



Bath City Board Meeting

1900 Thursday 18 July 2024

Hybrid

Attendees: Debbie King (guest), Nick Blofeld (Chair), James Carlin, Andrew Pierce, Paul Williams, , Chris Coles, Jane Jones, Caroline White, Shane Morgan, Peter Headington; John Reynolds

Apologies: Gareth Cooper, Pete McCormack

1. Finance

Paul shared a draft budget and monthly breakdown for 2024/25 and broad discussion followed with the main point being the question of whether it was too conservative, as it showed no progress over 2023/24. The lack of Yeovil in the league and the big crowd they brought was real factor, but there may be some scope to raise the crowd figure slightly. In future we agreed we need to agree the following season's playing budget much earlier, ideally Feb/Mar. The revised budget will be circulated for online sign off. Paul and Gareth need to meet to agree the commercial projections and timings.

We will reforecast each month based on actuals. The kit/shirt announcement is still with Caroline/Gareth and BSU's to announce.

Season Ticket sales have been ok, similar to last year, and the flexi ticket will be launched after the kit deal is announced.

The AGM was agreed for 9 Sept.

Actions: share the revised budget for online sign off; Paul and Gareth to meet ref the commercial projections/timings; AGM info to be sent out by Paul

2. Football – Men's

Jerry has training on a Thursday so didn't join the Board, and it was agreed to move them back to Mondays to allow him to join and update us on men's football in future.

We pencilled in 8 Aug for the team photo, and again, it was suggested to have a joint men's and women's version.

Good discussion on the Cory Cooke situation. This will now be left with Paul to manage along the lines agreed.

We discussed a "Behind the Scenes"/open training session at Filton early in the season, and this being free to Squad Builder contributors and charging for other supporters. James C will pick this up with Paul and Jerry.

Women's

The Development Team have been confirmed as promoted and we had an open training session, and 6 new players have joined. Some players have left for personal reasons and the plan is for 2 sessions a week at last for the 1st team. Pre-season training sessions are now booked in and we have GPS trackers and the video which really helps the coaches. We will stick to the plan of charging £3 for home games and the fixtures are out in mid-August, with 12 in each league.

3. Workstreams: as per those issued

- i) Short-Term Finance - budget tbc as above; Board meeting will return to Mondays;
- ii) Wider Audience – new kit has arrived and video planned for launch; mktg. budget agreed; Uni pricing agreed; Squad Builder campaign planned and Pich Buddies idea progressing (see Caroline's note for full details of all activities)
- iii) Football Strategy Workshop – still tbc (with EPP & Nick)

4. Society & SLO Update

"Paint the Park" went really well and we have a small database of volunteers happy to help with anything similar again (and some spare paint). We had a short discussion about creating a Volunteer Dir. role as co-ordinating volunteers could be done a lot better, and contribute more to the club. James has done a great job on this and it was suggested he would be really good in that role and there is a lot of synergy with the SLO role. James to have a think about it and Nick and Pete Mc to also discuss.

James also spoke highly of a book about the club written by a supporter which everyone agreed we would happily promote.

5. Commercial and Operations

Accolade have completed their barrier work. John also joined the SAG and Rich was also able to fix some things immediately which was extremely helpful (and we should say thank you by inviting/hosting him at a game). We do still need to check the fix with Sarah/SAG. The Fire Brigade are also fine with the electrics.

The sponsors draw happened after the friendly against Bristol City U21s, Gareth to confirm final figures on revenue and tickets sold.

Re-locating the shop to increase visibility, accessibility and sales needs to be discussed and agreed!

6. Minutes & Actions from last Board & Board Minutes

Plans for JR Lounge to be discussed and agreed, and discussed with JR!

Proposer: John, **seconded** by Shane.

7. AOB

- 1. The serving window was extended for Roman's bar
- 2. There was an issue with a young unaccompanied lad being allowed into the Rovers game and then needing to be taken home. We need to make sure everyone knows the rules and are briefed on this
- 3. Safeguarding – with Jane picking this up, she is keen to get the correct info up on the website and also announce it
- 4. We are still working through the details of expanding Roman's Boxing space
- 5. The Twerton Lush event (31 Aug/1 Sept) may need some Board/volunteer help to make this work
We also need to check insurance and see if it is worth doing any soft drinks sales ourselves?

6. The clashes with rugby games do not have an impact on our attendances, having reviewed last season's data
7. We were reminded that the enthusiasm of painting on a match day doesn't work well as supporters end up with paint on them/their clothes!
8. We agreed we were happy to pr a runner supporting Tommy Saunders Foundation (Anfield to Twerton!)
9. Vandalism – the new nets have been cut already. Brief discussion about how to try and prevent this – motion sensitive lights and/or CCTV?
10. We need to replace the "fire exit" sign and ensure they are safe/fit for purpose
11. Women's toilets were again discussed, and post the effort at Paint the Park, we need to see what else needs to be done
12. Donna and the bar team need some new bar and glass cleaning kit!

Date of next Board meetings: will now be 3rd Mondays of each month – 19 Aug, 16 Sept, 21 Oct