



WALSALL FC DISABLED SUPPORTERS ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEE MEETING

VENUE – BENTLEY MOOR CLUB, BENTLEY DRIVE, BIRCHILLS, WALSALL, WS2 8RY

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WEDNESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2018 AT 19:00

ATTENDEES Ian Buckingham
Lesley Buckingham
Tony Richards
Dave Beckett
Jacqui Keen

APOLOGIES Stef Tomes

CO-OTION TO STEERING COMMITTEE

- Jacqui Keen was unanimously co-opted by the four members of the Steering Committee present onto the committee in the capacity of Community Liaison Officer following Dave's proposal

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING OF PREVIOUS MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

- These were not available as they had not been completed by the previous Secretary though Ian did confirm that the draft Constitution was completed
- Ian also explained the reasons that led to the resignation of four of the five previous Steering Committee members and that a new committee was constituted when five of the positions were co-opted at the EGM held on 1 August 2018.

REVIEW AIMS & OBJECTIVES OF WFC DSA

- The future direction of DSA was considered with reference to the following new aims and objectives which are intended to be representative and inclusive of all disabled supporters from WFC and visiting fans
 - To represent ALL disabled supporters of Walsall Football Club, regardless of the nature or extent of disability
 - To help facilitate a positive match day experience for all disabled supporters, both of Walsall Football Club, and any visiting disabled supporters
 - To help maintain and improve disabled supporter facilities at the stadium
 - To provide important disability information regarding Walsall Football Club matches, both home and away
- The new aims and objectives were unanimously approved by the five Committee members

CONSTITUTION & SIDE POLICIES

- The draft Constitution plus the Social Media and Disciplinary side policies had been emailed to four of the five members (before Jacqui's co-option) and it was confirmed that other side policies were yet to be completed
- It was unanimously agreed to defer approval, subject to amendments, of the draft Constitution and any side policies completed at that time until the next Steering Committee meeting
- Ian undertook to forward copies of all documents to Jacqui

MEMBERSHIP

- The resignation of a number of members from the DSA was noted
- Whilst the membership records are brought up to date, approval of new members was deferred until the next meeting and that the list of new members would be available at that time
- It was unanimously agreed to only accept future applications to join the DSA in paper form, via the WFC DSA website or by email and that all question would be removed from Facebook (pending the creating of a new Facebook group)

- To conform with GDPR rules, the content of the membership application form was considered and it was unanimously agreed to restrict information for all members to the following
 - Name, postal address, email address, DoB (for under 18's only & to be deleted on reaching maturity), if the applicant is disabled or not (only to be provided voluntarily and restricted to the nature of disability, carer/family member or friend/interested in helping people with a disability)
 - The membership application form will be redesigned to comply with the above

TREASURER

- The draft Constitution prohibits two signatories to the bank account being in a relationship combined with the requirement that one of the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson be a signatory. It was unanimously agreed that the three signatories be Lesley (Treasurer), Tony (Vice-Chairperson) and Jacqui (Community Liaison Officer)
- It was also unanimously agreed that Lloyds Bank be approached to move the holding branch from Aldridge to Wednesbury branch
- Current balance is approximately £1053.00
- The committee considered the approval for all expenditure and it was unanimously agreed that a majority vote of the committee be required to approve any procurement and all payments/expenditure due

FUNDRAISING & PROCUREMENT

Procurement

Waterproof Garments

- The committee discussed the provision of waterproofs for wheelchair users and those with limited mobility
 - Approximately 12 wheelchair users regularly attend home games
 - 12 waterproof ponchos specifically designed for use by wheelchair users be purchased (subject to later committee approval)
 - Rainproof blankets be purchased for disabled fans with limited mobility (non wheelchair users) (subject to later committee approval)
 - If possible, the DSA logo and WFC crest (subject to approval from the club) be added to the ponchos and blankets
 - Once the items have been purchased, they be donated to all beneficiaries as a gift from the DSA
 - Sponsorship and donations be sought to fund the purchase of the ponchos and blankets
 - It was unanimously agreed that waterproofs be sourced and sponsorship/donations be sought

Travel

- Dave confirmed that an offer for the provision of a minibus for use by disabled supporters for away travel has been received

Fundraising

Football Cards

- It was agreed that Football cards be purchased and be taken around for supporters to choose a team by committee members to matches and other places plus at Bentley Moor Club

Legends Night

- This will take place on 7 December at Bentley Moor Club and will be organised as a DSA event
- Net proceeds will be divided equally between the DSA and little Teddie and his family
- Stan Bennett and Kenny Mower have confirmed they will put forward their own teams
- Not more than 120 tickets will be available at £5 each, Dave will arrange the printing of ticket and posters
- The night will include a quiz and entertainment acts – 30 questions to be set by Lesley, Dave to arrange the entertainment plus disco
- Prizes already pledged include U17s signed England shirt, England football, memorabilia donated by Stan Bennett
- Ian will approach WFC for raffle/auction prizes
- It was noted that local businesses have confirmed their wish to donate prizes and that Jacqui will also contact third parties for prizes

Little Teddie

- Ian will approach WFC to see if another day can be arranged for Teddie Phillips

SOCIAL MEDIA

- The continued use of Twitter was considered and it was unanimously agreed to close the account with immediate effect
- As the former Secretary cannot be removed from the existing Facebook account, it was unanimously agreed to that a new Facebook page to be developed and once this has been completed, the old page be formally closed

LIAISON & MEETINGS WITH WALSALL FOOTBALL CLUB

- Ian will forward details to Jacqui regarding the Community Liaison Officers role
- Meetings with WFC will be attended by either the Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson plus the Secretary

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Proactive communication with DSA members will take place to identify their requirements, seek their opinions and what can be done for members and disabled supporters in general
- Questionnaire to be devised and which will be based on one issued by WFC last year. Laura Greenhouse has confirmed that the club will assist with the promotion of the questionnaire and recruitment drives via matchday programmes
- Copy of disability accessibility audit received. Copies of audit to be shared with Committee members though it is strictly confidential. Content to be considered and compared with results from DSA questionnaire to assist with identifying and agreeing priorities with WFC
- Proposals received by Ian from Darren Anslow regarding setting up email accounts. These proposals will be forwarded to Committee members for consideration at the next Committee meeting
- If decisions required on any issues on an urgent basis and which cannot be delayed until the next Committee meeting, voting must be done via the DSA email addresses within 48 hours
- Unanimously agreed that the AGM will be held in April and annually thereafter. This ties in with the end of the football season and enables DSA members to take stock of the previous 12 months achievements and what will be pursued in the next year. As WFC are unable to host AGMs/EGMs at Bescot, it was agreed that such events take place at Bentley Moor Club
- It was also unanimously agreed that future DSA Open meetings be held at WFC on a quarterly basis in August, November and February with the AGM in April which will be immediately followed by an Open meeting or social event

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Next Committee meeting will be held on 26 September 2018 at 7:00pm at Bentley Moor Club