

## SKY BLUE TRUST - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 21 JULY 2014, 7.30pm

### MINUTES

#### Present

40 Trust members

#### Minutes of AGM - 1 July 2013

Agreed as a correct record

#### Accounts for year ended 31 January 2014

The Trust Treasurer explained that the accounts had not yet been audited. As soon as that has taken place they will be made available to Members on the Trust website and considered at the adjourned AGM on 13 October 2014

#### Amendment to Trust Rules

The recommendation of the Trust Secretary to amend the Trust's Rule 57 to specify a Board of "not less than 6 and not more than 8 persons" was unanimously agreed.

#### Election Policy

It was agreed to adopt the Election Policy attached to the report of the Trust Secretary.

#### Board Membership and Conduct Policy

It was agreed to adopt the Board Membership and Conduct Policy attached to the report of the Trust Secretary.

#### Resolution 1

Frank Smith moved the resolution, of which he had given notice to the Trust Secretary. The proposed resolution related to potential new owners of the Club. An amendment was moved to make the resolution apply to existing as well as new owners. That amendment was carried. After debate the amended resolution was put to the vote and carried, as follows:

*We owe it to ourselves and future generations of Coventry City supporters to make it difficult or impossible for any disreputable group, firm, organisation or individual to ever become owners of CCFC.*

*With that in mind the Trust must lobby Coventry City Council and ACL to:*

- 1. Ensure that before any future disposal of a freehold or leasehold interest in all or part of the Ricoh Arena to CCFC owners can take place, the owners must agree to significant supporters' representation on CCFC's new Board of Directors, **and***
- 2. Ensure that any owners of CCFC must discuss their plans for the club with CCFC's supporters, answer the supporters' questions about their approach and reach broad agreement with the supporters before any future disposal of a freehold or leasehold interest in all or part of the Ricoh Arena to CCFC takes place.*

*In addition, the Trust must, as soon as possible, make contact with other fan groups at football clubs where they have taken a more democratic approach to the ownership and control of the organisation etc to ensure that we can propose a suitable "Supporters Representation" approach.*

## Resolution 2

Bruce Walker introduced the resolution of which he had given notice to the Trust Secretary. He explained that, in view of the reported negotiations said to be about to start over the terms of a possible return to the Ricoh Arena, he was prepared to defer discussion of his resolution until the adjourned AGM on 13 October 2014.

A Member asked whether, at that meeting, the resolution could be dealt with as four separate propositions. The Secretary said that would have to be agreed at that meeting.

## Open Forum

A Member congratulated those who took part in organising the recent march. It was suggested that the Trust should try not to show disrespect to Northampton FC.

A Member asked whether, in the event that there is no return by Coventry City to the Ricoh by the start of the 2014-15 season and assuming that Sisu maintain their usual intransigent approach, the Trust Board would re-consider its policy of engagement with Sisu / Otium in a reasonable manner and adopt more openly critical strategies?

The Chair agreed that the Board would consider that. He also agreed that the Board would formally consider the Trust's "stance" at each Board meeting.

A Member asked that the Trust should lead a protest, similar to that held at the Arsenal match last season, at the first League game of the forthcoming season, at Bradford, using the slogan "Fix Football." He also asked that a large turnout of protestors be arranged to gather on the Hill for the forthcoming game against Cardiff, perhaps in conjunction with the Cardiff City Trust.

The Chair agreed to that.

A Member thanked the Trust Board for their work over the past year. He wondered whether the Trust is fully representing the anger of fans and asked why if the FPA can take a stand, the Trust cannot.

The Chair and Secretary explained that, as the Trust is being involved in discussions with all parties, it has to take care to maintain a working relationship with all sides. It would not serve the Trust's interests to be excluded from discussions.

A Member asked that the Trust Board should consider adopting a protocol whereby all Board members should be informed about any proposed external meetings.

The Chair agreed that the Board would consider that.

A Member asked that a further series of FOI requests should be submitted about the "new stadium" development. The Secretary agreed to do that.

## Adjournment of AGM

The meeting closed at 8.45pm, standing adjourned to 13 October 2014, at 7.30pm.

