

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **1.0 Welcome**

1.1 Mr Ron Coley welcomed everyone to the meeting

### **2.0 Apologies**

2.1 There were no apologies for absence.

### **3.0 Matters Arising**

3.1 Previous meetings minutes: The previous minutes had been agreed via email and published on the Trust website

### **4.0 Trust communications and website discussion boards**

4.1 In view of the recent postings on Pilgrims Patter, which Boston United Football club Chairman had asserted had forced a major sponsor to withdraw its funding from the football club, a full discussion took place regarding the Patter which is currently hosted by the Supporters' Trust website.

4.2 Resolution: It was proposed and seconded to move the Patter from the supporters trust website where it is currently hosted.

4.3 An amendment was then proposed and seconded to keep the Patter where it is and to agree the form of a disclaimer and set out clearly the message board service usage terms.

4.4 RESOLUTION: It was resolved to maintain the hosting of Pilgrims Patter on the Supporters' trust website so that fans could continue to have their say on the football club on an easily accessible and recognised site.

4.5 Adam Upsall agreed to draft the "message board service usage terms" and distribute for comment. Once agreed, it would form part of the contract for users wishing to post on Pilgrims Patter. To support the compliance of this, more moderators would be identified to ensure suitable and timely policing of the discussion board.

4.6 In more general terms, Mr Coley gave his own thoughts on the speed of today's communications and the use of email and websites. It is clear, he considered that the trust must avoid the temptation to make an immediate response to questions posed to it or statements made by other bodies. There was general agreement, that any official announcement or statement by the Trust should be done in measured fashion, and with ideally full face to face discussion as well as by email/telephone exchange.

4.7 It was also remarked that the percentage of Boston United fans that log onto related websites is likely to be a small proportion of the total fanbase and that the use of local newspapers, radio and printed handouts and fanzines is a more effective form of communication.

## **5.0 Update from the meeting with BUFC on Wednesday 15th March**

5.1 Pat Everitt and Michael Taylor provided an overview their discussions with the football club. They were hosted by Messrs Sotnick, Rodwell, and Allitt and Mrs Pauline Chapman took the minutes.

5.2 The Lavaflow Business Plan supporting the relocation of the football club, which had initially been requested by the Supporters Trust working Group last year and lobbied for by it to Boston Borough Council, was made available for cursory inspection. The business plan runs to several dozen pages, and while the trust representatives welcomed its publication, they were not able to take a copy away at this time in order to fully scrutinize it. It was therefore agreed that until such time as the document is available for detailed consideration, the trust cannot pass useful comment on its contents.

5.3 It was also noted by several members that the statement released by Jon Sotnick after the meeting (and posted on the official club website) had not been jointly agreed by either those present at the meeting or both the respective boards of both Boston United and the Supporters Trust as was to have been the case. This would be taken up with the Football Club as there were several assertions made by in the club's statement which were unfounded at best.

## **6.0 Trust Business Plan**

6.1 Due to time constraints it was agreed to make this the main agenda item of a forthcoming acting board meeting. In the meantime, further work including projected income and expenditure forecasts would be prepared by Mark Isaac.

## **7.0 Planning Applications**

7.1 It was reported that Boston Borough Council are investigating the validity of the planning applications made by Lavaflow Limited in respect of the development proposed off the Boardsides, Boston, as it was believed that only the new stadium had been submitted as a full application, and that the future hotel, restaurant and bars were to be considered as a future separate outline planning application, as no plans or elevations have so far been submitted, by the applicants, for these particular uses.

## **8.0 Update from the Acting officers**

### **8.1 Fundraising**

8.1.1 Melvin Moxon provided a summary of the work he has done to date. Posters advertising the AM-AM golf day on September 1st 2006 were distributed and will be put on the Trust website together with how to enter a team. Melvin also advised that the license registering the trust to run raffles and other events had now been approved by Boston Borough Council. The cost of this was £35 which has been met by Melvin. Thanks were given for the considerable effort that has been undertaken to get this event off the ground.

## **9.0 Any Other Business**

9.1 None

**10.0 Next Meeting**

10.1 The next acting board meeting will take place on the 1st April 2006 prior to the home game against Barnet The venue has yet to be announced.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1.30pm

It is hereby agreed that the above meeting minutes are agreed as being a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed:

BUFCST Chairman

Date