



**Minutes of the Fifth Annual General Meeting of the Ilkeston Football Club Supporters Group to be held at New Manor Ground Club House, Ilkeston on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

**Present:** Committee Post Holders - Duncan Payne – Chairman; Darren Jones – Treasurer; Duncan Lapping – Secretary; Lee Francis - Website Administrator/Media Relations Officer; Lynda Bacon – Travel Secretary.

Committee Members and Co-optee’s - Alex Middleton; Billy Booth; Liam Attwood; Tony Booth; Steve Attwood; Roger Brown; Keith Windley

Other members of the Group – 30

<b>1</b>	<b>Introductions and Apologies</b>
	Duncan Payne (DP) introduced himself as Chairman of the Group and proceeded to introduce the other post holders and committee members who were present. Apologies were received from Jon Shapland, Kevin Cross, Wayne Morledge and Diane Hall (Committee Members and Co-optee’s).
<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes of the Meeting of the Second AGM on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015</b>
	The minutes of the fourth AGM held on 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2015 were proposed by David Potter and seconded by Paul Skillington as a true record of the meeting. The minutes were accepted as agreed and signed off by the Chairman.
<b>3</b>	<b>Chairman’s Report</b>
	DP presented his report to the meeting a copy of which is appended to these minutes.
<b>4</b>	<b>Secretary’s report</b>
	Duncan Lapping (DL) presented his report to the Group. A copy of the report is appended to these minutes.
<b>5</b>	<b>Treasurers report and presentation of accounts</b>
	Darren Jones (DJ) presented the accounts for the year to 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2016 and advised the Group of some of the key points arising from them. A copy of the Income and Expenditure report is appended to these minutes. In summary, the Group accumulated a surplus of £3,803 during the last year and has now accumulated total funds of £15,060. After asking for any questions or comments it was proposed that the accounts be accepted by Keith Windley. The proposal was seconded by Steve Attwood and the accounts were duly accepted.

<b>6</b>	<b>Membership Secretary's Report</b>
	DJ presented the Membership Secretary report and confirmed that the Group had 182 members made up of 160 adults and 21 juniors and 1 honorary membership.
<b>7</b>	<b>Website Administrator/Media Relations Officer report</b>
	Lee Francis (LF) presented his report to the Group. A copy of the report is appended to these minutes and key points are summarised as follows: Website views: 2013: <b>7,899</b> ; 2014: <b>11,593</b> ; 2015: <b>16,356</b> ; 2016: <b>4,744 (to date)</b> ; Twitter Followers: <b>385</b> ; Facebook Likes: <b>243</b> ; Easyfundraising: <b>43</b> Members; Donations: <b>£933.98</b> .
<b>8</b>	<b>Report and Proposal on the future management of the Groups Funds</b>
	DL circulated a report to all present with regard to the future management of the Groups funds. In summary, it was proposed that the funds be transferred to a multi-signatory bank account with the signatories being nominees of the main body of the Group. The intention being to offer the protection that a multi-signatory account would give to the accumulated Group funds. After some debate amongst all present, no other members came forward to propose that the recommendations of the report be accepted. Therefore, it was agreed that the committee would review the proposal and refer back to the membership at a future time with an amended proposal.
<b>9</b>	<b>Report and Proposal on constitutional amendments</b>
	At the AGM held on 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2015 it was proposed to amend the voting regulations to allow for nominations for committee member and officer roles to be made from the floor of the AGM. At the Group committee meeting held on 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2016 it was proposed that the membership period be regularised to a fixed period from 1 <sup>st</sup> June to 31 <sup>st</sup> May of each year. The proposed amendments to clauses 13 and 15 of the IFCSG constitution were noted on a report prepared by DL and circulated to all present. A copy of the report is appended to these minutes. The contents of the report were noted. Paul Skillington proposed that the amendments be accepted, with the proposal being seconded by Chris Rix. No objections were raised and the amendments were duly approved.
<b>10</b>	<b>Election of Officers and further members for 2016/17</b>
	In accordance with the Group's constitution all committee members duly tendered their resignations. All former committee members with the exceptions of Duncan Lapping and Lynda Bacon offered themselves for re-election. Paul Skillington acted from the floor to nominate all the former committee members wishing to stand, to their former posts. All nominations were seconded by Chris Rix. All former committee members wishing to stand were therefore re-elected unchallenged to their former posts. Liam Attwood and Billy Booth volunteered to take on the role of Travel Secretary. No other Group members came forward to challenge them and so

