

# SOUTHEND UNITED SUPPORTERS CLUB TRUST LIAISON MEETING 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010

### 1. Present

Geoffrey King (GK), Ian Riddoch (IR), Helen Norbury (HN), Bryan Woodford (BW) and Paul Yeomanson (PY). Paul FitzGerald had given his apologies.

# 2. Matters Arising from the Meeting held on 19th May 2010.

There were no matters arising.

### 3. Youth Team Sponsorship

PY reiterated that the Trust was happy to continue the sponsorship of the Youth Team next season although no further monies would be forthcoming until the £60k loan to the club had been repaid. IR said that they had been let down by prospective sponsors for the upcoming Youth Tournament next weekend and asked whether we knew of anyone who could step in at this late stage. PY said he would urgently ask around.

### 4. Club Finances, Trust Loan & Transfer Embargo

GK said that formalities with Sainsbury had been completed and they would provide the club with sufficient funds to repay all outstanding debts and some operational liquidity. This would be of paramount importance when presenting the club's case at the HMRC Court case on 2<sup>nd</sup> August, when evidence of ongoing solvency must be given. The Trust should receive full repayment of its £60k loan by 15<sup>th</sup> August.

GK said that following the debt repayment and a successful outcome at Court, it was expected that the transfer embargo would be lifted and the club can move forward with the formal completion of signing and registering players for the coming season.

### 5. New Stadium

GK said that he was unable to give a date for commencement of works on the new stadium, only that matters are still proceeding and we should hear in due course.

### 6. Season Ticket Refunds

IR confirmed that season ticket refunds will be given at the start of the season.

### 7. Bradford Away - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August

PY asked why it had been agreed to travel to Bradford for a Friday night game, which will be difficult for supporters. IR said that Bradford had requested the change as Bradford Bulls rugby team had an important game at home the next day.

## 8. Paul Sturrock/Tommy Widdrington

PY asked whether the Trust could have a Q and A with the new player management team of Paul and Tommy. GK said that this would be arranged once they had settled in and the season was underway.

### 9. Meet the Blues Day (MTBD)

IR said that lessons had been learnt from the MTBD at Garon's Leisure Centre this year. It was sufficient to say that next year MTBD will be held at Play Football, the Chase Centre in Prittlewell Chase. The club already has a relationship there as the youth team train there and the 1<sup>st</sup> team use their facilities during bad weather.

### 10. Disability Concession Tickets

PY said that he had received an enquiry about the purchase of disability concession tickets from persons living outside the district and unable to visit the Ticket Office. IR said that if persons requiring concession tickets for disabilities ordered them by telephone, they could provide evidence of disability and collect the tickets at the Ticket Office at a later date e.g. on match day.

### 11. Any Other Business

IR mentioned that the matchday programme is now being outsourced through a company called 'O Publishing'. This company provides programmes for a number of league clubs and the content should be similar to previous seasons' publications.

BW said that nothing had been heard from the club about matchday parking (RH, Prospects College etc) season tickets to-date. IR said that an announcement was imminent.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

18<sup>th</sup> August 2010