 **CRAWLEY TOWN SUPPORTERS’ ALLIANCE**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES – 7th March 2016.**

**Attendees:** Carol Bates, Mat Cowdrey, Joe Comper, Sue Benn, Sarah Moylan, Simon Smith, Marilyn Loughton.

**1**. **Apologies.**

Dan Charman.

**2**. **Confirmation of Minutes of last meeting and matters arising.**

The Minutes were confirmed as an accurate record of the last meeting. A note that is to be added is that members of the Board remembered Les Turnbull, our President, who sadly passed away. Les was a huge figure in the history of Crawley Town Football Club.

**3**. **Chairman’s Report.**

After issuing the Statement regarding the travel and Tracey Cole’s previous position, we have received emails from TC in response, which objected to points which were not referred to in the Statement and also to advise that legal action will be sought. CB has emailed TC in regards to this and as of yet has received no further action. Gill Courtnell has emailed her feelings and opinions on the matter as has Matt Howlett but no further correspondence has been received after replies were sent and offers to discuss further in person

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The Statement was issued so members were made aware of the current situation.

Members of the Board attended Les Turnbull’s funeral and a donation of £30.00 was made to the Stroke Association. A thank you note has been received.

Our Easter Egg Appeal on behalf of Chestnut Tree House has been launched and Paul Prendergast will be assisting again with the collection and delivery of the eggs.

Runway Radio – CB and JC made an appearance on the Kick Off show a couple of weekends ago which is presented by Al & Branchy (who produce Redz Bar Chat), their show airs on a Saturday from 10am – 2pm.

Our Quiz Night was a great success; some good comments and feedback have been received. We raised a total of £628. Possibly, we are looking to make this an annual event.

**4**. **Travel.**

We had a very productive meeting with Clarkes Coaches. Colin and Richard contacted SM about issues and invited CB, SM & SB to meet for lunch and a chat.

Certain issues were cleared up and we explained why we are struggling with running a coach to every away game. They kindly said that they will help us out when they can with a smaller coach and slightly reduced cost; we just need to call them.

We have spoken to them about Luton. We have 14 booked so far, so they have offered us the 25 seater coach for a reduced price.

It has made the relationship very positive for the new season and they have guaranteed no price increases.

A meeting with the new owner is now an important goal to discuss how we go forward with away travel and to see if the club would be in a position to subsidise or help with travel.

Our proposal for next season is to guarantee offering a coach to every game, to try to increase our fan base home and away, to ensure that it is cost effective and our fans have a reason to travel with the CTSA in terms of benefits they receive.

SS suggested that our new launch will be a good opportunity to invest some of our money. Possibly, offering to purchase a seat on the Board of the football club.

It was unanimously agreed by the Board that we should proceed with an investment.

JC put forward another idea that the money could be used to employ a member of staff to increase the Club’s fan base – an intern or student to work for a season at the Club

For York on Good Friday, we only have 5 booked.

SB to approach MY again with travel idea before end of season. ACTION SB.

**5**. **Community.**

JC reiterated that the Quiz went very well and huge thanks to Sergio Torres. JC and CB appeared on Runway Radio the following day. It might be an idea to discuss working together with Al & Branchy, on the show, to promote the CTSA and its members.

Further discussions with the Community Foundation are taking place to work on the last home game of the season with a Girl’s Football tournament to take place.

Kicks Tournament - Amy recently went to Fulham FC to join in and it as a possibility that Crawley Town FC host one along with Fulham, B&HA and Brentford, using the Stadium.

JC praised the good relationship we now have with the Community which we will continue to uphold and get involved with.

Michael Hulf is hosting his charity football match again this year which will be held at Selhurst Park. The cost of this is quite steep at around £2.5k and to cover the cost he will have to charge £70 per player if they wish to attend. JC has suggested that maybe we can help get some sponsorship deals or raise some money to assist him. MC has contacts at Crystal Palace so will give them a call.

**6**. **Finance.**

We made a profit from the Leyton game which now gives us an overall profit to date of £652.00.

The £1,200 cost for the Portakabin is a drain on our finances and we need to look at another way of selling travel for next season.

We currently have £29,300k in the bank.

**7**. **Membership.**

Our reduced price for members – is it really necessary?

We need to look at members benefits for next season, make it worth their while for joining the CTSA and give them more.

**8**. **Constitution/FSF/SD.**

Final forms are ready to go to the Supporters Direct to get our new rules agreed and registered.

**9. Communications / Website**

An email about what is going on will be sent out by DC in lieu of his absence this evening.

ACTION DC

A meeting with Thad took place with regards to some required work and upkeep of our website, he's quoted £500 with a monthly fee.

A new CTSA logo is in progress, so far Thad has supplied 3 ideas for us to look at. Any ideas and suggestions would be welcomed and discussed over the coming weeks.

MC has volunteered to fund a completely new website in Wordpress. DC to follow up.

ACTION DC

£100 hosting bill from Nexus is to be paid.

A vote is to be taken at our next meeting on the design & layout of our website.

**10. AOB**.

MC – Crawley News refused to run his column recently as they felt he had conflicting opinions on the current finances of the Club.

There being no other business from other Board members the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

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Next meeting – 4th April 2016 – 16 Herrick Close.

13.03.16 - SB