



SOUTHEND UNITED SUPPORTERS CLUB TRUST LIAISON MEETING 8th May 2012

1. Present

Gary Lockett (GL), Paul Yeomanson (PY) and Bryan Woodford (BW). Apologies for absence from Paul FitzGerald.

2. Matters Arising from the Meeting held on 1st March 2012.

All actions were either completed or, if on-going, were part of the current agenda.

3. Club Finances

GL was asked about the current state of the Club's finances. He replied that the Club continued to lose money each month and this was not expected to change until work commenced on the new stadium, at which time money should be forthcoming from this new asset.

4. New Stadium

GL said that he hoped that the Club would be playing in the new stadium by the beginning of the 2014/5 season.

5. Trust Representative on SUFC Board

PY again raised the matter of the Trust representative on the Club Board, which had been agreed with the Club Chairman some years ago although was yet to be established.

GL said that he was not against the addition of a Trust member on the Board, providing the same person served for at least a year in order to ensure a desirable level of continuity in discussions.

6. Pre-Season Tour

A decision has still to be made on the whereabouts of the Club's pre-season tour. To-date, three or four separate countries have been discussed with Paul Sturrock and it is expected that finances will finally dictate the outcome. The proposed start date of the tour is 23rd July.

7. Youth Team Sponsorship

GL was aware that the Trust wished to continue to sponsor the Youth team but also that only a certain amount of cash was available overall to support the Club next season. With the Club hoping that the Trust would also assist in financing the pre-season tour, as in 2011,

GL said that he may be able to obtain sponsorship for the Youth Team from another source. PY suggested that the Trust could sponsor the home shirt with another party supporting the away kit. This subject was left for further discussion.

8. Play-offs

GL said that Club representatives had visited Wembley and arrangements are in place should the team reach the play-off finals. PY asked if the details regarding Coach Parking could be forwarded to him as soon as possible. GL advised that he would ask Helen Norbury to forward the details. PY also asked whether the Trust could have a desk in the Ticket Office/Club Shop building in order to sell coach tickets if we reached the final and GL agreed to follow this up and revert.

9. Alison Crowe

PY asked whether the Club had been in touch with supporter Alison Crowe, who was hit in the face by a football during the warm-up before the game against Macclesfield. GL said the Club had not yet been in contact but would be making a suitable gesture to Alison to help compensate for her discomfort.

10. Shrimpers Bar

PY mentioned that, once again, he felt the Shrimpers Bar needed a tidy up when he arrived to set up the Trust stand on match days. He also said that he had been informed that there was no hot water for hand-washing in the ladies toilets.

11. Any Other Business

GL stated that the Youth Team Tournament is scheduled to be held at Roots Hall weather/pitch permitting the weekend of 21st/22nd July. Several clubs have been invited to participate but a definitive composition of teams is not yet known.

GL was meeting the Safety Liaison Group, comprising representatives from the local police and council, to discuss proposals to change the location of away fans for next season. Discussions were felt to be desirable with this Group due to the Club's wish to have increased use of the North Bank for home fans. One possible consideration is for away fans to be located in the Lower South Stand, with current season card holders in that area being asked to change their seats to others elsewhere in the stadium.

GL also mentioned that Meet the Blues Day would be held at Boots & Laces on either 15th or 22nd July.

12. Date of Next Meeting – 9th or 10th July was proposed. Exact date and time to be decided.