	<p>they were duly elected to the role of Travel Secretary. There were no nominations or volunteers for the role of Secretary so the post will remain vacant until further notice.</p> <p>The new committee was noted as being made up as follows:  Chairman – Duncan Payne; Secretary – Vacant; Treasurer – Darren Jones; Membership Secretary – Darren Jones; Website Administrator/Media Relations Officer – Lee Francis; Travel Secretary – Liam Attwood and Billy Booth; Committee Members – Lynda Bacon; Duncan Lapping; Alex Middleton; Jon Shapland; Kevin Cross; Keith Windley; Roger Brown; Tony Booth and Steve Attwood.</p>
<b>11.</b>	<b>Membership Fees for 2016/17</b>
	<p>The Chairman (DP) reminded members that the membership fees had been fixed at £5 for adults and £1 for juniors since the inception of the Group in January 2011. He then presented three options for membership fees for 2016/17;</p> <p>(i) To be kept at the 2015/16 rate of £5 for adults and £1 for juniors.  (ii) Increase to £7 for adults and £3 for juniors  (iii) Increase to £10 for adults and £5 for juniors</p> <p>After some debate it was agreed that membership fees be kept at £5 for adults and £1 for juniors with the option for members to make additional donations on paying for membership. The number and value of donations would be monitored to feedback at the next AGM.</p> <p>The proposal was proposed by Paul Skillington and seconded by David Potter and approved following a unanimous show of hands.</p>
<b>12.</b>	<b>Any other business</b>
<b>12.1</b>	<b>Comments and Questions from the floor:</b>
	<p>One proposal was noted as follows:  Can arrangement be made for a trip to the non-league finals day at Wembley in May 2017.</p> <p>It was noted that this would entail the need to establish that the Group could purchase a block of tickets and a bus in advance</p> <p>It was agreed that the new Travel Secretaries would investigate and report back to members via the Group website and word of mouth the supporters at matches.</p>

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.30pm

## **Chairmans Report to the Annual General Meeting of the Ilkeston Football Club Supporters Group held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at the New Manor Ground Ilkeston**

Before writing my report for 2015-16 and my vision for the Group going forward, I took the liberty of reading the report I produced last year. So much has happened during the past 12 months that I felt it necessary to take stock and revisit where we were in May 2015.

First and foremost, Nigel Harrop had only been the owner for a couple of months. He had already come in for criticism from a few supporters but the Supporters Group committee were determined to give him a chance and felt that it was too early to pass judgement. For over a year, dialog between the club and the IFCSG had been at best sporadic, and at times particularly unconstructive. But one month into Harrop's reign, he informed us that he was very keen to restore relations and have regular dialog with us. He also made it clear that he would be open with supporters. These comments were very welcome and we felt that there was a basis for us to work closely with him to the benefit of the club and the fans.

That was a year ago. How times and attitudes change. Apart from a chance meeting in Tesco's in March, Nigel hasn't spoken to me since September. And quite frankly, given what happened in August, perhaps that is a good thing. Cast your minds back, the eve of a new season, and the non-arrival of a brand new home kit.

Some fans were disgruntled that the new shirts hadn't arrived and when we met with Nigel Harrop in August, we asked if there was a reason behind the delay. Moreover, in the spirit of the new working relationship, we suggested that the IFCSG would pay for the order of shirts and keep the money generated from the sales until break-even levels had been reached, whereupon the club would take the money from future sales. In other words, the new shirts wouldn't cost the club a penny so they were in a no-lose situation.

Harrop's response was unequivocal. The order had been placed and paid for and the delay was down purely to the suppliers. I took him at his word and publicly defended him on the forums, after he had borne the brunt of criticism for the lack of new shirts on sale. It is something I regret deeply to this very day. Two months later, he admitted in an interview with Mark Duffy that short-term cash flow issues had been the real reason for the elusive new kit. At a stroke, however trivial it may seem, it had broken the bond of trust. If he could mislead the IFCSG committee about something as benign as that, what more far serious issues was he capable of misleading us about? And what made it so galling was that we were trying to help him out.

Since then, far more important issues than home shirts have befallen the club, ones that worried the hell out of me and I'm sure most, if not all, of you have felt similarly concerned. The release of most of the first-team squad in February and the subsequent allegations by some employees past and present that their wages were not being paid on time, really set the alarm bells ringing.

