

Mariners Trust Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 11th March 2020

6.30pm

Trust Bar

Stuart Raithby

Sandii Raithby

Kristine Green

Alan Rutter

Ian Keightley

Ian Townsend

Dave Roberts

Colin Hodgson

Shaz Dobbs

Hayley Carver-Smith

Jon Wood

Welcome & Apologies :

AR welcomed back IT & welcomed HCS who is observing today.

Coronavirus

JW – cases increasing all the time, 20% in last 24 hours nationally. Moving very quickly in the NHS. We need to be aware as the Trust we run the bars, SD will brief her staff on Saturday regarding common sense approach. We have antibacterial wipes, sprays, extra disposable plastic glasses, no re-use of glasses, additional handwashing etc. Gloves available to customers. The club are putting hand sanitiser pumps around the ground for fans use. There will be no re-useable towels in bars or toilets. We understand the club are briefing stewards and staff. Family co-ordinator also to be briefed. Mighty Mariner to be advised against shaking hands etc. Club are very aware and proactive and are putting measures in place. We may see an increase in action now it has been declared a pandemic. The players will also be briefed. Our message to all bar staff and across the club is if you feel generally unwell with any cold like symptoms, do not come in. The club are also going to issue a statement. We will also issue a statement on Socials.

IK will draft a statement for Trust socials and send it for approval ASAP.

GTFC Directors Update

Nothing more to add other than Coronavirus comms as already minuted. Fans forum night was well received, Philip came across really well.

SLO Update

Scunthorpe game – Started off well, police very engaging and friendly. KG worked closely with the Chief Super Intendent, and communicated throughout the day. We think the amount of officers was excessive. Police used in place of stewards. Coming out, the situation was chaotic. Battons were raised because Scunthorpe fans would not disperse, PSU batons were used which was too aggressive. Police made no attempt to diffuse situation without going to the worse case scenario. The match commander was not experienced enough to manage the situation, and so threw numbers

of officers at the situation which could have caused more problems. Treatment of the disabled supporters who were not allowed to leave by the side entrance was terrible. The excuse given was that Police instructed it, but this should have been a decision from the stadium manager. The police line around the ground was intrusive and blocked views. The officers told fans they were not permitted to sit or kneel down. There was a lack of communication generally and the officers were not able to answer specific questions about the events. We will continue to pursue this and await the reply from the commanding officer.

As part of the review from this, we will be questioning whether the move to an early kick off has any benefits. We don't believe it does and hope the review will help show this.

It has been mentioned that it was lovely to have Jane in the stand helping disabled fans.

Events

Exile night – as many volunteers as possible, AR to compere Q&A with Ollie, Exiles who have bought tickets can bring family & friends. Doors at 7pm. Sky TV are coming as they are filming Ollie for a couple of days.

Book Launch – Tickets going well, sold around 120. Will have to monitor as the CoronaVirus may have an effect on guests flying over. Will continue to monitor. Printing next week, 500 copies.

Memories night – Arranged by Bruce Fenwick – hope to become a recurring event. Free entry.

Beer Festival - 6th June. Camerons are going to come and set up for us and dress the room & provide a free barrel of beer. They will be one of the main sponsors. 2 street food vendors confirmed. More ciders than last year and also takeaway cartons. 2 singers confirmed. Sponsors are required – will be £30 + vat. Also need sponsorship for music, etc. Shaz to make a list of everything she wants sponsoring & then IK can approach last years sponsor plus more. Shaz to send last years photos to SLR to make a video. As many trust board as possible to attend and volunteer. AR has an idea for joint main sponsor and he will approach them. £250 + vat agreed as amount for main sponsorship.

Open Day – need to start thinking about it. Likely to be 26th July. Early discussions to start taking place with the club.

Fan Zone & Fan Engagement

DR – plans ongoing, few ideas of costs now available. Site has started to be cleared ready for the end of the season. Biggest issue is the flooring, looks like most cost effective solution is artificial grass. Quote for disabled toilet has come in and around 50% can be claimed by grants. Should be open and running for start of next season. Potential involvement with Docks Beers. Another grant we have is for an engagement project with collectible cards handed out by police. Junior Supporters Club which we need to launch and also some work reaching under-represented groups. We will seek assistance from FSA diversity officer.

Season Tickets & Ticketing

Club board meeting has been postponed so no firm update on ST's yet. As mentioned at the forum, there will be a slight price increase. There is also a review of cost for youth tickets which at the moment are over priced, so we are trying to get this reduced and implemented in stipulated stands.

Disabled carers free tickets to be discussed with the club.

Junior Supporters

Part of the funding we have is for a Junior supporters club in conjunction with the club. HCS is going to start to look at other clubs and how they work and operate. This is something we hope to launch in summer for next season. There will be a fee to join, which is something we need to consider as part of the planning. Will also have a kids takeover day for the last game of the season v Oldham. GTSET team will be involved.

Website

IK name is spelled wrong Keightley – SR To change. Also Colin Hodgson. Since DR & SR visited E-Tech we have not had the test design or any update. DR to chase.

Treasurers Report

Current account £16,206.17. Banked from Paypal £2,600 which is for books & cost of food at the launch night. So Paypal balance is £16.90. SD has banked £795 for books. We have yet to pay the club Februarys payment. VAT back over £1000. No cash in hand figure at present and IT is still working on this. DR & SD to work through forms as some are incorrect due to card payments. This can be sorted for next meeting.

AOB

SD – Budget today has no increase on beer, so we will not increase beer prices but hot drinks prices will increase by 4% due to supplier increase.

AR – All charity tickets now allocated, We will provide a list of all the charities we have helped for us and the club to tweet at the end of the season. We will continue this last year.

Sands bucket shake at Plymouth game. Also a presentation at the beer festival.

Charity game is 4pm on Sat 2nd May. Broadley vs Sands Utd.

AR is working with a new fundraising employee for St Andrews Hospice in conjunction with the club.

SR would like a light outside the bar door. To be sorted by Nick Dale – AR will request this from the club.

Next Meeting is 25th April 2020.

