

SOUTHEND UNITED SUPPORTERS CLUB TRUST LIASON MEETING 14th OCTOBER 2002

MINUTES FROM SUSCT LIASON MEETING – 14TH OCTOBER 2002

1. Apologies

There were no apologies

Paul Fitzgerald, Dave Scriven, Geoffrey King, Derek Wiltshire and Chris Phillips all in attendance.

All attendees agreed that the last set of minutes was a true account and they were signed off.

2. Maters arising

Membership forms

GK informed the committee that he had received reports of a Trust committee member handing out membership forms at the game against York. GK reiterated that we had agreed to a recruitment drive on 25th October and the committee agreed.

Quid a goal

GK is currently in the process of interviewing a new club physio with John Gowens imminent departure in mind. The club will need to see what the new appointment brings with them before making a decision on what he would like the Trust to purchase. PF and DS agreed to wait for confirmation before pushing the promotion heavily.

SUSCT advert in Programme

DS informed GK that he is yet to action but will be in contact with commercial shortly.

DS to action

3. SUSCT AGM

PF expressed the Trusts wish for a representative from SUFC to attend the SUSCT annual AGM as a guest speaker. GK agreed to attend on 30th October in the Shrimpers and said he'd be willing to answer fans questions on a wide range of subjects except property issues. He also confirmed he would talk to RN as to his availability.

4. Stadium cleaning

SUSCT members had complained that some of the seats in Roots Hall are often fouled with bird's mess. GK informed the committee that prior to all games they try to clean every seat. The club are aware of the situation and are doing all they can. GK also stated that before the start of the season all seats were pressure washed.

5. Club Shop

SUSCT members can now get a 5% discount in the club shop on production of their membership card, while Season Ticket holders can get a 10% discount throughout the month of November although GK did stress that both offers could not be used in conjunction with each other and further deals were expected in the new year.

6. Catering

GK confirmed that the changes expected to the Roots Hall catering are still on target for the time period stated in the last liaison meeting. GK also suggested that there might be some new alternative lines.

7. Smoking

PF informed GK that the Trust had received several complaints about smoking in Roots Hall from fans and stewards. GK said he'd investigate about the stewards and said he'd issue a statement via the clubs official web site and match day programme asking supporters to respect the wishes of their fellow fans.

8. Any other business

Web ticketing

The club currently get 250 unique users of the clubs online ticketing system. GK advised us that they have given a 20% reduction on tickets bought via the clubs site and they had scrapped the need to collect your first purchase of tickets from the club shop with all tickets now being delivered to your home.

GK also said he was currently investigating other initiatives for the online ticketing and said he'd report back with more information when he has made his conclusions.

Rushden and Diamonds

GK has been advised via the local authorities that there were several ejections at Nene Park for the match against Rushden following an incident involving PC Spooner. GK advised supporters to consider their actions at matches as such behaviour will end up costing the club for future games in policing costs.

Standing

GK informed the committee that he had seen on ShrimperZone fans requesting the club to include a standing area in the new stadium. GK stated that the FA and Taylor report do not allow standing areas in new stadiums. DS suggested Kombi seating but GK also confirmed that this is a European initiative and the English FA does not allow it.

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2002