

Shrimps Trust meeting with MFC Chairman 30-02-2019

Date: 30th March 2019

Present: MFC - Graham Howse

Shrimps Trust - Ron Freear, Ian Lyon, Stuart Rae, Pat Stoyles, Joanna Wilkinson

Graham raised the issue of the Shrimps Trust football tournament at the end of the season. Graham Brennan will contact the Trust shortly to discuss the stewarding of this event, and we'll work together to keep the costs down.

On the subject of the planning application for the cover over the home end, Barry Lewis (Finance Manager) has been instructed this week to submit the roof plans to Lancaster City Council. Shrimps Trust requested a copy of the plans so they can be shared with members, and offered to provide cash and labour when needed so that the project can be completed as soon as possible. The Trust has raised about £3,000 so far and is continuing fundraising efforts for the Raise The Roof campaign.

Graham noted that the sound system in the Local Choice Suite has now been successfully upgraded by Adam Wilde, and is grateful for financial assistance from the Trust. He said that the club will be undertaking further re-decoration work over the summer, and requested any voluntary manual assistance - Pat asked for a list of specific skills required so that the Trust can look to help out, and added that the Trust specifically wants to improve the Legends Wall by rendering it.

The next home game against Grimsby Town on 13th April will be our Kick It Out game, with badges and t-shirts in support of the Football League campaign.

Graham hopes to be able to announce news soon on the subject of first team training facilities, as soon as contracts are finalised.

Interviews are taking place next Tuesday for a new MFC Commercial Manager, so Graham is expecting progress to be made soon afterwards on securing sponsorship deals for the football ground, stands and first team shirts.

Hospitality – it was noted that some away grounds provide worse refreshment arrangements than at the Globe Arena. Our drinks pre-ordering service is working well, although take-up has not been as great as expected. In light of the large crowds expected for the Easter Monday game against Cheltenham Town, the Trust requested that the club reduce half-time queueing and maximise income by providing plastic bottles of beer for sale on the day.

Junior Reds – are currently struggling to find enough people to run them. Graham asked if the Trust could provide any volunteers, on a once-a-month basis.

The Trust raised some issues on the Berlin Wall uncovered terrace, including the automated entry system not working correctly and the public address system not working correctly. Graham took a note and will pursue these points, although he revealed he had never heard the term Berlin Wall being used for this area!

There are as yet no tangible benefits to report from our owners' tie-up with Worcester Warriors (in terms of improved supply contracts), although Jim Bentley did take the first team to use the training facility at the Sixways Stadium on the way down to an away game.

Shrimps Trust are running a prize raffle on Easter Monday, as part of the Members' Day celebrations, and Graham will look into supplying a headline prize for this event.

The next meeting will take place before the Newport County game on May 4th 2019.