

Bath City FC Board Meeting

Mon 1st November 2021 at 1900

Hybrid

**Attendees:** Nick Blofeld (remote), Jon Bickley (Chair in person), Cheryl Bradley, Pete McCormack (Soc Cttee), Shane Morgan, Joy Saunders (all remote), Andrew Pierce, John Reynolds, Paul Williams

**Observers:** Chris Coles, Carole Banwell, Jerry Gill (for item 1)

1. **Football Update**

Jerry gave an update on the latest loans and player availability, and the renewed emphasis on concentrating

on young, hungry talent. Ryan Clarke is now captain and is positive about team spirit.

We have a new process for sharing physical, technical and tactical feedback on loaned players with their

parent clubs. We may need to loan out several of our players to ensure they get match practice.

We’re sad to be losing Jim Rollo, who is now unable to give the team the support he wants because of

increasing work and family commitments. He is widely respected and will be missed by all.

**ACTION:** JG to ask Jim if he would be happy to send a message to announce why his is stepping down.

Jerry has found a trusted replacement with similar people skills in Andy Watts, who was a scout for us 2 years

ago, he has played a lot locally and coaches in Keynsham. He’ll be starting this week.

**AGREED:** JG to lead on setting up testimonial committee for Jim.

There was a discussion about the away coaches, general behaviour and timings etc. Jerry would very much

appreciate away fans joining the post-match drinks as he values the interaction highly.

1. **Finance**

A report was circulated prior to the meeting. We are currently breaking even, with a projected cash shortfall by end of May 2022.

We are in early discussions with a delivery company on operating from Randall’s 6 days per week 6am – 10am.

While doing well on the match day income, we are not doing so well on Events income, with bar takings from parties being well down. The figures don’t include anything further on the FA Cup or higher commercial sponsorship projections. It was acknowledged that the market is generally down and quieter than previous years, so it is not worth actively spending on marketing.

**ACTION:** **Jon B**– promote holding events at the Club via social media & **Joy** via local network.

1. **Redevelopment**

**AGREED:** the Board unanimously approved the process to find a new partner to take forward the

redevelopment project. This is unlikely to be a traditional commercial developer. The Board delegated

approval of the tender document to the Redevelopment Working Group (RWG).

The draft document makes it clear that BCFC is defined as both the Club Board and the Society, this is a joint

document.

The final sign off will be at the RWG meeting on 17th November. Board members are welcome to attend.

**ACTION:** Pete to highlight the BCFC definition to Christopher Flanagan.

Potential partners have come back to say they are still interested in going forward and are aware

of Greenacre’s position. Inclusion of a social housing partner with the ability to rent as well as sell could be

valuable, we have also outlined our current thinking to relevant local stakeholders.

**ACTION:** Chris C to liaise with Carole to arrange for a group of 4-5 to meet next week to finalise the document.

The document will go out to 5 organisations, who are expecting it.

We met recently with the CEO of B&NES Council to give an overview of process, where we are and explain the

process of how we will narrow down potential partners. We talked about community anchor groups we’ve

spoken to and agreed to keep in regular contact.

**ACTION:** Nick to chase up on valuation.

1. **Key Ops/SAG Points to Note/Action**

A report was circulated in advance of the meeting.

**ACTION:** John R & Shane to meet up to look at the riser issue and the roof of the mower shed.

There have been some changes on COVID procedures for the League which have been shared with the

manager and circulated to the Board.

1. **2000BC, Commercial, Community WG Update**

**Women’s football**: work continues with the Foundation.

**Commercial**: Matt Falk is taking a sabbatical, during which the Commercial team will report to Jon B

and Peter Headington is happy to help lead and coordinate them.

**Dealing with racist/foul language:** therehave now been two recent instances of alleged racist language on

the terraces and we need to take educational, preventive steps and punitive action if they are proven and

can be attributed**.** This has not involved any BCFC staff.

There is a Soc Cttee. code of conduct, which should be shared and adapted/adopted by the Board, and we

can build on the wording in the MoU. It was suggested many might benefit from the training Oliver has

offered for new Directors even if they have been in situ for some time (eg Dir’s responsibilities, how to

perform the role, unconscious bias, Diversity & Inclusion).

**ACTION:** Nick to catch up with Oliver ref the training available.

Joy left the meeting at 21:11

1. **Actions from Last Board, Previous Board Meeting Minutes**

Signage on away supporters’ coach – Nick to pick up.

PA system – money coming in from the Rec Ground Trust, going to be installed December.

AGM – Paul & Jon to pick up once date of next Board meeting agreed.

Competitive quotes on valuing the Club – Nick chasing up, one agent contacted.

Alcohol in the ground: initial work has shown this is not straightforward. Enquiries/feedback from fellow clubs is on-going and will be brought to a future Board meeting.

Food offer – no specific action, general issue.

Survey – a Club survey has been initiated, Jon B following up with the students involved.

Restrictive covenants – we don’t think there are any, Paul confirmed from previous Greencare research.

Living wage – Paul to go ahead and do it, Jon B to arrange messaging.

Redecoration – we are talking to TR Hayes about this.

1. **AOB**

Andrew Pierce gave notice that due to other pressures, he will be stepping down from managing the pitch at the end of the season (or earlier if an alternative is found sooner).

**ACTION:** Nick/Carole to open the conversation with the Rec Ground Trust ref pitch care; Andrew happy to follow up on technicalities.

The Board expressed its appreciation and thanks to Andrew for all his hard work and the pitch’s immaculate condition.

Supporters Club Christmas draw: starting next week, please can people buy and sell tickets.

1. **Date of next meeting**

Monday 29th November