Bath City FC Board Meeting

Monday 25 July 2022

Hybrid

**Attendees:** Nick Blofeld, Christopher Flanagan, Peter Headington, Shane Morgan, Andrew Pierce, John Reynolds, Paul Williams, Jane Jones

**Observers**: Carole Banwell, Chris Coles

**Apologies:** Jon Bickley, Cheryl Bradley

1. **Football update**

**Men** Pre-season is nearly over and has gone well, with the squad now in good shape (18 now). We are also looking at some dual registration options. The Uni. of Bath camp went well and we are reviewing friendlies.

**Women** The Head Coach (Matt Abreu) has started and after two training sessions (at Odd Down) seems to be a good fit and has impressed the players. The squad is still building, playing at Twerton Park and a good coach adds to the appeal. Fixtures are still tbc and we need to work up the detail for ticket pricing, F&B, staffing and H&S cover on matchdays.

**Action:** Jane, Carole and Shane to meet and discuss outline plans**.**

**Pitch** Handover going well, Rec Ground Trust getting the hang of things.

1. **Redevelopment**

Joy’s note was circulated ahead of the Board.

**Greenacre:** Nick and Chris had a catch-up call regarding the site.

Other parties remain interested in the project and Wera Hobhouse has also been updated. There is a call on Thursday.

There was some discussion on where BANES now sit ref the 3G pitch, as they are updating their study. Jane has recently had a meeting, and there is a September meeting with the Club and Foundation.

**ACTION**: Next Re Dev’t WG meeting to be set up.

1. **Commercial**

Peter updated us on the good progress with the new team and the strong focus on CSR (Community/Corporate Social Responsibility) rather than the traditional media focus/valuation of sponsorship.

Bob has stepped away completely from the commercial side of the club now and will help with some commentaries.

Christopher raised a point about needing some HR support/representation on the Board and Nick agreed that it is a significant gap and that we had been looking for someone to help for some time, but had not found the right person willing to join/commit.

Jane asked about a Code of Conduct and it was pointed out we did have one, developed by the Society Cttee. And agreed by the Board.

Peter asked the Board to agree to the new carpet in the John Reynolds lounge as part of a refurbishment to modernise the room, it is self-funded (by John R). The Board voted unanimously in support of this.

**ACTION:** Soc. Cttee/Board to ensure new Board Directors are supplied with all relevant info/documents/training when joining the Board.

1. **Finance**

Paul said there wasn’t much to add to the notes circulated.

Fixing/replacing the floodlights remains a challenge.

1. **Key Ops/SAG points/actions**

Shane had circulated a positive note on progress with the SAG and capacity for the ground. The Licensing Officer has accepted our application and will be sending out the new licence shortly.

Safety Certificate. It has been confirmed in writing that we will be able to increase our Main Grandstand capacity from 367 to 490 – in line with the recommendations of the SGSA we engaged for our capacity calculations. In addition it was agreed the Electrical Installation Condition Report (EICR) should be done every 3 years rather than annually. We will need an annual visual inspection from our electricians but our next full EICR will be 2024. Neither will we require an annual Structural Maintenance Report, but every other year (the next is due in 2023 on the two regulated stands – Main Grandstand and Popular Side). Barrier testing will also be due on these two areas in 2023.

Our overall capacity is now 4,070, well up on the 2,065 when Shane started in the role, and it could go to 5,000 with some spend.

However, we do have to pay, so de-designating has been positive but has cost a little.

Nick thought it worthwhile looking at the Club’s overall organisational structure. The rationale being that we have moved on significantly in 5 years with a lot more activities going on: bigger crowds, a Women’s Team, active/pro-active mktg. and social media a “new” website etc – we have grown and have different and new needs as an organisation. After discussion it was agreed that we should have a broader look at the overall set up and engage with some of the Soc. Cttee. in doing so.

**ACTION:** Nick and Christopher to discuss creating a small Board/Soc. Cttee. group to lead a review and come up with a recommendation.

Alcohol sales – slow progress on this and in the short-term we may just have a bottled beer option as we work through the practicalities.

**GM/2000 BC/Community Working Group Updates**

**Community/Foundation**

**Bath City Youth -** steady progress with BCY with many more contacts and lots of kids at the Open Day. Peter, Chris and Christopher are leading on a final MoU/SLA which is to be shared and signed before/at the start of the season – final version tbc offline, not at the Board.

**ACTION:** MoU/SLA to be agreed/signed by BCY asap

**Community WG -**  it was agreed that this needs a “re-boot” and Jane is looking at this and going to ask others to join. We now have a Disability Liaison Officer who has suggested we sign up to “Level Playing Field” (£80 cost) and also look at introducing a “buddy scheme.”

**The Board voted unanimously to support these two initiatives.**

**Volunteer BBQ –** discussed the idea of combining with a 5 Year Anniversary of Community Ownership.

**ACTION** - agreed a smaller group to pull a plan together, led by Carole and Jane – other volunteers welcome!

**5. Society & Supporter Updates**

**Society -**  Nothing to report

**Supporters –** Cheryl had sent her apologies

**6.** **Actions from the last meeting to be carried forward:**

**ACTION:** Single payment method across the ground still tbc – Andrew and Carole to revisit this.

**7. AOB**

* Team photo is 4 August – all to confirm/send apologies to Carole
* Soc. Cttee. Final Governance document shared late by Nick and therefore to be ok’d online
* John R thanked everyone for their support to the Club and especially Peter for stepping up and taking over the commercial role and making a difference so quickly
* Chris C said the Foundation was going well and would be looking for a dedicated Fundraiser to help now
* Shane said there would be a ground inspection this week

**8. Date of Next Meeting:** 22 Aug