The alarm really was a wakeup call. For the past few years I had smugly viewed our accounts, patting myself and my colleagues on the back, as we'd announce annual profits of between £3 and 4K per annum. And yes, it was a nice little sum which was coming in. Darren Jones, our treasurer, will be going into detail about our performance over the last 12 months and you can expect to hear a very similar set of results.

But although we now have close to £19K in our account at present, what the past couple of months have taught me all-too-painfully is that that amount of money is nowhere near enough to ensure the survival of OUR club, even on a short-term basis.

If you honour me with the opportunity to remain as your Chairman for the next 12 months, I would like you all to remain behind once the formalities are over this evening. It is important that myself and the rest of the committee are clear about what our objectives as a Group should be going forward. It is also vitally important that we should continue to grow our funds but at a more rapid rate. Your views on these matters will be fully taken on board. The club may not be listening – or answering – when it comes to your concerns but I am determined that no one can ever accuse your committee of following suit.

I would like to thank all of the committee for their unceasing dedication, giving up scores of hours of their free time on our behalf, simply because they care about our football. To people like Keith Windley who has raised close to £1K for the Group with his car boot sales. To people like Lee Francis who has made certain that the IFCSG is gaining greater awareness throughout the

community and who has raised valuable income by securing sponsorships. To people like Jon Shapland whose keen bargaining has enabled us to get the best possible deals from coach companies and keep away travel costs to a minimum. To Darren Jones who slams the IFCSG wallet tightly shut should any one of us come up with a cost-prohibitive suggestion to raise fund's. To people like Kevin Cross who gives up time to produce articles for Ilkeston Life, extolling the virtues of the IFCSG away travel and giving us free publicity to 10,000 households. To people like Duncan Lapping who makes sure that the committee plays things by the book and enables our meetings to run smoothly. And, of course, I must mention our Lynda Bacon, an incredible lady who has been the sole reason why we have been able to keep our away travel prices so low for so long. Her tenacity and organisation skills are something we can all learn from. The input from Alex Middleton, Roger Brown, Diane Hall and new recruits Liam and Steven Attwood, and Billy and Tony Booth has also been invaluable and truly appreciated.

My hopes are that, as unlikely it may seem at present, that the next 12 months will see us getting a better relationship with the club. As long as people like Andrew Raisin are on board at the NMG, there is always hope. We will continue to do our bit. We will sponsor a player, we will buy a 100 Club square, and we will continue to raise funds for a new P.A. system. No one will be able to level any criticism at our door. If things go wrong for the club, no one can point fingers at us. We are doing our bit, just as we always have. But now is the time to look after ourselves even more. If we want to safeguard our football future here it's not even an option. It's a necessity.

Duncan Payne  
Chairman IFCSG  
11<sup>th</sup> May 2016

**ILKESTON FOOTBALL CLUB SUPPORTERS GROUP**  
**Income and Expenditure Account**  
**Year to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

	2016	2015	Variance
<b>INCOME</b>			
Bus Travel	11,014	13,565	(2,551)
Prediction Sheets	1,021	1,586	(565)
Football Cards	1,337	1,355	(18)
Tannoy Fund	885	765	120
Memberships	821	747	74
Sales	432	2,168	(1,736)
Race Night	397	351	46
Sponsorships	275	230	45
Easy Fundraising	204	152	52
Donations	55	196	(141)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	16,441	21,115	(4,674)
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Bus Travel	11,950	14,475	(2,525)
Purchases	353	822	(469)
Player Sponsorship	140	144	(4)
Insurance	60	60	0
Trophies	60	9	51
100 Club	50	48	2
Car Parking	0	45	(45)
Telephone	25	30	(5)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	12,638	15,633	(2,995)
<b>Profit for the Year</b>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	3,803	5,482	(1,679)
<b>Accumulated Profit b/f</b>	15,060	9,578	5,482
<b>Working Capital</b>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	18,863	15,060	3,803
<b>Represented by</b>			
Lloyds Bank - Capital	15,374	12,853	2,521
Lloyds Bank - Tannoy Fund	2,989	1,707	1,282
Travel Float	500	500	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	18,863	15,060	3,803

**Secretary's Report to the Annual General Meeting of the Ilkeston Football Club Supporters Group held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at the New Manor Ground Ilkeston**

The committee has continued to meet generally on a monthly basis and during the year since the last AGM on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015 the committee has held ten meetings in total, all of which have been held in the Sponsors Lounge at the NMG, bar one which was held in the Academy classroom. Many of these meetings have been attended by the Secretary of the football club, Andrew Raisin. I would like to record my thanks to Ilkeston Football Club for their hospitality and for letting us use the room for no charge. I do believe that this has allowed us to forge closer links with the football club and the committee have found Andrew's attendance at meetings to be an invaluable point of liaison with the football club. We would hope to maintain the sponsors lounge as the preferred venue for committee meetings for the foreseeable future.

