



Minutes of the Third Annual General Meeting of the Ilkeston Football Club Supporters Group to be held at New Manor Ground Club House, Ilkeston on 14th May 2014

Present: Duncan Payne – Chairman; Darren Jones – Treasurer; Duncan Lapping – Secretary; Lee Francis - Website Administrator/Media Relations Officer; Lynda Bacon – Travel Secretary; Alison Wall and Alex Middleton - Committee Members.
Other members of the Group – 16

1	Introductions and Apologies
	<p>Duncan Payne (DP) introduced himself as Chairman of the Group and proceeded to introduce the other post holders and committee members who were present.</p> <p>Apologies were received from Jon Shapland – Membership Secretary; John Attewell and Kevin Cross (Committee Members).</p>
2.	Minutes of the Meeting of the Second AGM on 22nd May 2013
	<p>The minutes of the second AGM held on 22nd May 2013 were proposed by Alan Savage and seconded by Andy Tilford.as a true record of the meeting. The minutes were accepted as agreed and signed off by the Chairman.</p>
3	Chairman’s Report
	<p>DP presented his report to the meeting a copy of which is appended to these minutes.</p>
4	Treasurers report and presentation of accounts
	<p>Darren Jones (DJ) presented the accounts for the year to 30th April 2014 and advised the Group of the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total income: £15,756; • Total expenditure: £12,695; • Profit for the year; £3,061 • Accumulated Profit Brought Forward; £6,517 • Surplus balance: £9,578. <p>DJ went on to report on the travel activities of the Group and advised on the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The travel activity is supported by selling prediction sheets at £1 each. • Travel income £11,070 • Prediction Sheet Income £1,920

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expenditure £11,900 • Net Loss: £830 • Surplus balance (after prediction sheet income) £1,090 <p>DJ asked the members to note that the race night and bucket collection income is ring fenced to assist with funding the football club replacement tannoy project.</p> <p>DJ asked for any questions on the accounts. With there being none it was proposed that the accounts be accepted by Phil Crowe. The proposal was seconded by David Gibson and the accounts were duly accepted.</p>
5	Secretary's report
	Duncan Lapping (DL) presented his report to the Group. A copy of the report is appended to these minutes.
6	Membership Secretary's Report
	In the absence of the Membership Secretary DJ reported on his behalf that the Group had 201 members made up of 169 adults and 32 juniors. This had yielded membership income of £877.
7	Website Administrator/Media Relations Officer report
	<p>Lee Francis (LF) made a verbal report to the meeting.</p> <p>It was reported bus times and pick up points would be advertised on the Groups website along with; website statistics and a summary of hot topics.</p> <p>The potential to raise advertising revenue from the website was being investigated along with a way for allowing donations to be made via the website. The Easy Funding option is already being promoted. And all members present were encouraged to use it and ask friends and relatives to do likewise.</p>
8	Election of Officers and further members for 2014/15
	<p>In accordance with the Group's constitution all committee members duly tendered their resignations.</p> <p>All former committee members offered themselves for re-election.</p> <p>Alan Savage acted from the floor to nominate all the former committee members to their former posts. All nominations were supported by proposals from Phil Burston and seconded by Paul Tilford.</p> <p>All former committee members were therefore re-elected unchallenged to their former posts.</p> <p>The new committee was noted as being made up as follows: Chairman – Duncan Payne; Secretary – Duncan Lapping; Treasurer – Darren Jones; Membership Secretary – Jon Shapland; Website Administrator/Media</p>

