

Walsall Football Supporters' Trust – Open General Meeting.

The Pretty Bricks, Walsall – 27th March 2014

Present: S Davies (SD), N Ravenscroft (NR), M Vardy (MV), M Evans (ME), M Garrett (MG), I Astbury (IA), T Reece (TR), D Anslow (DA), J Norrie (JN), C Zecevic (CZ).

Apologies: B Thomas (BT), R Evans (RE), M Jones (MJ).

1. MV (Treasurer) stated that she had just got all the paperwork back from the accountant and was unsure of the bank balance. She advised the meeting that the FCA was actually paid a year in advance and was due again now. Supporters Direct was also due at £100.00 and that the Auditor would show up twice on this years' balance sheet. We have paid £200.00 for this year and it is hopefully going to be less next year.

There is a possibility that the accounts year may be moved to coincide with the membership year.

2. **125 Anniversary Beer** – Just odd bottle left now. Profit of over £400.00 when all sold.
3. **The Saddlers Learning Centre** are due to invoice us for a 2nd lot of trophies and asked about a third batch.
4. **2014/15 Charity** – SD suggested extending the current deal with the Saddlers Learning Centre for a further 12 months. IA asked if we were getting any benefit, SD replied he has not sent anything over to Sue Lane (SL) but would make sure our literature was sent to her for distribution.

The meeting agreed unanimously to continue supporting the Saddlers Learning Centre.

5. **Milk Cup Reunion** made £550.00 for Fisher House. Acknowledgement received already.
6. **Former Players Association** – Former Players Team helped raise £700.00 for Darlaston Town FC. Another game arranged with AFC Cambridge 27:4, 12:30 kick off. SD explained why the Legends are playing them and CZ and JN expressed disappointment that Trust FC were not offered a game. SD said if they prove they are playing regular he will fix a game. IA offered to sponsor a kit and washing for them.
7. **Club Legends Cup** – SD gave an update on this tournament and urges everyone to attend if possible. Players' names were given out as well. 12:7 LG Arena, £10.00 a ticket.

8. **Membership Update** – 44 life members, 129 annual members, 72 honorary members and 9 business members. We have 209 on Facebook. IA asked if we could put a membership form on there, DA agreed to do this.

We can also advertise renewals via the Advertiser Column and all other areas. The gazebo will provide a focal point for this year's recruitment days. We need to recruit and retain better.

9. **Webmasters Report** – Rebuilding website again constantly improving it. CZ offered to build one for Trust FC and link it to the main website to get all the information together.
10. **Community Shares** – As no big hitters have been identified locally in the search to purchase the Freehold, the sub-committee will be going down this line in the coming months.
11. **Walsall FC Share Purchases** – SD is looking to set up a 2nd sub-committee to locate shareholders and offer to buy their shares for the Trust. We have a list of names but no addresses. This will be set up soon.
12. **Supporters Summit 2014** – Wembley 25th-27th July. Does anyone wish to attend? Not looking likely. SD is off and 'may' attend dependent on other commitments.
13. **Febian Brandy Shirt** – We will be looking for offers at the end of the season to get back what we can on our sponsorship. Offers invited.
14. **Kids in Main Stand** – The question was asked if the Club staff children will still be there next season as there has been a lot of negative feedback from fans about this unpopular policy. SD informed the meeting he had suggested a compromise where the club left the existing fans as they were but then discontinued the ticket offer to the main stand for kids. No reply to this compromise.
15. **Carer named on Disabled Tickets** – What does this mean if the designated carer is ill? Neither can attend? Is clarification required on this policy?
16. **Working Party** – Minutes to be posted soon.
17. **Walsall FC End Of Season Awards Night, 4:5** – SD asked if the Trust should book a table £300.00 for 10 instead of £35.00 a ticket. It was felt that we should book one. Evo wants 2 tickets, Board members get first shot then general members and former player afterwards.

Meeting closed.