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**Report on the Bath City FC Board Meeting**

**21 May 2018**

**Present**

Directors: Nick Blofeld, Paul Williams, Jon Bickley, David James, John Reynolds, Andrew Pierce, Sally Harris

Financial Adviser: Chris Coles

Observers: Carole Banwell

Supporters Society Chairman: Michael Clayton present for items 1, 2 and 3

Apologies: Shane Morgan, Martin Powell & Bob Chester

1. **Re-Development Presentation/Update**

Representatives from the Project Team – Greenacre, Creatrix, Frank Whittle Partnership (FWP), Strides Treglown (ST), JLL, Adapt and Buro Happold – presented draft drawings and outlines for the re-development.

Studies are being undertaken into all elements, including transport links and human interaction, and will be moulded into the design. Where possible Bath based specialists will be used for all aspects of the design and build.

The latest proposal includes a 3G pitch while the new grandstand will have 1,000 seats with 1,000 standing capacity, and will include new changing rooms and hospitality.

FWP presented current drawings and layout of the stand, but this is still work in progress.

Creatrix have feedback from the 2 public consultations, and a third is to be arranged following the B&NES pre-application meeting.

The issue of student accommodation remains a potential challenge, and a clear strategy and argument for their need is required.

The Club should consider being more open in public communications on the Club’s precarious financial situation.

Positive messages are needed, together with on-going proactive communications.

There is the potential for an advice centre/pop-up shop to be set up on the High Street to engage better with the community – a sponsored role could be created to run this.

An Economic Impact Study and regeneration report would be very useful for the Club/area. A selling point should be that if the re-development doesn’t go ahead (and student accommodation is a big part of that) then the ground could be sold and would probably become housing/student accommodation anyway, with little/no community input.

The Club to consider in detail what is required and following community feedback, ahead of the final public consultation event.

A brief is needed from the Club on the potential size of the community hub, including the sports bar, and how it will be managed. The Club also needs to decide on the number of car parking spaces and how the ground floor is allocated to generate income.

Current cost estimates were discussed and possible sources of funding for fit-out costs.

After the project team left the meeting it was agreed to action a wider Comms meeting/plan.

1. **3G**
2. **Funding**.

Various organisations and individuals are being approached and the club is being assisted in researching funding and collating documents.

1. **Football Strategy**.

It was agreed that when approaching potential investors the football strategy should be a one-club ethos using 3G. The Foundation is happy with this, and Nick and Jerry will draft a football strategy over the summer.

Quarterly meetings with all the BC “family” of organisations - eg BCFC, BC Youth, BC Sports Foundation and Academy (U18 and college) will be set up.

1. **Society/Board Members Election Process**

The Society’s AGM will be held on 21 June. The 6 Society appointed Club Board Directors to be elected. Nomination forms to be submitted by 4 June along with a colour photograph and a 200-400 word address, these will be circulated to members on 7 June. Voting will be online, postal and a ballot on the evening.

Jon, Sally, Martin, Shane, David and Nick are up for re-election, all Society members can apply. If there are only 6 applications it will be a yes/no vote. The only designated role is Supporters Liaison Officer (currently Martin), there will be no separate election for this but 1 of the 6 elected will be nominated.

The tenure to be staggered over 1, 2 or 3 years (to be determined amongst the elected Directors after the AGM). It was agreed that one third of the Society appointed Directors will stand every year in future (subject to Bath City Football Club Ltd Articles of Association and/or other limitations).

The logistics of announcing results on the night to be checked.

1. **Previous Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed and agreed.**

All Action Points were reviewed and updated. These included:

* The Safety Advisory Group needs to see the Matchday Health & Safety policy. All staff (full-time and casual) to read and sign the Club’s overall H&S Policy now.
* Re-location – Paul has drafted a proposal for a possible move, but we need comparative costs from another club.
* The League does have rules regarding re-locating and would need to approve any proposal.
* The pre-season open day and launch of new home shirts will be the last Sunday in July.
* The shirt sponsors draw was very good and Bristol Airport are a great result - a big, high profile sponsor. It is intended to maximise the opportunity and close links will be forged in the coming weeks.
1. **Key Highlights/Updates**
2. **Football & Finance**

Paul, Nick and Andrew recently met for an informal review with Jerry Gill, who is very positive about the new season and is planning a pre-season training camp at the University.

**Pre-season friendlies –** Already arranged areReading U23s, Bristol City XI and Bristol Rovers Development Squad at home. Away games at Keynsham, Street, Weymouth and Evesham.

**Player news -** Ross Stearn signed today. Paul outlined which other players are being targeted.

1. **1000BC**

119 season tickets sold so far, with 80 not yet renewed. Jon to focus on

sales this week, and Ross’s signing will help - maybe a BBC Radio Bristol interview?

The average crowd was up.

A good year commercially with Bob exceeding his budget.

1. **Community**

The Foundation recently held a good ‘who we are’ session with several new trustees recruited.

Enquiries received from charities and schools – a team of action oriented volunteers is needed.

A group of local stakeholders is being built up

Refugees at the Game went well.

Despite a good programme of events the Bath Festival day attendance was poor, with 80 at Ken Loach’s film screening being the highest attended. The event will be reviewed.

1. **Any Other Business**
2. A Government scheme whereby communities can get fundingtowards ultrafast broadband was discussed. Broadband would be brought into the Club and the local community will also be able to access it. Jon asked for Board approval to sign the contract and this was given.
3. Chris knows of a graduate who is keen to volunteer at the Club. He could help on all aspects of the re-development (ie community communication, 3G and re-development funding, re-location). Paul and Carole to see him.
4. Head of Volunteering at Bath University has been in touch – Carole to follow up.
5. John advised that Ray Mogg, Dave Mogg’s father, recently passed away. He played for City in the late 1950s.
6. The League’s annual dinner is on Saturday 9 June at Celtic Manor. Paul invited anyone who would like to join him in representing the club.
7. **Dates of Next Meetings**

Monday 25 June 2018 – 7pm TR Hayes Lounge, Twerton Park

Monday 30 July 2018 – 7pm TR Hayes Lounge, Twerton Park