

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF SAINTS CITY TRUST BOARD ON MONDAY 31st
JANUARY 2022 7.30 PM**

Present: Ian Rogers (Chair), Jake Ellacott, Duncan McLeod, Barry Hilliard, Ian Oakley and Julie Scott.

Apologies: Gavin Rumble, and John Bracken

1. Welcome and Apologies.

Apologies above.

2. Minutes of Meeting of 13th December 2021

Draft Minutes of the meeting had been circulated and were agreed.

Matters Arising:

- Amended parking signs have now been installed in York Road.
- Other items are on the agenda.

3. Fan-led Review of Football Governance

DM had written to local MP Daisy Cooper to ask her to support the review and to help ensure the government implemented the recommendations, as agreed at the last meeting. Daisy Cooper had responded, saying she supported the review and had written to Nadine Dorries, the Minister responsible for implementing the recommendations. A copy of a letter to Daisy Cooper from Nigel Huddleston setting out the government's planned timetable for considering the recommendations was forwarded to the Trust.

4. Update from SACFC Leadership Team Meetings

IR updated on the last 2 meetings;

- Proposal to establish a Women's Soccer League team (WSL) under the St. Albans City banner.
- There remain vacancies for a match day doctor and a safety officer. Match day cleaning is also being put out to tender.
- Positive reports from away fans in last 2 games about stewarding. However, external stewards still a cause for concern and are being monitored.
- 3-year plan is being worked on but uncertainty about the new ground remains, particularly as Local Plan rejected again. IR to raise how current thinking may be publicised and is to propose a Fans' Forum.

- IR had stressed the Club needed to give updates on player recruitment, which Ian Allinson addressed in his post-match interview.
- There are plans to extend the current bars and add a new food outlet to reduce queuing.

5. Social Media and Website

IR still to meet with Danny about upgrading website.

JE had set up Facebook and Twitter sites for the Trust. Content would be added, based on the newsletter due to be published by 15th February.

6. Fundraising

IR quoted the disappointing receipts from recent home games, despite large crowds. It was felt that this reflected the younger age profile of crowd and people no longer carrying cash. It was agreed to carry on in the short term and review it at next meeting. We would try to improve prizes, publicise these in advance and remind fans to bring a £1 coin to games. PA announcements need to be improved to provide better and more timely information.

IR raised idea of crossbar challenge competition.

We agreed to restart the Player of the Month award next season.

7. Away Travel

There had been requests from a few fans about the possibility of arranging travel to away matches. IR felt the likely cost of coaches or minibuses plus the uncertainty of numbers would lead to losses. However, the Board felt that Trust members should be canvassed to try and find a volunteer as transport coordinator to investigate the options. This would be advertised in next newsletter.

8. Any Other Business

- The Board agreed that membership of Communities First should be for the Club to arrange, if they thought it worthwhile.
- JE raised issues passed onto him. These included a Fans' Forum, the poor standard of toilet facilities and the eco-friendliness of the Club. IR would raise these items with the Club.

Next meeting was agreed for Monday 14th March at 7:30pm.

The meeting closed at 8:50 pm.

IAN ROGERS
CHAIR