



Minutes of the meeting of the committee of Ilkeston Football Club Supporters Group held at The New Manor Ground on Wednesday 24th June 2015 at 8.00pm.

Present: Duncan Payne, Darren Jones, Duncan Lapping, Jon Shapland; Lynda Bacon, John Attewell, Alex Middleton, Lee Francis, Keith Windley, Roger Brown, David Potter

Representing Ilkeston FC: Nigel Harrop; Andrew Raisin; Craig Lomax; Declan Harrop

Action

60/15	<u>Introductions and Apologies</u>	
	Apologies were received from Kevin Cross and Diane Hall.	
61/15	<u>Minutes of meeting held on 13th May 2015</u>	
	The draft minutes of the last meeting were noted. An adjustment was agreed with regard to minute 58/15 (ii) concerning member behaviour on away travel buses. It was agreed that the Group Secretary (DL) should write to the member concerned to advise them of the committee's decision. Thereafter, the minutes were agreed and approved by the Chairman.	
62/15	<u>Discussion with officials of Ilkeston FC</u>	
	The Chairman welcomed Nigel Harrop and his colleagues from the football club. A number of questions were asked by The Chairman and other members of the committee. The discussion with the football club representatives is summarised in an appendix to these minutes. The Chairman completed this discussion session by thanking Nigel and his colleagues for giving up their time to meet with the committee and for answering all the questions put to them.	
63/15	<u>Matters arising and action points from meeting held on 13th May 2015</u>	
(i)	Footbridge over the canal - KW advised he had spoken to the wife of Patrick McCloughlin (MP), the Government Transport Secretary to discuss the proposal and invite him to a game. Due to current Government business commitments, he would be unlikely to be able to take up the committee's invitation.	

	<p>(ii) It was noted that six members had completed renewals after the AGM.</p> <p>(iii) The main launch for membership renewal and applications for new members to the Group will take place at the first pre-season friendly against Peterborough United on 11th July 2015.</p> <p>(iv) Membership numbering system – After an explanation from JS and some further discussion, DL proposed that the Group change from a retained membership number system to an annual membership number system. The proposal was agreed by a majority of those present.</p>	DJ
68/15	<u>Website and Media Report</u>	
	<p>(i) LF reported on website and media activity as follows; Easy fundraising - £823.78 raised to date. IFCSG Website: Facebook likes – 215; Twitter followers – 289.</p> <p>(ii) The Flying Robin – the next edition will be published on 11th July 2015.</p>	
69/15	<u>Future Meetings</u>	
	<p>DL had previously emailed a schedule of meetings for 2015 which can be confirmed as follows: 22nd July; 26th August; 23rd September; 21st October; 25th November; 16th December. All dates are Wednesdays and all meetings are scheduled to start at 8pm and be held in the sponsors lounge at the NMG. It must be noted that the schedule may be subject to change and that additional meetings may be added to account for other projects, for example the annual raise night, or the proposed end of season awards event.</p>	ALL
70/15	<u>Any Other Business</u>	
	The were no items of further business brought forward	
71/15	<u>Date, time & venue of next meeting</u>	
	The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 22 nd July 2015 at 8pm in the Sponsors Lounge at the NMG.	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11:15pm

ACTION POINTS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 24th July 2015

Minute:	Action:	By Whom:	By When:	Comments:
63/15 (ii)	Ensure future fundraising initiatives with third parties are subject to a 50/50 split with the supplier and the Group.	All	Ongoing	
63/15 (vi)	Write to the member concerned to advice that they are banned from the Groups away travel service.	DL	10/07/15	
63/15 (vii)	Proceed to complete procurement of Roller Banner.	LF	Immediately	
64/15 (i)	Prepare a report on the AGM to be posted on the website.	DL	22/07/15	
64/15 (ii)	Updated minutes of previous meetings into pdf format so that they can be posted onto the website	DL	31/07/15	
66/15 (i)	Proceed with tender process for appointment of a bus company for the 2015/16 season.	LB	Ongoing	
66/15 (ii)	Arrange travel to away pre-season friendlies via ad-hoc bookings subject to demand	LB	Immediately	
67/15 (i)	Proceed with duties for role of Membership Secretary	DJ	Immediately	
67/15 (iv)	Adopt annual Membership numbering system for 2015/16	DJ	Immediately	
69/15	Note schedule for future meetings	All	Immediately	

Appendix to the Minutes of the meeting of the committee of Ilkeston Football Club Supporters Group held at The New Manor Ground on Wednesday 24th June 2015 at 8.00pm.

