



SOUTHEND UNITED SUPPORTERS CLUB TRUST LIAISON MEETING 1st March 2012

1. Present

Geoffrey King (GK), Paul FitzGerald (PF), Paul Yeomanson (PY)
Bryan Woodford (BW) had given his apologies.

2. Matters Arising from the Meeting held on 31st October 2011.

All actions were either completed or if ongoing were part of the agenda

3. Club Finances

GK summarised the current position and highlighted the good work Nigel Brunning does to not only manage day to day finances but also to spot potential savings and inefficiencies.

4. CEO/Tara Brady

GK outlined the final/legal position with regard to Tara's departure and was hopeful that the matter is nearing agreement.

Staffing levels were mentioned and specifically the service levels now apparent. The club are concerned at this and are considering their options.

GK stated that Gary Lockett would be appointed the new CEO on 5th March and all agreed this can only be great news for the football club.

5. New Stadium / Prospects

The recently announced CPO's were discussed and it was confirmed that several parties notably Prospects have now accepted "deals". GK mentioned that Ron Martin was still hopeful that work would start in the summer as there were no longer any legal/planning obstacles preventing commencement of works.

6. Player Misdemeanours

GK expressed his frustration about the recent incident reported at Morecombe and promised that that club were doing what they could to ensure it didn't happen again

7. Trust Representative on SUFC Board

PF detailed the recent discussions with Tara and his promise to raise the item at the "next" Board meeting as well as talking to Ron Martin and other directors. GK did not believe that had happened but confirmed he would discuss the matter with Ron. PF stated that as Ron had previously promised this in writing there needed to be closure - Ron could no longer ignore it. **Action GK** to progress

8. Shrimpers Bar

All were delighted that the Real Ale continues to sell well. GK mentioned that the club were considering a Beer Festival. PY/PF agreed that it could be a good idea and agreed to help promote.

PY mentioned that the large projector had still not been replaced despite Tara Brady agreeing it would be and he reminded GK that the Trust had offered to pay half of the replacement costs. **Action GK** to investigate.

9. Trust Board / Committee Changes

PY stated that several changes occurred at the last Trust AGM and consequently the Trust Secretary had changed. **Action PY** to liaise with Helen Norbury to ensure the relevant addresses held by the club are accurate.

10. Trust 'Sponsorship' of Youth Team

PF explained that with falling revenues that the Trust committee had decided that they would not allow funds to further decline this year. This means that all expenditure is being reviewed and that the committee wanted the club to know that the 'sponsorship' of the youth team for next year should not be assumed. **Action GK** to talk to the relevant individuals

PF also mentioned the recent initiative with Paul Sturrock and Graham Coughlan and was hopeful that with the players involvement in more Trust events that the decline of revenue could be reversed for the obvious good of all. GK confirmed that the players would be made available where possible and went on to outline the proposed strategy of trying to do more in the community. **Action PY** to liaise with Candice Lovell regarding future Trust Events.

PF also mentioned the Legends Auction that was being planned to help raise funds. A disappointing response had been received so far except from Peter Taylor. The Trust plan to appeal again to those that have ignored requests, and to extend the appeal to club directors and other ex-players.

11. Any other Business

There was no other business except to thank GK for stepping in temporarily

12. Date of Next Meeting – TBA