

## **MINUTES OF MEETING OF SAINTS CITY TRUST BOARD ON MONDAY 16th MAY 2022 7:30 PM**

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

Apologies: Ian Oakley, Gavin Rumble, Julie Scott and John Bracken

### **1. Welcome and Apologies.**

Apologies above. It was agreed that certain items discussed at the meeting would be referred to absent members to confirm decisions made.

### **2. Minutes of Meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

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

Matters Arising:

- IR reported that the End of Season awards had been scaled down due to a lack of resources to arrange. Around 90 paper votes were cast and 500 votes online. Awards took place on the pitch after the Tonbridge Angels game. The Board congratulated IR on his joint award of Wagstaffe Simmons trophy.
- IR updated the meeting that around £2,800 had been collected from match day fundraising for the season. This would be passed to the Club to help fund the pitch reinstatement and dressing room upgrades.

### **3. Fan-led Review of Football Governance**

The Government had not introduced a bill in the recent Queen's speech but had said 'proposals will be brought forward to establish an independent regulator of English football'.

Progress and content of any proposed legislation will be monitored.

### **4. Update from SACFC Leadership Team meetings**

IR updated on the meetings since the Board last met.

- IR circulated a proposal from the Club for season ticket prices for next season. These appeared reasonable although there appeared to be a lack of detail around early bird and members' discounts. IR would clarify. Details are expected to be published shortly.
- It was likely that a sponsorship deal for the ground naming will be announced soon.

- Visions and Values of the Club discussed at the Fans' Forum are due to be launched at an event at St. Michael's Manor in the near future..
- As reported at last meeting, the Saints Bar is to be refurbished and redesigned. However, there is no evident progress to date. JE requested that fans have the opportunity to obtain photos currently there, if they are not required. IR to follow up.
- An initial schedule of pre-season friendlies had been announced starting on 1<sup>st</sup> July against Arsenal Under 23's. All are still to be confirmed.
- The floodlights at Clarence Park need replacing and will be deemed unsafe from the 2023/24 season. The gross cost is around £70k. Although some grant funding will be available, it is anticipated that the minimum gap will be in excess of £20k. The Club seeks the Trust's assistance to help with fundraising. IR and DM are to meet with Lawrence Levy to discuss.

## **5. AGM**

DM had prepared a draft timetable which had been circulated to all Board members in advance. The meeting agreed the timetable with the AGM, provisionally scheduled for Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October.

It was agreed that 3 Board members would be required to seek reelection. IR and BH would be 2 and we hoped that either GR or IO, as longstanding members, would also volunteer.

We agreed to consider who might attend the meeting as a guest speaker.

## **6. Fundraising**

IR will bring a paper on options for next season to a future meeting.

## **7. Away Travel**

There had still been no response to the call for a volunteer as transport coordinator. IR had arranged a minibus to Oxford City and this had gone well. It was proposed to use the same company for limited number of longer trips next season.

## **8. Any Other Business**

- BH proposed that Trust membership fees should revert to pre Covid rates of £5 for adults and £3 for concessions. This would also include a direct payment option. The change was agreed to cover increasing costs.
- It was also agreed that investment was required to upgrade the website and this would be discussed at a future meeting.

- IR would produce a draft newsletter for comment in the next 2 weeks.

Next meeting was provisionally proposed for Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

IAN ROGERS  
CHAIR