



**Minutes of the meeting of the committee of Ilkeston Football Club Supporters Group held at The New Manor Ground on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at 7.30pm.**

Present: Duncan Payne, Darren Jones, Lee Francis Jon Shapland; Lynda Bacon, Alex Middleton, David Potter, Wayne Morledge, Keith Windley and Roger Brown

Representing Ilkeston FC: Andrew Raisin

**Action**

94/15	<b><u>Introductions and Apologies</u></b>	
	<p>Andrew Raisin (AR) was welcomed to the meeting to comment on and discuss matters relating to Ilkeston Football Club (IFC). In addition to information provided by AR, a number of questions were asked by The Chairman and other members of the committee. The discussion with AR is summarised in an appendix to these minutes. The Chairman completed this discussion session by thanking AR for giving up his time to meet with the committee and for answering all the questions put to him.</p> <p>Apologies were received from David Potter, John Attewell, Duncan Lapping, Kevin Cross, Diane Hall.</p>	
95/15	<b><u>Minutes of meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2015 and matters arising</u></b>	
(i)	<p>The minutes of the last meeting were noted and agreed and approved by the Chairman .</p>	
(ii)	<p><u>Matters arising:</u>  <b>86/15 (i)</b> Meeting was arranged with Andrew Raisin representing IFC.  <b>91/15 (vi)</b> Race Night: No problems reported at this stage. Updates on sponsors are ongoing. Prizes for the table discussed as a way to contributing towards the night. DJ to invoice all businesses.  <b>91/15 (vii)</b> Poster updated on 16<sup>th</sup> September  <b>91/15 (viii)</b> Involvement of IFC players? JA to confirm at next meeting.  <b>92/15 (i)</b> Beard shaving raffle: JS needs to choose a charity.(Likely to be Alfie Smith). Six week timescale. A flyer will be done for JS to promote this charity event.  <b>92/15 (ii)</b> Badge – action completed.  <b>92/15 (iii)</b> New quotation for tannoy system. (70% grant up-to the value of £20K).</p>	

<b>96/15</b>	<b><u>Away Travel Report</u></b>	
	<p>A current surplus of £68 was reported on bus travel.</p> <p>LB also reported on the position for forthcoming trips as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marine Coach - full;</li> <li>• Whitby (21 names so far);</li> <li>• Salford City (Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October) - full</li> <li>• Stamford (Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October) - might struggle to fill a coach for this midweek fixture.</li> <li>• Cambridge City (31<sup>st</sup> October – 10 seats left – at present).</li> </ul> <p>LB will confirm bus travel times &amp; pickup points to The Chairman (DP) by 25<sup>th</sup> September for publication in the next TFR on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.</p>	<b>LB/DP</b>
<b>97/15</b>	<b><u>Treasurers Report</u></b>	
	<p>DJ circulated a report to those present to confirm the current position.</p> <p>DJ advised on the intention for future reports to be supplied in advance of meetings so questions can be raised and answered during the meetings.</p>	<b>DJ</b>
<b>98/15</b>	<b><u>Membership Report</u></b>	
	<p>DJ circulated a report to those present to confirm the current position.</p>	
<b>99/15</b>	<b><u>Website/Media Report</u></b>	
	<p>It was reported that the Group has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 351 Twitter Followers</li> <li>• 228 Facebook likes</li> <li>• £847.47 has been raised through Easy fundraising</li> </ul> <p>It was also noted that the Prediction Sheet needs to be upload onto website. The TFR printer is to design them, They will then be delivered to LB.</p>	<b>DP/LB</b>
<b>100/15</b>	<b><u>Race Night 2015</u></b>	
	<p>JS reported that Race Night posters had been printed for LB.</p> <p>There nothing further to add to the requirements discussed at the last meeting.</p>	

101/15	<b><u>Any Other Business</u></b>	
(i)	<p><u>Committee Membership:</u> The Chairman (DP) commented on JA's resignation by email. JA had joined the committee to help to act as a bridge between the Group and IFC but he now feels as if not everyone on the committee feels the same way. The Chairman advised that he does not intend to accept JA's resignation immediately but will give it 24 hours before responding to ask him to re-consider. He added that JA is a very important member of the committee. He sits between the IFCSG and IFC and offers perspective and his advice on how he feels the relationship can be maintained and enhanced. Everyone present agreed.</p>	DP
(ii)	<p><u>Matlock Town Incident:</u> After discussion of the incident it was agreed that the Chairman will draft a letter of response to Matlock Town FC on behalf of the supporters of IFC. It was agreed to wait for Craig Lomax to return from holiday so that any photos he may have can be studied. It was agreed that the Committee's position will be to stick to facts without any subjective issues to deflect attention from the facts. The intention is to remain matter of fact and clear the name of the supporter allegedly involved and fellow fans. The supporter concerned will be contacted about the letter to be written.</p>	DP
102/15	<b><u>Date, time &amp; venue of next meeting</u></b>	
	The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2015 at 8pm in the Sponsors Lounge at the NMG.	

