



SOUTHEND UNITED SUPPORTERS CLUB TRUST LIAISON MEETING SEPTEMBER 24th 2003 DRAFT MINUTES

1 Present

Geoffrey King (GK), Derek Wilshire (DW), Paul FitzGerald (PF), and Terry Jeffreys (TJ) were present.

2 Apologies

Dave Scriven (DS)

3 Matters arising

It was noted that GK would chair the meeting and TJ would take the minutes.

GK said that in the previous minutes it was stated that the club had lost £21K on programmes last season. He said that he had said that the club had made a profit of £21K on programmes for the season ending 2002 but only a profit of £7k in the season ending 2003. Therefore there was £14K less profit last season.

Programmes and Matchday Experience.

GK said that Frank Van Wezel and Derek Wilshire would be more than willing to accept the Trust's invitation to be their guests for the day. PF said that they would then get the tickets for a match and then invite Frank and Derek.

Health & Safety

GK asked if DS had reported back to the Trust on his Action Point under this heading. TJ said that DS had not. GK said that he looked forward to the report.

Sammy the Shrimp

PF said that the Trust were happy that both Sammy and Elvis now had Shrimpers Trust on the back of their shirts.

Quid A Goal

PF reported that more than a hundred people were sponsoring QAG. He said that the Trust Committee had agreed to pay the monies over in instalments rather than leave it until the end of the season. GK asked if it could all be paid now as he understood that the Trust had surplus funds but PF said no, but it would be paid at the end of the season when the money was received. PF said that it had been agreed that a QAG report would be included in the match day programme but it had not appeared in the last two issues.

GK said that he had not raised the matter of the players' sponsorship of the scheme with Carl Emberson, as it was a matter for the Manager to raise. He would however discuss the position with the Manager in due course.

Meeting with Colin Wagman

PF said that he had spoken to Ron Martin to request a meeting with the Shrimpers Trust. This had been agreed and would be arranged shortly.

4 Hull City

GK said that Ron Martin had spoken to Adam Pearson (AP) about the incident. AP had said that the incident had taken place on the highway outside the car park therefore outside the club's jurisdiction. PF said that was disputable. He said that other fans' coaches from Boston, Cheltenham and the Leeds team coach had also been stoned at the KC Stadium. TJ said that there was also a stewarding issue that needed to be addressed, as the match day stewards offered no protection to the Southend fans exiting the ground.

PF said that he had written to AP and Humberside Police about the incident and the Trust would be writing to the Football League, Supporters Direct and the Football Supporters Federation. He added that the Trust would not let the matter rest.

5 Banning Orders

GK said that the five fans subject to Banning orders had had their court cases put back to October so the club decided to lift the order. If they were found guilty then the court would decide the issue.

6 The Shrimpers Bar

GK said that the security man had been re-instated at the door of the Shrimpers Bar. PF said that signing-in was still an issue as he didn't feel that this should fall on to the Trust. GK said that this had been part of the original agreement. TJ said that it had not and that Brian Dear mentioned signing-in to him at the start of the season. However it was not until three matches into the season that Brian had said that the Shrimpers Bar was now a "members bar" and that a signing-in procedure was a legal requirement.

GK said that it was a case of the Trust overseeing the signing-in or lose the privilege of the Shrimpers Bar. TJ asked exactly what that meant. GK said that away supporters or those not SUSCT members would not be allowed in. PF said the Trust gained nothing from the "privilege" and that the Club was making more revenue from the Shrimpers bar because of our initiative (*) and as far as he was concerned the Club could withdraw the privilege. However it was decided to take the issue back to the Trust committee for further discussion.

(* If I recall, it was my suggestion that this could become a supporters bar ! GK)

TJ asked if Sky 2 could be made available in the Shrimpers Bar, as he understood that it was available in the Far Post Bar. GK said that Sky 2 was not available in any of the bars, as the club was not going to pay the expensive subscription fee.

7 Quid A Goal

This was covered under Matters Arising.

8 Shrimpers Trust AGM

GK said that Ron Martin may be on holiday for the AGM and that he definitely was.

9 Shrimpers Trust Christmas Draw

TJ said that the Trust would be holding a Draw this Christmas and would like to have the Draw on the pitch at half time for the Oxford match on 28th December. PF said that last year the club had donated some prizes and hoped that they could do so this year. GK asked what was donated last year and PF said a half-season ticket and a signed replica shirt. GK noted this.

10 Problems with New Replica Shirts

TJ said that he had heard that there was a specific complaint in the offing regarding a problem with a replica shirt, which may be reported to the authorities. GK said that he was aware of the situation.

11 Any Other Business

There was none.

12 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be on 5th November at 4pm at Roots Hall.