

Chorley Supporters' Trust

Minutes of meeting held 1st August 2013 8pm

Chair: Julian Vass

The meeting began at 8pm

Apologies were received from Fraser Hilton, Sheila Brennan, Tony Knowsley and Nigel Vass

Actions from previous meeting

The actions from the previous meeting were reviewed.

All were done apart from the following:

Chorley FC has arranged for a regular column in the Guardian. There may be space for CST to put some news in.

ACTION: Jue Vass to follow up with the club to see how much space we might have

ACTION: Josh Vosper to try to get a story in the Guardian about CST

ACTION: Josh Vosper to organise a photograph of CST members at the PNE game

ACTION; Paul Brennan and Josh Vosper to organise a children's photograph and drawing competition.

Paul Brennan has made contact with Chorley Photographic Society. He will proceed with this once the schools are back

Player of the month

ACTION; Jue Vass to organise online voting.

Fundraising

ACTION: Graham Watkinson: the exact cost of the tannoy should be decided.

Coach Travel

There are 11 confirmed sponsors paying £100 each. The target is 20. Cath Still (CS) asked for suggestions of companies to approach.

CS has asked Tyrers and Coopers for prices for all away trips

It is proposed to run a free coach at the end of the season. Travel on this will be restricted

Coach travel can be booked through the office from 10am until 2pm on Monday to Friday.

The intention is to run a coach to all away matches, and to review this regularly.

It is accepted that each coach should cover its costs.

The half-price fare for children is to be retained for the time being

Julian Vass (JV) proposed trying to make money on the coach with a raffle/football card golden goal.

There was a lively discussion on how much of a loss, if any, the coaches should make.

The following rules were agreed on for coach travel

- travel must be booked in advance. The cutoff is Thursday 1pm for Saturday games and 8pm Sunday for midweek games
- Non-members will pay £1 extra
- people booking for the first time must pay in advance

- No alcohol allowed on the coach
- If you book, you pay

There was a lively discussion about when the coach should arrive and leave, and whether it would encourage more people to come if the times were changed. Steve Parker was firmly in favour of leaving right after the game (as the coach currently does). Nigel D suggested that more people would go if the coach stayed for half an hour after the game. Matt Bagot runs coaches which stay after matches, and are quite popular. In the end it was generally agreed that the coach should be for families and so leaving straight after the match is a good idea.

The Barwell game will cost £300 for a 16 seat coach, making £20 the break-even fare.

Several people, notably Steve Parker and Paul Brennan, proposed setting a limit on how much a coach should be able to lose. Graham Watkinson suggested £80 as that is what the average income from sponsorship will be if all 20 are taken up. The coaches should be discussed at future meetings

MOTION: If a coach is going to lose more than £80, it should be cancelled.

Proposed; Mark Rees, seconded Nigel Dawson

MOTION CARRIED

The structure of Chorley Supporters' Trust

MR presented a summary of the steps required to get Chorley Supporters' Trust (CST) properly constituted. Rather than go over them in these minutes, the complete summary is attached

ACTION: Julian Vass to put the summary on the website

ACTION: Ed Cookson, Grenville Hartley, Paul Brennan and John Derbyshire will form a Rules Committee to work on defining the rules of the new organisation and present to the next meeting.

Grenville: there was a programme on the BBC about Swansea City's Supporters' Trust this week. Old Trafford has been registered as an Asset of Community Value by Manchester United Supporters' Trust. This prevents it from being sold for profit. This is something that CST could consider doing with Victory Park

Treasurer's report

Income

Membership subscriptions £315

Golden Goal:

 Preston North End £58

 Bolton Wanderers £36

 Manchester United £90

 Blackburn Rovers £81

Total: £580

Expenses

Website £108.64

Flyers £24

AFC Chorley shirts £360

Golden Goal prizes	£95
Total	£587.64

Total for month: loss of £7.64

Cash in bank	£3753.47
Tannoy appeal:	£2339.54
General funds:	£1413.94

Magpies Trust	
General Funds	£678.69
Squad Development	£1158:00

The Squad Development fund has been around for about six years, since Gerry Luckza was manager. The money was collected to fund the squad.