	Relations Officer – Lee Francis; Travel Secretary - Lynda Bacon; Committee Members – Alex Middleton, Alison Wall, John Attewell.
9	Any other business
9.1	<p>Media Coverage:</p> <p>The Chairman expressed his thanks to the local press for their support and particularly to Mark Duffy of the Ilkeston Advertiser for his promotion of events. He also thanked local radio station, Erewash Sound for their coverage on the team's progress. The Chairman also mentioned that there will be coverage of the Group's activities on the IFCSG page in each match-day programme.</p>
9.2	<p>Questions from the floor:</p> <p>(i) Can arrangements be made for prediction sheets to be completed on line?</p> <p>LF advised he would investigate this, but could not promise that it could be put in place.</p> <p>(ii) Can tickets for any prestigious pre-season games be reserved for Group members?</p> <p>DP stated that he would write to the football club with that request.</p> <p>(iii) John Hendy asked the committee to ask the football club to request that the last away fixture be one that would be suitable for a weekend trip e.g. Whitby.</p> <p>DP stated that he would write to the football club with that request.</p>
9.3	<p>Other comments from the floor:</p> <p>(i) Some members stated that they had heard negative comments about the football club that they thought would affect its reputation.</p> <p>DP agreed to raise these concerns with the Club's Chairman, Dave Mantle.</p> <p>(ii) John Hendy commented that he was not aware of any announcement about the AGM on any website; that there had been no other direct advertising; and that this had affected attendance.</p> <p>DP responded by saying that this would be addressed for next years AGM.</p>

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.30pm

Chairman's Report to the Annual General Meeting of the Ilkeston Football Club Supporters Group held on Wednesday 14th May 2014 at the New Manor Ground Ilkeston

The celebrations we had at Alfreton a couple of weeks ago failed to mask the fact that the feelgood factor, so prevalent during our first couple of seasons, disappeared from the NMG in 2013-14. Only 3 home wins and a series of dispiriting, frustrating performances since the middle of October led to a good many supporters becoming critical of Ilkeston FC's youth policy.

The IFCSG as a body is not in a position to question the route the club is taking on the pitch although each and every one of us has our opinions. These opinions seem to be split into 4 camps: those who feel that the best way to ensure that the club is sustainable is to develop young players through the ranks; those who believe the club cannot progress in a tough league whilst so reliant on young players; those who will judge the success of the youth policy at the end of 2015/16 when the much discussed 5-year plan will have reached maturity; and those who are happy just to have football on their doorstep again when all seemed lost less than 4 years ago.

The IFCSG committee is reflective of supporter's opinion with different members expressing different views. But what I will say is this. Dave Mantle is not about to change his policy just because a significant number of supporters disagree with it. That the club was going to go young was made crystal clear to us all from day one, and to blame last season's results entirely on the youth policy is misguided. Too many of our senior players failed to live up to past reputations, whilst many of the younger players grew in stature in line with the greater experience they were getting. Unfortunately, this was not enough to prevent deterioration of fortunes on the pitch and one can only hope that the youngsters will emerge next season as better players because of the experience. It isn't too surprising, therefore, that gates dropped by 10.5%. On the other hand, the IFCSG had a much more successful time during the past 12 months and membership grew by the same amount as attendances that had fallen. As our treasurer Darren Jones will reveal shortly, income rose significantly and we now have close to five-figures in the bank. The new tannoy fundraising initiatives kicked off six months ago and thanks to the efforts of people like Lynda Bacon and Keith Windley, and your generous support, around £1,000 has been raised already.

We can, however, improve our cost control to maximise the amount of funds raised, in particular in relation to away travel. The buses do not come cheaply and without the generosity of John Hendy, who donated money to help us with this during the past three years, they would be costlier still. I would like to place on record my thanks to John. But we can no longer rely on John's aid going forward, so with this in mind, we will spend the summer looking for the best possible deals local coach companies can provide. It is at the heart of our thinking that we give supporters affordable and comfortable transportation to away games and we intend to keep prices as they are for the next twelve months. To do this, we do need every member to be fair. Too many times individuals have asked us to reserve them a seat only to not turn up on the day. When only one bus is booked, this is not much of an issue, but there have been occasions when demand suggested that we run additional buses. On one occasion we did this only to find that only enough people to fill one bus actually boarded. This caused a significant dent in our expenditure and we have had to make the decision that serial offenders will need to pay in advance in future in order to reserve their seat.