Question, Answer and Discussion session with representatives of Ilkeston FC

1. Admission price for 2015/16:

Nigel Harrop (NH) was thanked for the decision to reduce admission prices.

NH commented that he wants to make the football more affordable and to attract more supporters and hopes to see gates increase. He'd like to see average gates at around 600. He wanted to reduce the price to £5 but the league committee set the minimum price at £6 at their AGM.

NH went on to explain that gate receipts are not critical to the clubs finances, but an increase in the number of supporters may be critical to assist the clubs success.

Significant income streams come from the academy/education facility and the rent on the lease for the club house.

Craig Lomax (CL) handed out posters (A4 & A3) to the committee with a request to circulate & display them wherever possible.

A question was asked about the retention of gate receipts. Andrew Raisin (AR) advised that the club keeps home league fixture receipts but FA Cup fixture receipts are shared. Also, prices for Cup competitions are set by the local FA or for the FA Trophy/Cup, by the national FA.

NH stated that the club will be looking to maintain the promotion of the 'Affordable Football' initiative by regular publicity.

2. The Club Shop:

A question was about stock for the club shop. It was stated that the intention was to keep it well stocked and the supporters were asked for suggestions for new lines. Immediate ideas included; stationary (pens, rulers, erasers etc...) and back packs.

3. 50/50 tickets:

NH asked if the committee could look for volunteers to sell 50/50 tickets as was the case in previous seasons. The committee agreed to do this.

4. Publicity for up-coming fixtures:

The club officials were asked if they would be producing regular posters for fixtures through the season. It was confirmed that this would be the case.

5. End of season event:

It was stated that the club are keen to work with the IFCSG to arrange an end of season awards night.

6. Visit to Whitby?

Andrew Raisin (AR) confirmed that it was not possible to request particular dates for particular fixtures; overall the league fixtures are set by the league. Clubs can request for a local derby on a bank holiday and this has been done. The club has requested fixtures with Mickleover Sports on bank holidays.

7. Will home 'mid-week' fixtures continue in Mondays?

Yes!

8. Privileges for IFCSG members:

It was confirmed that the football club is giving consideration to privileges that would be available to IFCSG members

9. Will IFCSG members get priority for 'big' games?
Yes, as previously priority at all ticket fixtures will be given to season ticket holders and IFCSG members.
10. Fans Forum:
It was agreed that a fans forum could be organised after Gavin Strachan's presentation night and once the season is in progress.
11. Supporters Representation:
NH advised that this *may* be an option at some future time, but not at the moment.
12. Ambitions and further investment:
NH advised that further investment was not required at the moment. But he is aiming to take the club to at least the highest level of non-league football and he acknowledged that to do so would need significant investment in both the NMG and players. He stated that he has a plan to be implemented with success, that would achieve these aims.
13. IFCSG information leaflets:
A comment was made about the success of the IFCSG leafleting exercise on the turnstiles during last season. It was agreed that the club could allow this to occur again through the season to help with publicising the Group's activities etc...
14. Match day programme
Declan Harrop (DH) advised the committee that the club would be producing a match day programme along-side the Robins Monthly magazine. The editorial of the magazine would be expanded to cover non-football articles.
15. IFCSG Race Night:
It was agreed the club representatives would be present at the next race night.
16. Other teams:
It was reported that the club would be running an under 21's team (as reserves) and under 19's (development squad) who would play on Wednesday afternoons.
17. Charity Golf Day
The football club will be participating in a charity golf event at Morley Hayes in aid of Autism Awareness on Thursday 27th August 2015. The cost is £55 per player. NH would welcome a supporter's team (played in fours) and/or a players & supporters team (two of each). Alternatively, the football club would welcome a sponsorship contribution from supporters if none came forward to play.
18. Bedworth United Home Friendly:
The supporters were asked for ideas on activities to promote the event as a free family fun day. Activity suggestions such as bouncy castles and face painting were made along with ideas such as raffles for match day tickets and the chance to take half time penalties in a 'big' game e.g. higher round FA Cup game.
19. What can supporters do?
Turn out to support the club and make plenty of noise, especially at home games. NH specifically asked for help with lodgings for young players who would be moving to the area to play for IFC.