



## YORK CITY SUPPORTERS' SOCIETY

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Year ending 30 June 2011

Held in the Pitcheside Bar, Bootham Crescent at 7.30pm on Thursday 23 February 2012.

Present: 21 members of YCSS and additionally Board members - Ian Hey, Steve Beck, Mike Brown, Martyn Jones, Kirsten Ovenden, Sam Plaxton, Mark Woodhouse, James Goodwill

Apologies: Simon Mallett, Andy Hall

Secretary: David Brewis

### 1. Chair

In the absence of the Chair of the Trust Board, Simon Mallett, Ian Hey took the chair for the AGM.

### 2. Minutes of the Last Meeting 16 November 2010

Proposed as a true record by Keith Sunderland and seconded by Carol Abel. Passed unanimously.

### 3. Statement by the Trust Board on current business

*The following item was introduced by the Trust Board as an item of Any Other Business and presented for information. It was not included in the previously circulated agenda for the meeting.*

A statement on the current state of Trust business was presented by Ian Hey.

This covered the state of the current relationship and the level of communication between the Trust and the Club board, the lack of information relating to club finance currently being made available by the club, the situation on the new ground and the difficulties the Trust Board had experienced in trying to fill its positions on the Club board.

#### Questions on the statement

Graham Bradbury: In the absence of a full explanation of how the new stadium will be financed and the business case behind the new stadium at Monks Cross, is the club just leaking information to backup its own view?  
Is the reported £4m contribution from Oakgate reasonable - it seems a very low level?  
What are the financial implications for the club arising from the move to Monks Cross?  
By the way I believe that a significant proportion of supporters would much rather stay at Bootham Crescent than move.

Ian Hey: We cannot speak for the club only for the Trust.

Mike Brown: It seems that the Club needs an injection of money to continue trading and Huntingdon is the only option to deliver that and one that is backed by the relevant authorities. The Trust must act in such a way to avoid causing any jeopardy to the progress of the proposal.

- Keith Sunderland: Are the Trust's difficulties with the club similar to the experiences of other Trusts?
- Ian Hey: There is a variety of Trusts round the country with various experiences of dealing with clubs.
- Val Duggan: Could releasing the Board statement publically have a negative effect?
- Ian Hey: That is a risk but it is actually a statement of fact and it may be more risky to do nothing. Yes it could backfire.
- Tony Hyatt: We should realise that, despite the current difficulty in dealing with JMP, Jason McGill has kept the club going. Also we are only a minority shareholder and often minority shareholders are not in full possession of all the facts.
- Neil Jacques: We should also remember that there were additional investors around at the time of the reconstruction Agreement.
- Terry Herbert: How difficult is it to deal with the McGills?
- Steve Beck: Described the difficulties he had during his time on the club board in coping with the restricted flow of information between club board members.
- Terry Herbert: Does the Trust Board believe that the club board is still aware of the legal agreement it has with the Trust?
- Ian Hey/Mike Brown: Yes otherwise it would not have mentioned the need to vary the agreement in recent, unsatisfactory discussions about a Deed of Variation.
- Graham Bradbury: If we were to get promoted this season would Bootham Crescent meet Football League standards?
- Ian Hey: Stated he believes the answer is yes provided that the Grosvenor Road end is closed.
- Mike Brown: Stated that contingency plans to bring the ground up to the required standard existed in his time on the club board and probably did so now?
- Val Duggan: What is the view of the Trust Board on what would happen in planning permission for Monk's Cross was gained?
- Ian Hey: That would mean staying at BC at least in the short term.
- Kirsten Ovenden: Stated she believed that currently there was no "Plan B".
- Keith Sunderland; is the omission of the -Trust from the various negotiations and the lack of availability of financial information caused by a belief that to do so would put confidentiality at risk?
- Ian Hey: It might be -there was one such incident of confidential information leaking in the past.
- George Harforth Just to reiterate, there is a large body of supporters who do not want to leave BC.
- Ian Hey: Yes, the Board recognise that but the financial situation might dictate that staying is not an option.
- The meeting unanimously approved that the Trust Board should publish the statement on its website after the meeting.

*NB This item was not presented as an item for the agreement of the Trust membership and was not therefore subject to a formal vote.*

#### 4. Finance

Steve Beck presented an update on the Financial Report for 2010-11. The finalisation of the accounts had been delayed by the difficulty in getting information from the bank which in turn had been caused by various named individuals on the account no longer being available.

The accounts would show a closing bank balance of c £5,200 with the major elements of income being from membership renewals and the Golf Day, splendidly organised by Graham Bradbury with the help of Neil Jacques.

The meeting was advised that the finalised accounts would be posted on the website.

#### **5. Re-appointment of Auditors**

The re-appointment of Townends as auditors was unanimously approved by the meeting and by 58 votes to 0 in votes by proxy.

#### **6. Secretary's Report**

The Secretary's Report, part of the Financial Report, was circulated at the meeting. The Secretary drew the attention of the meeting to the membership of 701 at the year end - 529 life members and 172 annual - a reduction of 16 or 2% against the previous year.

#### **7. Re-Appointments to the Trust Board**

The meeting voted unanimously in favour of the re-appointments of Messrs Mallett, Hey and Beck to the Trust Board and by 58 votes to 0 in votes by proxy.

#### **8. Introduction of New Rules and Policies**

The Secretary explained that Supporters Direct had produced a new set of standard rules as a result of the experiences of various Trusts. This new set forms the basis of the proposed new YCST set and includes the provision of the ability to issue Withdrawable Shares.

The meeting voted unanimously in favour and by 57 votes to 0 with 1 abstention by proxy in favour of adopting

- A new set of trust rules entitled York City Supporters' Society 29345R February 2012 v1Rules
- A revised election Policy, York City Supporters' Society Election Policy February 2012 v1
- A new Disciplinary Policy York City Supporters' Society Disciplinary Policy February 2012 v1

#### **9. Any Other Business**

Ian Hey proposed a vote of thanks to Simon Mallett for his service as Trust Board Chairman.

David Brewis  
Secretary to the Trust Board  
03 March 2012