Minutes of Bradford City Supporters Board Meeting

Venue: Microsoft Teams online

Date: Thursday 26/08/2022, meeting commenced at 7.00 pm

In attendance: Ian Taylor (Chairperson), Manny Dominguez, John Barker, Kate Eveleigh, Steve Gorringe, Ryan Sparks (BCAFC), Shaneque Rowe (BCAFC) and Marco Townson (BCAFC).

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from James Molyneux, Adam Baker, Christine Tarren, Wayne Robinson and Keith Taylor.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the 28th July Meeting, having been circulated were accepted as a true and correct record.

3. Matters Arising

The voluntary "Telephone Tree" had received several participant's details; the Chairperson would co-ordinate any further responses.

Steve Gorringe was complimented on the painting of the goal post stanchions.

Fundraising for Supporters Board establishment costs to scheduled as a special meeting.

4. Loyalty Scheme

Ryan Sparks led a question and answer session on the first month's operation of the Loyalty Scheme.

Ryan was asked about the time span for new points to appear on individual accounts; currently this was instantaneous for Away Tickets, but slower for Home Tickets as the third party system regarded these as a "sale in progress". This would be discussed further.

A discussion took place on ticket volumes per band and linking of Bands A+B and C+D. This and other areas identified through the operation of the scheme would be quantified in a survey scheduled to be undertaken prior to Christmas.

5. Update from Working Party Team

There was still a requirement to identify and recruit artists for Concourse murals which had been promoted on our social media channels

6. Update from the Junior Football Initiative Team

This was deferred until the next meeting.

7. Update From the Club

Shaneque Rowe, Administration Manager also Supporter Liaison Officer and Disability Liaison Officer was introduced by Marco Townson and welcomed by the chairperson. Shaneque had weekday responsibilities for the two liaison roles with Mark Hawkstone carrying out these duties on Match Days.

Shaneque would attend all Supporters Board meetings with Marco attending on alternate months.

Season Tickets would not be sold after 31st August.

8. Any Other Business

The Chair asked each of the attendees in turn for subjects and views for discussion, the following subjects were raised:

John Barker raised the lack of items for sale within the ground (other than the Club Shop). Ryan responded that the Commercial Team had been tasked with introducing Concourse sales, commencing with the Kop.

Manny Dominguez requested that a number of seat rows and numbers be repainted to make it easier for supporters to find their seats. These were later identified by Manny as Kop Lower Blocks D and E up to Row Q. Ryan responded that this would be progressed by the maintenance team.

Manny raised provision of drinking water and how supporters could bring their own bottled water into the ground. Marco replied that supporters own bottles (as long as the seal was unbroken) could be brought into the ground and that Stewards are aware.

The issue of car parking was raised and discussed, with changes required following the decision that the barracks car park could only be used if military personnel were on site.

This was notified days before the start of the season and made it untenable to use this car park which was replaced by Midland Road Estate Sawmills. Due to the location of Valley Parade nearby parking, paid or unpaid would always be problematical.

Marco Townson had compiled the geographical data requested earlier and would supply. Steve Gorringe raided difficulties leaving the ground on Tuesday night, compounded by the lack of lighting. Marco would investigate and check if the Kop/Ticket Office external lighting had been switched on.

Steve also raised issues of supporters with tickets identifying their seat being told by stewards that all seating was unreserved.

Ryan and Marco responded that all tickets that displayed a seat number were reserved (the only exception on Tuesday night was for away supporters) and that all stewards would be notified that this was the practice.

The chairperson raised a request to ask the club to contact Keighley Bus Company to request an additional bus to Keighley from Manningham Lane after night matches. Marco would make contact and ask the question.

9. Date of Next Meeting Thursday 29/09/2022, 7.00 pm - Venue TBC

The meeting closed at 7.40 pm.