Another successful venture undertaken during the past year was the campaign for greater pedestrian safety outside the NMG. The support of Catherine Atkinson, who will be standing for Parliament this time, next year, was instrumental in persuading Derbyshire County Council to earmark £30,000 to improve access and reduce speed limits. The petition, signed by so many of you, helped to convince Catherine to back our cause and I would like to thank you for supporting it. We hope to see work underway before too long.

Finally, I would like to advise you all that it will be possible to renew your membership for 2014-15 following this meeting. Membership cards are not available tonight, simply because the benefits of being a member in relation to Ilkeston FC have yet to be agreed with Dave Mantle, but we fully expect to have the cards ready for the pre-season friendlies. Needless to say, we are pushing to make sure that IFCSG members are recognised by the club for their loyalty and should be rewarded accordingly as has happened in the past.

However, being a member of the IFCSG is not really about getting deals out of the football club. It is about contributing to the future wellbeing of football in our town. The owner will not be around forever, just like Paul Millership before him, and we have to be ready for when the time comes. Let's hope the time when Dave departs the NMG will be a long way down the line.

Thank you all again for your support.
Duncan Payne

ILKESTON FOOTBALL CLUB SUPPORTERS GROUP
Income and Expenditure Account
Year to 30th April 2014

	2014	2013	Variance
Income			
Bus Travel	11,070	8,695	2,105
Prediction Sheets	1,920	3,175	(1,255)
Memberships	877	824	53
Sales	966	727	239
Race Night	414	431	(17)
Donations	180	335	(155)
Easy Fundraising	152	165	(13)
Bucket Collections	177	0	177
	<u>15,756</u>	<u>14,622</u>	<u>1,134</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Bus Travel	11,900	11,140	760
Purchases	444	1,029	(585)
Player Sponsorship	144	180	(36)
Sundries	34	56	(22)
Insurance	58	57	1
Trophies	47	55	(8)
100 Club	48	48	-
Market Stall Fees	20	37	(17)
	<u>12,695</u>	<u>12,602</u>	<u>93</u>
Profit for the year	<u>3,061</u>	<u>2,020</u>	<u>1,041</u>
Accumulated Profit b/f	6,517	4,497	2,020
Working Capital	<u>9,578</u>	<u>6,517</u>	<u>3,061</u>
Represented by			
Bank Balance	9,578	6,517	3,061
	<u>9,578</u>	<u>6,517</u>	<u>3,061</u>
Ring fenced for Tannoy System	591		
Working Capital	8,987		
	<u>9,578</u>		

Secretary's Report to the Annual General Meeting of the Ilkeston Football Club Supporters Group held on Wednesday 14th May 2014 at the New Manor Ground Ilkeston

The committee generally meets on a monthly basis. During the year since the second AGM on 22nd May 2013 the committee has held nine meetings in total with the last being on Wednesday 7th May 2014. Most meetings have been held at The Little Acorn on Awsworth Road. I would like to record my thanks to the landlady for her hospitality and for letting us use the room for no charge. This is currently the preferred venue for committee meetings, but we do and will in future, occasionally meet at other venues.

We will continue to work with the football club to arrange fans forum meetings when the manager and other club representatives can make statements about the clubs progress and answer questions from supporters. It is important to note that given the commercial position of the football club, not all items discussed at the committee's own meetings with the football club can be published. We as a committee respect the wishes of the club in such matters and hope that other supporters do so as well.

During the year two committee members, Mike Needham and Tracy Spitzmuller resigned, however in the meantime Kevin Cross was co-opted and volunteered to help with committee business.

You will be aware that the constitution requires all committee members to resign and stand for re-election (should they choose to do so) for the forthcoming year. Therefore, I'd like to ask those members of the committee who wish to stand for re-election state so for the minutes and also, should any other members of the Group wish to stand to become a member to indicate their intentions now and also, should any member of the Group wish to make any other nominations please only do so only if the nominee is aware and agree with being nominated.

**Duncan Lapping
IFCSG – Secretary
14th May 2014**