising ideas

The BCFCSA need to begin fundraising again.

We have started to research and design some merchandising idea. For example Mark J has designed a couple of t-shirts; "Moiderer" & "Dingler".

Ideas

Restart a 200 Club

Have we looked at Crowdfunding?

Nick R was looking in to this but he's absent this evening.

Action Point - We encourage members to contact us with fundraising ideas

6. AOB

Is there a license for HGA?

From next season there is.

The club are responsible for merchandising, can we have BCFCSA merchandising?

See agenda item 5

Einion W - "Our members will help to decide our path over the coming months, we therefore encourage members to contact us with ideas, In short, the BCFCSA is your association and you can help to make it better."

Meeting closed at 7:26pm

Date of next meeting : TBC