**ACTION POINTS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 16<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

<b>Minute:</b>	<b>Action:</b>	<b>By Whom:</b>	<b>By When:</b>	<b>Comments:</b>
<b>96/15</b>	LB will confirm bus travel times & pickup points to The Chairman (DP) for publication in the next TFR on Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October.	<b>LB/DP</b>	25/09/15	
<b>97/15</b>	Future reports to be supplied in advance of meetings so questions can be raised and answered during the meetings.	<b>DJ</b>	19/10/15	
<b>99/15</b>	(i) The TFR printer is to design the prediction sheet. them, (ii) Upload onto website. (iii) Delivered to LB for circulation.	<b>LB/DP</b>	30/09/15	
<b>101/15 (i)</b>	Contact JA regarding resignation	<b>DP</b>	18/09/15	
<b>101/15 (ii)</b>	Draft letter to Matlock Town FC re: alleged incident on 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2015	<b>DP</b>	30/09/15	

**Appendix to the Minutes of the meeting of the committee of Ilkeston Football Club Supporters Group held at The New Manor Ground on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at 7.30pm.**

**Question, Answer and Discussion session with Andrew Raisin (AR) from Ilkeston FC**

AR opened with a comment on remarks made towards Nigel Harrop (NH). The view expressed was that there should be no us and them. AR suggested he be the go between fans and club forthwith.

1. How does the club feel the affordable football is working?

AR explained that the 'Affordable football' idea is based on the German pricing structure. He confirmed that no difference was found with attendances for the August fixtures when many were still on holiday. He accepted that it hasn't been promoted enough due to stretched resources and that there is more the club can do. If everyone just bought one person with them, then attendances would improve. Prices will be kept low for the FA Trophy (as was with the FA Cup). Match arrangement are made between clubs in a cup match and if they are agreeable they can proceed. As a result, over £300 was spent on Rugby's travel.

Schools will be targeted. IFC is a Charter Standard Club. Free kit will be given out by the club.

If there is an afternoon free for a player and manager to visit a school, JS volunteered to attend to represent the IFCSG. AR advised that arrangements are made for Gavin Strachan (GS) to give a talk at St John Houghton School.

2. Robins Monthly and Match day programme:

AR advised that Declan Harrop (DH) is now a director of the company but also works extremely hard on his media responsibilities. Last season, the programme lost money due to printing costs. Fewer people want to advertise in the programme. Also sales were less than 100 (on a 400 gate). The magazine was seen as the way forward. League sponsors have strict guidelines on their adverts and the quantity could quadruple with the magazine as opposed to the programme. Magazine sales can be higher as newsagents, hospitals, local businesses etc.. can sell the mag. A new issue of the Robins Monthly will be published soon.

However, a new machine bought to print programmes. Eighty are produced for each game but more can be printed on demand. It's accepted that the programme is a bare basic production and the price is under review. There has been a good uptake in adverts that aren't just in the Ilkeston area. DH has had issues with artwork from suppliers that he is looking to resolve to improve the programmes appearance.

3. Matlock Town Investigation.

There was a discussion between those present about the allegation that a supporter spat at a Matlock player.

In summary, it is understood that the supporter concerned doesn't want to take the matter further. The IFCSG committee has accepted this, but felt that IFC should be aware that it is still prepared to write to the local press and the national 'Non-League Paper' (who published articles about the allegation), subject to the supporter involved giving his consent.

4. Latest on the new kit?

AR has discussed this with NH who is frustrated with the supplier 'Joma'. However, deliveries are expected within the next fortnight. Pre orders will be fulfilled before general sales.

Other merchandise?

There are no pin badges left, so will more be ordered? More hats? More gloves?

5. Kicking towards The Clocktower first?

It was asked if there was a reason for this? AR advised that it was not a conclusive decision. He did comment that he has noted that atmospheres around many grounds are more muted these days.

6. Match highlights.

WM asked if there could be an extension to match highlights posted on Ilkeston TV. AR advised that the manager, Gavin Strachan doesn't want some aspects of games to be shown.

7. End of season presentation night

AR was asked to talk to NH regarding end of season presentation night. It's project that needs a long lead in and by Christmas we need to have plans confirmed.

He agreed to follow up this enquiry.

8. Fixture changes:

JS asked about fixture changes due being out of the FA Cup

AR advised that no changes had been planned, yet.

9. General comments.

9.1 AR said he would never respond to hearsay and comments on the Forum, Twitter etc...

However, he would be available for future meetings to spend an hour with the committee.

9.2 It was confirmed that an independent company will be asked to quote on new tannoy system.

In summary the committee Chairman (DP) thanked AR for his time and comments and further stated that we will always be supportive of the football club.