



Minutes of Bradford City Supporters Board Meeting

Venue: Microsoft Teams

Date: Thursday 29th June 2023, meeting commenced at 7.00 pm

In attendance: Tony Bates (Chair), Christine Tarren, Adam Baker, David May, Jonnie Carrington, Marco Townson (BCAFC), Ryan Sparks (BCAFC), Robert Cranmer (Mental Health Lead)

Apologies for Absence: Wayne Robinson (Vice-Chair), Steve Gorringe, John Barker, Ian Taylor

1. Welcome & Introductions

The Chair welcomed all members present.

2. Mental Health Supporters Group

The group welcomed Robert Cranmer to talk about the work he does leading the Bradford City Mental health Supporters Group. He explained that following the launch of the Mental Health Supporters Group in October 2021 and the work in overcoming the stigma around Mental Health in general, the success of the project has been absolutely incredible and what started out as an idea he had one evening at home has snowballed to where it is today. May I also add how proud and grateful I was to receive the unsung hero award at the POTY awards evening as a result of this!

Referrals were to initially be made through a set form on the official website, however as popularity of the group began to grow he began to have individuals reach out on Twitter and the rest shall we say is history.

From each referral received the aim is to contact them within 2 hours from the point of them reaching out. It may be a matter of 1 phone call and the issue is resolved or they are signposted to their GP or one of the collaborative partners (AMC / Mind) or it's a matter of regular contact on average he has between 20 – 30 people on a rolling contact basis which is made up of either daily, weekly, 2 weekly or monthly calls. This includes frequent contact and counselling support.

As Rob also works full time this can often be challenging and on average he spends 30 – 45 minutes on a call. As the demand has grown the need for a more permanent outreach service has too or role to collaborate the mental health work somehow. The scope is huge and the difference really impactful to peoples lives.

A lengthy discussion then took place regarding how both the Supporters Board and the Club can support the work Rob is doing. We collectively agreed that some kind of communication to fans to not only publicise the great work but see if anyone can provide



assistance to his work in a safe and meaningful way could be a start. Ryan will start that process with asking Lewis Redmond to work with Rob on a shared press release which will form part of a longer strategy to promote the good work and seek volunteers.

3. Review of Minutes/Actions from previous meeting

The Minutes of the 1st June 2023 Meeting, having been circulated were accepted as a true and correct record together with the separate circulated Action Log which forms part of the record of meetings.

4. Updates from the Club not captured on Agenda

Kit Launches, Home kit launch is imminent.

Pre-Season game with Kadima Travel was discussed at length. The Club acted on feedback in the last Supporters Board meeting and as a result in between meetings have led on more targeted and specific information being shared with fans in response to queries and concerns that have arisen. They continue to receive questions and are working closely with the tour provider to respond in a timely manner. There will also be a review after this experience so learning can be taken into future foreign pre-season plans.

5. Questions from Fans (responses in italics):

a. Getting Here section on Club website.

Question from fan regarding sustainable travel information being more prominent on the getting here section of club website. They cited the Bristol City website as a good example. The club will review this and are planning on updating that page in advance of the new season anyway.

6. Working Group Update

Work on painting in the North West Corner continues. Big drive to clean seats in advance of new season will be done nearer pre-season.

7. Any Other Business

The Recent Fans Forum was discussed and welcomed. It was also noted there were a lot more questions this time about on the field topics rather than behind the scenes issues regarding ownership and budgets which could be a sign that as a fan base there are less concerns than in the past.

A short discussion took place regarding the new TV deal for the EFL which does not come into effect until the 24/25 season. This will include a replacement screening services for iFollow. More details will be shared in the future



The date of the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 27th August 2023 via Microsoft Teams

The meeting closed at 8 pm.