ACTION: discuss what to do with this money in a future meeting

The tannoy appeal and general financial position was discussed. CST must break even at least.

ACTION: Graham Watkinson to get a firm quote for the tannoy

We could meet the target for the tannoy appeal quite soon if we can get a cheap system.

John Derbyshire: we could have a bucket collection to make the last few hundred pounds.

Once we have met the target, we can take on another project. We could get a list of what the club wants then ask our membership to pick one.

Getting the new tannoy soon would be a good bit of publicity for CST.

ND: the sponsored walk raised £60 in donations and up to £220 in sponsorship. As agreed, the proceeds are to be split 50/50 between Mencap and the tannoy appeal.

MOTION: Should matchday income be used to fund CST activities, with event income going to the tannoy appeal?

MOTION CARRIED

Membership

72 Members. 56% adults, 4% children, 40% concessions. Total income £560

JV has ordered 250 membership cards at a total cost of £168. This provoked a discussion on how money should be spent. It was agreed that this was a matter to be considered by the Rules working group.

ND: it is most important that we do everything by the book, in view of recent financial misconduct at the club.

GW: we must be whiter than white.

MOTION: expenditure should be approved by a CST meeting, or when a quick decision is required, by a majority of the committee, with voting taking place by email.

MOTION CARRIED

Should we have a monthly draw for members?

JV: a member has suggested this to me. We could offer a prize of say £10. Members could opt out.
PB: can we afford this? Do we need to offer this benefit? People should join CST for many reasons, one is that it represents them and works on their behalf. The existing benefits is another.
JD: we should try to improve the fans' experience at the club. Membership will grow as we achieve things
ND: we all have to be ambassadors for the club and spread the word about Sky TV in the Social Club

MOTION Should we have a monthly draw for members?
MOTION NOT CARRIED

JD: we can revisit this idea in the future

Events

ND is to step down as events co-ordinator as he is to manage programme sales
He has arranged for Dave Swanton, the club's media advisor, to speak at the next meeting
GW will sound out Marc Davison to see if he is interested in helping arrange events
ND proposed forming an events committee. MR, CS, JD and ND all volunteered
ND has already formed a carnival float committee.
It's important to tap into the help of people who don't come to the monthly CST meetings, and to make sure we don't overwork the same people. We must not clash with club events and must try and attract new people to attend events.
ACTION: JV to appeal for help with events on website
GW: there will be some 130th anniversary celebration aimed at the ordinary fan as well as the anniversary dinner
The events committee met briefly after the CST meeting

Matchday organisation

Les, Dave and Jue volunteered to cover the next three matches for selling programmes, golden goals and 50/50 draw tickets

- Tues 20th August Ashton United
- Saturday 24th August Whitby Town
- Tuesday 3rd September Trafford

The Golden Girls offered to help out with programme sales from time to time. In total we have seven matchday volunteers. Volunteers should be at the ground around an hour before kick-off

Any other business

Roughly £100 is to be spent on player of the month trophies.
The club will organise a Christmas draw this year. Last year the Supporters' Club raised £400

Josh Vosper; Programme sales commission raised £113.20 for CST, and £491 for CFC. The forecast income per game in the season is £25, with the prospect of more income if we can sell 50/50 draw tickets as well. Programmes will be £2 for the season, and feedback on the new design has been positive.

PB proposed publicising how the Golden Goal and 50/50 draw work

It is important not to ambush people by having all the sellers together. Selling outside the gate is a good idea.

GW: the club is doing well at recruiting stewards and first aiders

JD: needs help at Chorley market from 9-4 this Saturday

Ian Livesey spoke about MagpieWatch, the internet radio service which he runs. It attracts up to 50 listeners for away games. The mobile internet will cost £25/month for an 18 month contract. Ian has £140 from DVD sales in the bank. Ian is still accepting DVDs to sell to raise further funds.

MOTION: CST should take on the contract for the mobile internet in return for MagpieWatch publicising CST's contribution and CST and club events.

MOTION CARRIED

Next meeting; Thursday 5th September 8pm. Dave Swanton is the guest speaker. Paul Brennan will stand in as secretary. Mark Rees offers his apologies.