



21 February 2019

Tony Sutton (TS) chaired the meeting. Michael Davies (MD) attended on behalf of the Club. Members of the Trust Board sent their apologies. 18 fans attended.

- 1. Season Tickets 2019/20.** It is a very Early Bird this year. It has started and runs to 31 March 2019 (5 weeks 1 day) as opposed to mid March to early May last year (6 weeks). The rationale was that the club need funds as there was the unplanned delay in the investment and there is a requirement for an injection of funds. Fans present felt that there was no prior notification regarding the launch. A question was posed asking if the Club would consider an extension to the early bird window beyond 30th March. MD confirmed the Club would consider but could give no guarantees this would be forthcoming.
The Early Bird provides entry for 7 league games for free on current pricing and the Standard Season ticket offers 5 league games. This time there is a money back clause that the Club will refund money by 30 June if fans are unhappy with any decisions that are made with regard to investment and ownership of the Club going forward.
Zebra Finance gives the Club all the money upfront so there is an immediate cash injection.
MD said new season tickets can be collected immediately as season cards are in stock except not on match days as its very busy for the ticket office and shop.
- 2. 'We're Wycombe Whatever'.** There was some debate around the recent 'We're Wycombe Whatever' campaign, with some fans feeling this, combined with the full refund offer, presented a somewhat negative message. MD did not agree with this view in fact said it was a very positive message in that the club will be here whatever and will continue to back itself in all times of adversity.
- 3. Stadium Liaison Officer Update.** This is ongoing and an announcement to follow before the end of the season.
- 4. Stadium Facilities Update.** The fridge that was purchased by the Fans Council from their fundraising effort was meant to go in the Pod next to the BMI terrace. Unfortunately, there are issues with the Pod regarding power and Health and Safety issues meaning the Pod still cannot be used. MD confirmed that the Club have no available budget to put towards resolving this at this time.
This means that the Club has, unfortunately, still not put the fridge into operation. This is very frustrating for the Fans Council; TS expressed his surprise that there was nowhere at all in the ground that the fridge could be put to good use whilst the Pod is out of action. MD said there wasn't at this time.
It was agreed that MD would give the Committee a breakdown of what is needed to be done to the Pod for it to be usable. The Fans Council will then look to see if it is a viable project for them to try and fund and manage.
- 5. Trust Board Update.** The Trust has emailed out an update and the deadline for eligible season ticket holders to sign up for Trust Legacy membership and qualify for any upcoming vote closed on 23 February. As at 17 February the Legacy membership stood at 817.

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Question was raised as to why 23 February was set as deadline. TS to forward this on to the Trust Board.

6. Any Other Business

- a. Sunderland – approaching a sell-out. An additional marquee will be available for home fans.
- b. Family Stand Gents Toilets –badly cordoned off and there are no clear markings as to what part is actually out of use. Concerns were raised about health and safety. MD to pick this up.
Subsequent to meeting: urinals fully operational.
- c. MD said attendances at League games vs last year is 16% up and away fans here at home matches are up 66%. The actual home fans through the gate has increased 12%. Average gate per game 5100 compared to 4411. Spend per head at matches is also up and has increased by 25% since 15 /16 season and season tickets are up 30% over the same time frame with the most since 2009/10 season.
- d. MD said there will be a new change strip next season. It is hoped it will be as successful as the home kit launch this year. Merchandise and sponsorship income also going well, with some news to follow. Costs overall for the club have increased especially with regards to playing budget as we moved from League 2 to League 1.
- e. The 1887 Business Club (networking event for businesses at evening league matches) launched in October has been a good step forward and was popular another one will be for the Accrington Match. Also the sponsorship of the FA Cup sleeve was very successful for a first time doing this.
- f. Going Gone auction site – some people have been put off bidding as they can only afford to bid on one shirt and if they bid blind on 3 or more shirts then they could be lumbered with having to try and pay for more than one shirt. It also stops people from upping their bid if their first bid is unsuccessful. MD explained for the 1st time he felt that it had been very good with some shirts going for over £200 but takes on the feedback and will review this.
- g. Dale Why has stood down from the committee.

There being no other business the meeting ended. The following dates are for the Fans Council meetings this season – 2nd Thursday of the month

Next Fans Council Meetings : 14 March 2019 11 April 2019

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