



YORK CITY SUPPORTERS SOCIETY

AGM for Financial Year July 2009 - June 2010

Held at The Pitchside Bar, Bootham Crescent

Monday 16 November 2010 at 1930 hrs

Present: 50 members plus the following members of the current Trust Board - Ian Hey, Simon Mallett, Mike Palfrey, James Goodwill, Martyn Jones, James Richardson, David Brewis (Secretary).

Apologies: Steve Beck, Steve Clarke, Berwick Kaler

Notes from the meeting

1. Chair

It was agreed that Simon Mallett would chair the meeting.

2. Minutes of the previous AGM

Agreed as an accurate record of the meeting unanimously. Proposed by Tony Hyatt and seconded by Keith Sunderland.

3. Matters Arising - Junior Members

An update of progress was requested. James Richardson answered that the Trust Board had considered the issue and had decided that the best way forward would be not to try to replicate the activities of the Junior Reds, which the trust could not handle administratively anyway, but to obtain agreement from Junior Reds in the supply of the Junior Reds membership list so that members could be approached on their 16 birthday to become Trust members. This approach provoked some debate and it was concluded that the creation of an Associate member category be considered again.

4. Financial Report

The accounts for the year July 2009 - June 2010 were presented by Ian Hey. Major items to note were

- The majority of the difference in surplus for the year was accounted for by the absence of income from a dinner which provided c £10,000 of surplus in the previous year.
- YCFC had not filed final accounts for the 09-10 year because of a dispute with the authorities over distribution of proceeds from the play off final at Wembley. The Trust holds a significant proportion of its assets as an investment in YCFC so presented Trust accounts are draft.

From floor

Q: How are life memberships included in the accounts?



A: over a ten year period. Hence when the ten year period since the formation of the Trust ends, the membership income noted in the accounts from life members will be reduced although cash flow will not be affected.

Q: how many members does the trust currently have?

A: life 530, annual 170.

The accounts presented were proposed as acceptable by Steve Ovenden and seconded by Tony Hyatt. Accepted unanimously.

5. Report on Trust activities

Presented by Simon Mallett

Key points

- The Trust board had needed to try to get to a reasonable working strength through co-opting 4 members. It was also aiming to hold meetings monthly.
- A successful meeting with representatives of all supporters groups had been held to discuss the future direction of the Trust and the currently perceived position of the football club.
- Noted that the trust now had a regular match day presence and had made some progress towards reinvigorating the wall project - physical repairs now completed - although work is still required to move the scheme forward.
- A proposal from has been received from Mr McGill for regular, though relatively infrequent, meetings between the Trust Board and Pete Rookes, now a financial consultant to the club and still a Trust member, to update the Board on the financial performance of the club. Although the proposal was generally welcomed, there are still some points to be agreed in response to the club's demand for formal protection of confidentiality documents.
- The Trust still has the right to two places on the club board but since the resignation of Sophie McGill has no representative. No current board member was able to fill the role as currently defined due to the requirement to take on an executive role.

Matters arising

Thanks from the Board to Graham Bradbury for his exemplary organisation of the golf day. In turn Graham Bradbury thanked Neil Jacques for his significant contribution. Graham asked members at the meeting to note down the last Wednesday in July for the next event.

6. Elections to Board

Of the current elected board members Ian Hey was required to stand down after three years service and Thom Feeney offered his resignation for personal reasons. Of the current co-opted members, James Richardson offered his resignation on the basis of potential conflict of interest and James Goodwill offered his resignation in light of his likely emigration in the near future.

The result of proxy voting for those members seeking election to the Trust Board was

	For	Against	Abstain	Total
Ian Hey	77	0	2	79
Mike Brown	75	1	3	79
Matt English	75	1	3	79
Martyn Jones	74	1	4	79
Kirsten Ovenden	76	2	1	79
Sam Plaxton	76	0	3	79
Mark Woodhouse	77	0	2	79

The meeting approved unanimously by vote the (re)elections of all candidates.

Therefore Ian Hey, Mike Brown, Matt English, Martyn Jones, Kirsten Ovenden, Sam Plaxton and Mark Woodhouse were elected to the Trust Board.

7. The Role of the Trust

Presented by Ian Hey

Key points

- Most Trusts are formed in crisis but the role continues after the crisis is over.
- There are a variety of areas of football club activity in which the Trust should be represented and active as the interests of the Trust and the club actually coincide.
- In the recent past the work of the Trust has fallen on a small and diminishing number of people.
- Responsibility fell on members to contribute rather than merely asking why the Trust didn't do something about it.
- Key areas for activity for YCST were picked out as the new ground and club finances.
- Picked out some areas of Trust activity where additional help was particularly required including
 - Communications
 - Stadium planning
 - Community issues
 - Fundraising
 - Membership management

8. Issues/questions arising from the floor

Finance

- If the Trust has a 25% shareholding, should it also take 25% of any revenues/profits generated by the club?
- Since the transferral of trust shares to JMP in 2006 reported losses at the club seem to have increased. This must be a concern going forwards.



- Can we ask the club what the amount at dispute from the play off final actually is?
- If there is to be a continuing annual loss of c £300,000 then that must be a matter of concern for the support base.
- What are the exact terms of any loan money over and above that initially agreed? Do we know what the status of that loan is - is it subordinated?

It was also stated that there was no proof that the investment promised by JMP at the time of the transfer had actually occurred.

These issues to be addressed by the Trust board as it attempts to improve the flow of information about the club's financial position from the club which has been almost absent recently.

Q: BCH - what is Trust holding in BCH? Was Mike Shannon put on the BCH board as a Trust representative?

A: the Trust owns 25% of YCFC which has a majority stake in BCH. The Trust has no direct shareholding in BCH.

New Ground

- How can the apparent change in attitude about a possible move to Huntington from never to possibly be explained? What has changed?

- Who is currently on the club board?

A: Jason McGill, Rob McGill, Ian McAndrew, Sophie Hicks

- Does the club have veto over any proposed Trust member joining the club board?

A: yes but to veto an appointment would, we believe, be accompanied by some very negative PR.

Trust representative on club board

Does the Trust Board agree that it is very important to find someone to act on the club board? Followed by, this will be very difficult given the amount of time during the normal working week apparently required. Perhaps it would be a suitable role for a retired or semi-retired person? To be considered by the Trust board.

Q: what would the role be?

A: the club will probably continue to insist on a variety of executive responsibilities.

The meeting closed at 21.10 hrs.

David Brewis
Secretary, YCST