
Shrimps Trust: Meeting Minutes

Location: Various- via Zoom

Date: Saturday 14th November 2020, 17:30

Attendees: Steve Doran (**SD**), Jack Steer (**JS**), Ian Lyon (**IL**), Joanna Wilkinson (**JW**), Paul Hodgson (**PH**), Ron Freear (**RF**), Robert Wilkinson (**RW**)
Paul Carter, Mickey Millar, Linda Lee, Jeffrey Till, Steve Sandoval, Isabella Freear, Graeme Manderson, Mary Wilkinson, Nevin Gough, Lisa Cull, Jerry Cull, Mark Swindlehurst, Glenn Mead, John Taylor, Barbara Taylor, James Main, Andrew Fear, Michael Gibson, Matty Deighton, Alan Holmes, Richard Allan, Tom Collins, Oliver Hainsworth, Stuart Rae, Ben Swindenbank, John Owen,

Apologies: N/A

Meeting Minutes – Shrimps Trust Meeting- Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2020

Meeting Opened 17:30

SD Thanked everyone for coming, particularly appreciated with new ways and in difficult times. Some members had apologized for not attending tonight, including James Wakefield.

Good news from the board of a 3 year plan to be discussed further and put into action once restrictions lifted and normal football has begun.

SD Introductions of the Trustee board

JS Agenda shown and read through.

I. Acceptance of minutes from last meeting

22/07/19 AGM minutes approved by Paul Carter, Ian Lyon, Isabella Freear and Lisa Cull

II. Review of the year- Overall

JS- Third year of the Shrimps Trust. To 30/05/2020 410 members, less members than 2019 at 416. 73 new members and 79 non-renewals.

Increased away travel offered

Continued dialogue with the Board of Directors (BOD) of Morecambe Football Club (MFC)

Fundraising for funds, though cut short by Covid-19

Review of the year- Recap of the 2019 members survey

JS- The cover over the home end was a priority for 65% and so 2020 was focused on fundraising for funds.

Other priorities were improved service in home end, discounts in JB Bar, advertisement of home fixtures and half time entertainment.

Review of the year- Benefits to members

JS- Monthly prize draw is held, funded by the trust.

Increasing discounts with local companies and trades

The making and selling of the centenary calendar

Unified voice to the BOD

Away travel increased and discounts offered to members

Membership pack items i.e. badges

Events- although planned many were cancelled or postponed due to Covid.

Review of the year- Community Trust

SD- This is your Club, Your Trust and Your Community.

We funded and helped organize the foodbank appeal of 2019

We agreed at the 2019 AGM to donate £250 to Morecambe Ladies FC who had found difficulty securing a training ground space and equipment.

Review of the year- Benefits to MFC

JS- Over £1000 given to MFC by the Trust in donations and purchases

Voluntary promotion of games and events by SD, in his own time and at own cost

Legends wall, including the latest inductees due to be unveiled at the cancelled match due to Covid

Volunteer litter pickers after every game- Thank you for your commitment in all weathers

Supporter engagement- dialogue from fans is passed to the BOD

Review of the year- Centenary Year

JS- The Centenary flag is now in-situ, a 15 month process in all. Thank you to Rob Ellis for his time helping with the graphics required and the 1881 movement of Watford FC for producing it at cost.

The lockdown quiz was also held and enjoyed by many. Thank you to Stuart Rae for his time, hugely enjoyed event despite Covid.

SD- Events were lost due to Covid including the latest legends wall inductees. The final away day celebration with two coaches to Salford sponsored by RW & Charlie Edwards of the Boardwalk and with Amber Suns due to play on the return to the Boardwalk. Huge disappointment not to have celebrated.

III. Financial Review

JS- www.tiny.cc/shrimpstrust for full accounts and includes detailed report from the Trustees on what has happened in the past year.

Independently examined and audit will be dis-applied tonight

Accounts will be approved tonight for submission to FCA

INCOME

£11, 947, less than in 2019 due to loss of events but partly offset by the increased away travel income.

£3900 memberships, £5800 away travel, £1900 calendar and merchandise sales & £1500 fundraising and donations

EXPENDITURE

£8942 (£4210 excluding away travel costs)

£250 donation to Morecambe Ladies FC, £250 to Graham Howse equipment appeal, £250 MFC Covid appeal, £250 plater sponsorships at end of the season (not promoted due to end of the season), £500 prize draw, legends wall and flag and £750 in merchandise and calendars.

MEMBERSHIP PACK- Where does my £10 go?

34% pack and prize draw, 19% donations, 7% legends wall, 6% player sponsorship, 7% other admin/ running costs and 27% surplus

BALANCE SHEET

MFC investment/ shares stands at the same £100

Assets Stock £298, Debtors £334 and Cash in bank £17220.

Creditors £1242.

Deferred income i.e. life memberships shown.

FUNDS

* Raise the roof at £3000 in 2018/19, now £4000 in 2019/20. Includes profit from calendar and merchandise sales. This is designated but can be released if members vote to change its designation or if the project was to be cancelled. This is not a commitment at this stage

* Flag was £1215 due to the significant saving made on its cost. Originally funded through donations and away travel surplus. The value is currently less due to adaptations made to have the flag shown in the stadium.