During the year three committee members, John Attewell, David Potter and Diane Hall resigned. However, more recently, Liam Attwood, Billy Booth, Steven Attwood and Tony Booth were co-opted and volunteered to help with committee business.

At the last AGM a commitment was made to publish all minutes of meetings on the Groups website and I am pleased to report that that commitment has been achieved thanks to the technical support and assistance of the Website Administrator, Lee Francis. I also intend to compile a compendium of the minutes of all committee meetings and AGM's held and to provide them to Ilkeston Library to be held in their public records section.

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, the Chairman will in due course hand over the management of the meeting to a member from the floor who can ask those members of the committee who have been nominated and wish to stand for re-election to state so for the minutes and also, any other members of the Group who have been nominated and wish to stand to become an officer or committee member to confirm their intentions accordingly.

I would like to take this opportunity to confirm that I will not be putting myself forward to stand for re-election to the role of Secretary for the Group. I have had the pleasure of being the Group's Secretary since the committee's inception in January 2011. I hope that I have been able to do a good job of serving you as a Supporters Group over the last few years but due to a combination of personal family and work related reasons I can no longer maintain the commitment that the role requires and will stand down from the role with immediate effect. I would like to thank all my fellow committee members past and present for all their help and support during my time as Group Secretary and wish you all the best for success in the future.

Duncan Lapping  
IFCSG – Secretary  
11<sup>th</sup> May 2016

**Website and Media Secretary's Report to the Annual General Meeting of the Ilkeston Football Club Supporters Group held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at the New Manor Ground Ilkeston**

This year has seen the continuation of many media outlets for the Supporters Group. Our website continues to host information on travel, promoting events like the Race Night and most recently, the introduction of Meeting Minutes which are now available to view and download as and when they become available.

Our Facebook and Twitter audiences have grown over the last 12 months and to test the engagement of those who follow and like us, we had 96 voters in a recent poll. The poll was to gauge the price point for a Club Pin Badge which the Supporters Group are looking to source on behalf of the football club and sell in the club shop.

The poll results suggest a price of £3 per badge which will be confirmed when the badges have been manufactured and delivered. These badges will be deemed Official IFC badges and are not IFCSG branded. They will however be of the same quality as our Orange, Blue and Red range which have been sold over recent seasons. I have a copy of the artwork for anyone interested. Come and see me after the meeting closes.

Our Sponsorship deals were renewed for the duration of the 2015-16 season with Erewash Sound and D & N Removals. Both parties had advertising space on our new pull up banner, designed to maximise our presence in the clubhouse on matchday and also on our website. Erewash Sound continue to support us beyond these streams with sponsorship of our Membership cards and weekly Prediction Sheet. We hope to secure this sponsorship for another year and an announcement will be made during the summer.

Following last year's announcement on the Flying Robin publication, we can confirm its monthly existence is no more. With profits dwindling, and the emergence of a new IFC matchday programme, the decision was made to shelf the Fanzine. It is hoped that there will be demand for a yearly TFR publication however, and some of the features of the fanzine will be posted on our website and forum, including Kev's Away Days.

I would like to close with some figures relating to our Website and Media channels.

Website hits have been on the increase:

2013: **7,899**

2014: **11,593**

2015: **16,356**

2016: **4,744** (to date)

Twitter Followers have increased from **280** to **385** (up by 105)

Facebook Likes have increased from **213** to **243** (up by 30)

Easyfundraising members have increased by **3** and total member donations stand at **£933.98**

We hope to promote this venture further this year as this provides an easy source of income at not cost to the group or indeed the member shopping online.

