

Minutes: Committee Meeting 28/10/24 - 7pm

Present: MB, DW, JK, MF, AB, SD, MP, SR

Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance. Reflected on a good week for the club with positive members meeting, bumper fireworks event and significant progress on sponsor funds (not least receipt of DGM much delayed Brockstock sponsorship). Is this light we see at the end of the financial tunnel?

Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of our last meeting (30/09/24) were reviewed, approved and adopted. The review of action items was livelier than we have become accustomed to - for contextual purposes these are captured in the appropriate sections below.

Members Update Meeting (26/10/24)

The meeting was held as planned and attended by ~50 members with >250 having opened / read our email invites implying members are becoming more engaged and our contact database improvements are starting to bare fruit. MB reviewed the chairman's report and a number of good questions, submitted & asked in the room, were addressed. Chairman's report and transcript of Q&A have been posted on the web site and emailed to members. It was decided we will run a similar meeting early in 2025.

Football

Our main agenda item was to review where we stand with football now the season is well underway and we have a better handle on club finances.

Committee reconfirmed expectations for remainder of the season which in short are to remain in the Wessex Premier league while we address the clubs precarious finances. It was agreed that our £27k playing budget should be sufficient to achieve this. After discussion it was agreed we are making good progress.

Results were discussed and MP reviewed the commentary he offered in response to questions at the MUM (which are published in more detail in those notes). Bottom line we have been beset by injuries which have impacted bedding in period for Danny and new payers. Players are returning and it was agreed we need to give Danny more time & support before drawing any conclusions.

Discipline was discussed - Matt & Danny have discussed our disciplinary record and the warning received from the FA. It is acknowledged we need to improve and a meeting was held with the players in that regard. Note that players absorb fines through deductions to wages.

The majority of the football discussions centred on how the committee can help Matt and the team. Key points included:

- Committee approved purchase of additional match balls to replace losses
- Committee approved purchase of physio & first aid supplies
- Stewards match day duties to be updated to include the area outside changing rooms at HT & end of game, pre / post match corner flags & goal guards, sweep of ground for litter after games and emptying of bins where needed
- We need more match day volunteers - Matt to be removed from gate duty
- We need a kit man / woman - ideally a supporter willing to attend away games for £20 expenses, free ground entry, free post match meal, tracksuit & "access all areas" ground pass.
- Tyrone is now first aid certified

- Confirmed £20 payment to gate person for first team home matches
- Last remaining ground grading issue is painting of ambulance parking space (which we don't recall being on the original report)

Regarding aspirations and plans for next year it was agreed to make an early start on plans and budgets around the Xmas period.

Actions

- MP: Order footballs
- DW: Order physio & first aid kit
- MP: Update match day stewards duties
- MP: Ask Ally to move to 2 week notice on stewarding duty requests
- JP: Email to members asking for additional people to be added to match day volunteer WattsApp pool
- JP: Advertise / email members re open kit man / woman role
- IA: Add ambulance box to white line painting list

Finances

In a break from protocol the treasurer was very smiley while delivering his update. JK reported excellent results for fireworks evening (still finalising but circa £7.5k takings = approx £3.5k profit) which was attended by ~900 people and significantly up on recent years. The club have received several messages of congratulations and a nice testimonial on Haywood Fox socials. Income from sponsors (notably DGM) has also been strong ... all of which has contributed towards a healthier bank balance allowing for the following:

- Top up of Brockstock fund to £10k (fund now complete and ring fenced)
- Release of funds for purchase of u18 & Dev kits (to be part paid via sponsors)
- Purchase of more footballs
- Purchase of physio / first aid supplies
- Ongoing roof repairs
- Green light to proceed on cellar project
- Green light to to engage with ladies and proceed with project toilets

Operational Updates

Facilities

After expressing some initial concerns about progress and funding AB was somewhat encouraged to be given approval to proceed with essential cellar works and project toilet. Expectations re budget were discussed and while precise amounts are not available it was accepted that both projects should cost in the region of £2k. AB will keep committee informed of progress and flag any additional budget requirements.

AB confirmed IA has purchased materials to fix green keepers shed roof as this has now become critical. Works to be completed by IA & volunteers imminently.

Tiles on Karl's roof and ball stopping net are now being progressed together by MB who will coordinate with Martin Rouse re cherry picker and James Taylor. Spare netting to be supplied FOC by Sean-the-Sheep.

Tea hut and turnstile roof works TBC. Noted that tea hut now urgent and will be prioritised by AB (likely using same approach as green-keepers shed repair if that goes well).

Dead tree on Brookley Road awaiting Westbeams to remove.

Memberships

SD reported 212 paid up members. Will add new players and issue cards in return for email addresses to add to contact database.

Re 500 club SD will chat to IA&JP re special membership cards and AB re till setup etc.. We have 1 paid up member and 1 further enquiry since it was launched at the MUM on Friday.

It was noted that MB wishes to review 500 club before we progress further.

Sponsors

MF confirmed all the good news re sponsor signs ups and the payment of the outstanding DGM monies which have contributed greatly to our improving financial position.

First batch of banners on order. A few were salvaged but we will essentially be replacing all banners per plan.

MF will share declining sponsor info as they occur so committee members can follow up where relationships exist. Note that most deserters are out of area businesses who had relationships with previous regime.

Next step will be getting our heads together re contacts etc.. to attract further new sponsors.

H&S

SR noted on GR behalf that she is investigating having the fire alarm connected to suppliers emergency call out line.

AOB

Action MB: Review 500 club with IA and give the team guidance on how to proceed

Match day gate resources ... see football update above

Action JP: Place clubhouse manager advert

Action MB: Talk to Foresters re player catering

Action DW: Arrange Brockstock KO meeting

Action MB: Talk to Carl B about how / where he can play a role

Committee decision making process ... deferred to next meeting

Carried Forward Actions

JH: Provide content for youth page of website

JH: Youth kit return at Halloween event 31 Oct

MB: Conclude St Austell contract revision

JP: Keep off pitch signs

MP: Squad photos for website

MB: Opening hours

MB: Closing back gate safely during matches

JP: Change front door lock

MB: Kit wash / transport plan

MF / MP: Consolidated view of sponsors

MF: Meadens contract renewal

Meeting Closed 9.30pm

Next meeting: November 25th, 7pm