TRANSPARENCY

Trustees receive no benefits or remunerations

All are fully paid up members in their own right

No free travel is received

The Trust believes all transactions to MFC should be detailed for transparency. - Donation of £500 and purchase at £568 shown in accounts.

Thank you to Mark for independently examining the accounts for the Trust.

SD- Thank you JS for such diligence and the time taken to produce such detailed end of year accounts is appreciated. The level of work put in and on an entirely voluntary basis is noted and thank you from all the members. I

think everyone will agree that these are the best end of year accounts of Trust in UK.

IV. Resignations & Appointments of Trustees

SD- Resignations of RF, PH, JW & Stuart Rae (SR), plus co-opted Sophie Fish & Nick Barrett

SR tendered his resignation earlier in the summer after 2 years in the Trust. Thank you for his superb chairmanship and times as a Trustee. A pillar of the Trustees, who led by example. The amount of work he put in to get us to this point today, we are able to build upon and is greatly appreciated.

RF Has decided not to put himself forward for reelection. Thank you for everything you have done. Vital part of the board with superb emails weekly to fortnightly. All agree entertaining, informative and a huge thank you from us all. Also processing memberships, manning the information point, along with Jimmy Goulding, I don't think you've missed a stint..., a massive commitment. Also merchandise, baseball caps and polo shirts.

Both will be very missed, but we understand both have plans and we wish you success in those.

SD- Proposals of Jason Arrowsmith, Paul Hodgson, Mickey Millar, Steve Sandoval & Joanna Wilkinson.

All candidate statements were posted online and linked to the previous email to members.

Paul Hodgson proposed for reelection along with Joanna Wilkinson.

Voting of each member- Jason Arrowsmith approved by all, Paul Hodgson approved by all, Mickey Millar approved by all, Steve Sandoval approved by all & Joanna Wilkinson approved by all

Take this opportunity to mention that we do still need help. You don't necessarily need to be full trustee. We will be meeting again as the new board soon. Anyone can help in any way, even through co-opting such as away travel. Anyone who has time to offer please do get in touch. Email, Facebook, Twitter etc.

Alan Holmes offered assistance- will contact SD

V. Motions

JS * Approve the financial statements

Agreed- 434 Alan Holmes & 398 Matty Deighton

JS * Disapply the audit in the next financial year

Agreed- 007 Paul Carter & 103 Ben Swindenbank

VI. Any Other Business

SD- Any questions from anyone regarding the AGM... (none)

RF- Direct Debit Shirt Prize draw held

SD/ JS Flag and banners competition results.

Thank you again to Rob Ellis for his help with the graphics and Chris Whitehead of Morecambe Press who also provided two banners on display

at the ground. All but one signed off and sending to a company in Fleetwood to produce, hoping for display in the ground early December.

RF- November prize draw held

SD- closed the formal part of the meeting at 6.30pm. Thank you for attending this evening. Thank you to the Trustees past and present.

Further questions invited...

RF- Calendar?. SD- Had confirmation from Martin Thomas that MFC not producing a calendar this year so work will restart on the Trust. Be in touch with Chris at Morecambe Press this week.

Tom Collins- when will home shirts be available via the shop? (RW- we will be in touch with MFC regarding this point)

Alan Holmes proposed the making of a 'Calendar girls' type of calendar for sales and fundraising. Various comments regarding lens type etc.!

Agreement from members of a good idea

James Main- The roof behind the home end has had little progress and been going on for such a long time. Has there been any progress? Aware of Covid etc. SD- we are still discussing it in meetings. Last season the finances were stretched. It has become a priority of the trust but very reliant on the club progressing it. Planning is in place but not sure of timeframes. It was a big priority of the fans in the survey. RF- Is it in the 3 year plan? SD- No details yet.

SD- Part of the 3 year plan is to work with decorating the stadium and working with local regiments.

Mickey Millar- Martin Thomas conversations regarding missing flags, including one by Oliver Hainsworth. IL- Reports from stewards that some have been thrown away as destroyed by weather. SD- bungee cords used on latest flag. Oliver Hainsworth- Martin Thomas has replied that some have been stolen from the ground too.

Andrew Fear- is there a trust presence at the Uni (RW- not at the moment, something to consider)

Paul carter- Suggested people boards in the ground. SDF- Chris Whitehead did approach the trust but felt cost too high. Will put to fans. Jeffrey Till, Alan Holmes & Glenn Meade all agreed good idea.

IL- suggested setting up a fund for fans to donate to, with savings made not attending games. SD- worth looking into. Martin Thomas has mentioned a super draw by the club for Christmas

Richard Allan- any updates since Tyson Fury bought the gym and pitches? SD- Only aware of small information, such as on social media. Believe Rod Taylor been trying to touch base with Tyson. Believe it's for the Tyson Foundation

SD- Thank you again for your attendance, ill now just mention a couple of initiatives we are running ...

1. Toy Appeal

Morecambe community sports usually go to the RLI and we help fund and collect toys, this is unlikely this year. The Trust received a letter from Westgate Primary School, asking for help. Westgate School is within the MFC catchment area.

2. Foodbank appeal

The Trust are in conversation with Charlie and James regarding food appeal and collections. Demand has tripled in the first months of this year. The foodbank is most used by the areas West End to Bare. We're working on this appeal in conjunction with the club

(Barbara & John Taylor – thank you, very well run Trust and AGM
Alan Holmes- thank you to all for work done)

Meeting closed 7.15pm