**Lee Francis**

Founder Member and Webmaster of the IFCSG

W: [www.ifcsg.co.uk](http://www.ifcsg.co.uk)

E: [webmaster@ifcsg.co.uk](mailto:webmaster@ifcsg.co.uk)

**Report to the AGM of the Ilkeston Football Club Supporters Group**  
**Held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2016 - The future management of the Groups funds**

1. Since its inception in January 2011, the IFCSG has built up a significant body of funds via a range of sources such as; membership subscriptions; fund raising events (e.g. the annual race night); donations; easyfundraising; football cards and prediction sheets and, more recently, car boot sales attended by Keith Windley and Roger Brown
2. After the demise of Ilkeston Town FC, one of the original aims of the IFCSG was to allow for the option of a new supporter's run football club, should the new/current club face a similar fate to ITFC, or allow for the opportunity to maintain the existing football club in the event of any future financial difficulties.  
In any event, it would be a decision of the whole body of the IFCSG at an EGM or the AGM, on how to invest the accumulated funds should the situation ever arise.
3. In the meantime, the Group committee has had several discussions and made investigations into the ways in which the accumulated funds can be protected to ensure that they remain available for their intended use.
4. Ideally, the funds would be invested in a Supporters Trust. However, it has been established that to do so would take up some of the accumulated funds in legal and other costs. In the event of the need to form a new club, it is likely the formation of a Supporters Trust would be a necessary step at that time, but for the time being it's suggested that the funds be transferred to a multi-signatory bank account with the signatories being nominees of the main body of the Group. In effect, this would offer the protection of a pseudo-trust with-out the full set up costs and administrative regime that a full Supporters Trust would require.
5. **Proposals:**
  - 5.1 It is proposed that seven signatories be put in place with the main rule of the account being that all signatories would be required to release the funds and that they could only do so after a relevant motion has been passed by a majority vote at an AGM or EGM of the IFCSG.
  - 5.2 The signatories would be the post holding members of the Group committee (Chairman; Treasurer; Secretary; Membership Secretary; Travel Secretary and; Website & Media Administrator) along with other members of the Group nominated as required to ensure the necessary number of signatories
  - 5.3 The Group's constitution be amended to reflect the formation of a holding account for the accumulated Group Funds and the rules required for the management of the account.
6. **Recommendation:**  
It is recommended that the proposals be accepted by the AGM and implemented by the Group Committee with an EGM to be held before 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 to review and ratify the implementation of the proposals and to agree proposed amendments to the Group constitution.

Duncan Lapping  
IFCSG – Secretary  
11<sup>th</sup> May 2016

## **Report to the AGM of the Ilkeston Football Club Supporters Group** **Held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2016 - Constitutional Amendments**

1. Further to the AGM held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015 it was proposed to amend the voting regulations to allow for nominations for committee member and officer roles to be made from the floor of the AGM. The proposed amendment to clause 13 of the IFCSG constitution is highlighted as follows:

### **13. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)**

The AGM is a formal meeting that will be held once a year normally in the period between 31<sup>st</sup> March and the 31<sup>st</sup> May of each year or as adjusted by the Committee. The main purpose of the AGM will be to deal with; the election of office bearers and committee members; fix membership fees; present the annual report; presentation of the accounts; and deal with any other relevant business. A copy of the Balance Sheet and an officer/committee member nomination form will normally be sent with the notice of the AGM. Any nominations for officer roles and committee membership must be supported by at least two registered members of the Group and must normally be received in writing by the Secretary no later than five days before the AGM. If however, an officer or committee member stands down permanently at an AGM, then nominations may be received from the floor of the AGM to fill the vacancy at that time.

All officially registered members, will be eligible to vote at the AGM. One vote per member.

It is proposed that the proposed amendment be adopted with immediate effect.

2. Further to Group committee meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2016 it was proposed that the membership period be regularised to a fixed period from 1<sup>st</sup> June to 31<sup>st</sup> May of each year. The proposed amendment to clause 15 of the IFCSG constitution is highlighted as follows:

### **15. SUBSCRIPTIONS**

The annual membership period will run from 1<sup>st</sup> June to 31<sup>st</sup> May of each year. Members can join at any time during the year with the full adult or junior membership fee being due and payable upon application. Membership will not be deemed applicable until the required membership fee is paid.

~~Individual membership annual subscriptions must be paid by 30<sup>th</sup> September each year. Members who have failed to pay their annual subscription by this time will have all voting rights and any benefits of Group membership suspended until payment is made.~~

It is proposed that the proposed amendment be adopted with immediate effect.

Duncan Lapping  
IFCSG – Secretary  
11<sup>th</sup> May 2016