



Mariners Trust Board Meeting Minutes

14 th October 2021	Time : 6.30pm	Trust Bar
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Present :

Sharon Dobbs, Dave Roberts, Kristine Green, Sandii Raithby, Stu Raithby, Kel Billings, Debbie Cook, Steph Hirst, Jayne Boyington, Brian Doughty, Chris Parker, Steve Davy, Brian Nicholson, Wayne Brightmore, Colin Hodgson, John Edwards, Peter Freeman, Roy Crampton, Roy Stephenson, Paul Roberts, Stu White, Ian Townsend, Ian Keightley, Kev Broughton, Jon Wood , Richard Bellamy, David Booth*, Mike Seaward*, Laura Spencer*, Frances Houson* (Those marked with an asterix joined via Zoom)

30 In total, of which 28 are current paid up Trust Members

Acceptance of minutes

Proposed by – Jon Wood

Seconder – Stuart Raithby

KG gave her Chairs report, copy attached.

Thanks from S Davy on the improvements to the Trust since the takeover & raised that he thinks the club don't give enough praise for the work the Trust do.

Board places nomination & votes.

SR, DR & IK up for nomination. JW stepped down. All 3 existing members re-elected, along with Brian Nicholson.

Proposed by – Wayne Brightmore

Seconder – Kel Billings

Accounts received & adopted.

IT gave his treasurers report – explanation that there is a sum of money which was received from the former disabled supporters club. Since the end of the accounting year, this has been returned to the newly formed disabled supporters club.

Questions from John Edwards:

Share scheme – money came into our account but has not been paid to the club yet. This is for pending share sales to the club. It will either go to the club or be refunded in due course.



Book launch. Plan to amalgamate the delayed book launch with an event this year. Unsure whether it will have the ex players attending depending on restrictions.

100s club –how much has been donated back into the Trust. IT to identify and report. The donator does not want any thanks or publicity for what he does. Winners online not updated. SLR to take this as an action.

Rent outgoings – This is paid to the club for rent of the bars, a percentage of the money taken & also includes wages for the bar staff.

Clarification that the £30,000 payment is not linked to the board places. Now, the money is given to the club for specific projects such as defibrillators or toilets – things which enhance the fan experience.

Proposed – Tony Mitchell

Secunder – John Edwards

Acceptance of independent examiner – to remain as Tucks

Proposer – Paul Roberts

Secunder – Jayne Boyington

End of Formal business



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Chairs Report 2021 AGM

This will be my first report as chair and one written only a short time after our previous delayed AGM in March of this year.

I would like to thank the Trust board for their continued hard work and support, during what has been a difficult time for many. To members, how have signed up in their droves since the takeover, your membership fees helped the Trust purchase 5 defib units to be used at Blundell Park. It became evident once again recently during a game at St James' Park just how important it is to have early access to one.

You will have received a copy of our accounts for the year ending April 2021. You will notice that there is an additional more detailed breakdown of where income is received, and expenditure allocated. This will be standard item as part of our AGM paperwork in the future.

The main core of income from the Trust is from the bars and a large part of our work is around matchdays, this is clearly shown by a large drop in our income. Most of our activities ceased but during this time we took the opportunity to upgrade our membership system to membermojo – it has been brilliant toolkit for our board volunteers to manage memberships and so easy for members to use. A big thank you to Dave Roberts for putting in the groundwork so that we could select the right system for us.

A big talking point and success, post year end but planned during, is the family fanzone. A small corner of the ground underutilised. A project where funding was applied for through the Premier League fans fund in January 2020, with a view to work commencing over the break of that summer. As we know covid delayed many things including this but it is testament to the sub group working on the project that it was able to be brought to a standard that fans could use it over the summer just gone. We also have to give thanks to the volunteers who offered their time and skills, as well as local businesses who offered goods and services as a discounted rate or for free. The set-up of the fanzone, whereby fans do not enter the ground when they visit meant that we could connect with Docks Beers to offer their superb array of beers, ales and ciders. The way in which the family fanzone has been received by fans has been incredible, no doubt helped by performances on the pitch but numbers have been brilliant. The area is by no means complete and will always be a 'work in progress'. As always we welcome feedback for the family fanzone as well as any other areas of the matchday experience.

The Trust's junior section has also received some excellent feedback both via social media and email. The annual cost of £5 gives them a joining pack, a birthday card and other exclusive events to be planned. With access to players currently not available or very limited, it's not been easy but the sub group have done a superb job in making junior membership appealing.

Since our delayed 2020 AGM, long serving board member and Trust representative on the club board Jon Wood stood down. Jon has given a number of years' service to both club and Trust, that included an incredible number of hours. I would like to thank Jon, on behalf of the Trust board, for his invaluable contribute and subsequent offer of support to myself personally since.



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This brings me onto the election results. Unlike the previous AGM, where we had more nominations than board places, we had four nominations for four places, so an election was not required. Ian Keightley, Stuart Raithby and Dave Roberts were all re-elected to the board and I would like to give a warm welcome to Brian Nicholson, who joins the board. Brian will be known to many and we look forward to working with him. All places are subject to ratification at tonight's AGM.

It would be remiss of me not to mention our current status as a Trust, even though it's not within the year that the AGM is relating to. The takeover in May saw our membership reach nearly 2000 members, a boost of almost 1300 members! These sorts of increases are normally seen when a club is in crisis, so to see it as a reaction of positivity really holds us in good stead for the months ahead.

Both Jason and Andrew, as well as Debbie, are fully supportive of the Trust and the work that we do on behalf of fans. This is evident with Debbie giving up part of her evening to be here to answer your questions. Both myself and Dave are regularly working within the club to ensure that the voice of the fans are heard at all times, not that we have to shout this too loudly. There is, without doubt, lots of work to do but with the strength in depth and variety of skills that the Trust board has, I have no doubt that the Trust will continue to go from strength to strength.