



# SOUTHEND UNITED SUPPORTERS CLUB TRUST LIAISON MEETING 1<sup>st</sup> August 2013

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## 1. Present

Steve Kavanagh (SK), Paul Yeomanson (PY), Kay Fogg (KF) and Paul FitzGerald (PF).

## 2. Matters Arising from the Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2013.

SK rang Tom Biggs to check the status of the JPT DVD which appeared to have stalled. SK outlined a new approach by the Football league to the use of YouTube it is possible that footage can be provided free of charge. This service would be provided by adverts and SK asked whether supporters could be encouraged to “click” on the adverts as a significant chunk of revenue can be obtained by the club in doing so.

Other items were either complete or included as part of the agenda

## 3. Club Finances

SK summarised the current situation which had eased a fraction. The money already received from Ryan Cresswell and expected money for Gary Hooper’s move across border to Norwich were specifically noted.

The Chairman’s continued support was discussed although no detail was provided as to the source of the funds.

SK confirmed that all wages were currently up to date.

A discussion followed regarding the current HMRC case.

The current embargo with the Football League was also discussed and SK confirmed that under Football League Regulations they allow 20 senior professionals to be signed to ensure the competition is not distorted.

Cash flow as ever was uppermost in everyone’s minds.

The Trust asked about the rumours surrounding Phil Brown’s wages, and SK asked the Trust to help squash these rumours. SK wanted it to be made absolutely clear that this was not the case. PY agreed to place something formal on social media sites.

#### **4. New Stadium**

As before no firm news or dates were given.

SK could give no further details regarding the 6 week review period but agreed to forward questions to Ron Martin.

SK would still not be drawn on a start date.

#### **5. Trust Representative on SUFC Board**

PF/PY to progress the outstanding issues relating to confidentiality and fiduciary responsibility.

#### **6. Youth Team**

SK thanked the Trust for their agreement to continue with the Youth Sponsorship and suggested a formal cheque presentation on the pitch at the first game. PF to attend

PY to send SK details of the expected terms of the agreement.

SK mentioned that one of the “themed” matches that he plans would be based on the youth setup.

#### **7. SJS / Junior Blues**

The relaunch of the Junior Supporters section was discussed. Flyers will be handed out at the Plymouth game. KF reported on the numbers so far and talked about the transfer of existing members into the new scheme

SK re-iterated his concern at SUIA's intention to operate a junior section. PF agreed to speak to Dickie Spooner about this again and perhaps arrange a meeting to progress. All agreed that a concerted effort to bring the youth into the Junior Blues scheme would be the preferred route.

#### **8. Season Tickets**

SK Outlined a series of problems relating to the issue of Season tickets notably the recent upgrade to the software causing all cards to be invalid. Additional problems with printing and sorting were discussed. The supplier is to make an announcement about this situation shortly and SK asked for fans to be sympathetic to Club employees during the coming days as they had worked hard and under considerable pressure to help resolve the problem that was not of their making.

SK asked that the Trust make a formal announcement on social media to help supporters be aware of these problems so they can contact the club and/or get to the ground earlier than normal. He also stated that special arrangements were being made on Saturday to help any supporter with an issue.

## **9. Shrimpers Bar**

PY reported that the Trust were unable to agree a suitable time to re-decorate the bar during the summer but was hopeful that a date in October might be possible.

It was noted that hot water is still not available in the ladies toilets and that this is likely to be a breach of health and safety requirements. SK to address

## **10. Hartlepool Away Match tickets**

PY reported that he felt Hartlepool were breaking League rules with their published prices for away supporters. SK and Helen Norbury spoke during the meeting and this was to be resolved.

## **11. AOB**

PF/PY mentioned that the winners of the first draw for the MAC Appeal must have their prizes arranged as quickly as possible. PY to confirm dates with SK

## **12. Date of Next meeting – 12<sup>th</sup> September**