

# Berwick Rangers Supporters Trust

(also known as Berwick Rangers Supporters Society Limited)

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## MINUTES

### Meeting of the Society Board

Date: 26/07/08  
Time: 11:30  
Place The Pilot Inn

**PRESENT:** Ian Gregory, Karen Thorburn, Dave Spence, Gordon Dickson, Bill Purvis, Colin Pike, George Thompson, Paul Smith, David Cook. In attendance; John Robertson, Bill Parkin (Supporters Club).

**APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received from Ronald Kirk, Steven Scott and Cameron Waterhouse.

Supporters Club member and new Club Director, John Robertson spoke to the Trust Board and laid out his vision for the future;

- 符 Trust and Board should be singing from the same hymnbook.
- 符 Trust has a good relationship with the Supporters Club, but John realises that there is a different make up to the SC, with different rules and regulations.
- 符 Stated that he was not here to be Chairman of BRFC, just a lifelong supporter who once trained with the seniors as a boy!
- 符 Working with Bill Parkin and the Supporters Club in support of the work with the Club.
- 符 Long term wish is to see assets put back into the Club as there used to be, i.e. The 'Black and Gold.'
- 符 The Club also one owned three houses. It is important to ensure that no assets can be sold in the future.
- 符 Supporters Club to become de facto owner of 'Black and Gold' club. A lot of work needs to be done on the Club to bring it up to operational standard, though some remedial work could be done just to enable it to open.
- 符 Issues of Disability access to be addressed.(B&G)
- 符 Security CCTV to be fitted ASAP and roller shutters controlled from inside.(B&G)
- 符 Vision to see BRFC in first division.
- 符 Drainage system and tanoid need upgraded.
- 符 Need younger people working at the Football Club.

The Trust Board members added that they want to see BRFC a community asset in years to come. Success on the pitch should be our goal, combined with a good ground, etc.

A vote of thanks from the Trust was given to John and Bill for attending and talking frankly.

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOCIETY BOARD HELD ON JULY 1<sup>ST</sup> 2008**

The minutes of the meeting of the Society Board held on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2008 were accepted as a correct record, proposed by George Thompson, seconded by Bill Purvis.

### **MEMBERSHIP SECRETARIES REPORT**

Membership stands at 207, reminder for annual subscription sent out on July 15<sup>th</sup>. A new application from London has been received.

### **TREASURERS REPORT**

Gordon presented a typed income/expenditure report. Costs should now be reduced with the new type audit. We have 3K in assets, mainly in books. Paul is administering the Weather Lottery.

### **EVENTS**

Events sub group are trying to organise a meeting to plan something.

Ground Tour still in planning, watch this space for dates.

Les and Andy inn discussion with Berwick Holiday Camp to organise a race night. 300-400 people could possibly attend a night there. Merchandise and Membership opportunity at this event.

### **BOOKS**

Discussion on when to reduce the books to half price. Mail order forms for book purchases could be sent direct to David Spence to make sure no books are sent late if for a special occasion such as a birthday.

### **COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA**

A new member's e-mail is now going out to anyone who joins and provides e-mail address. Have had replies from these.

David to do a communication on the Race Night.

Website costs are £203 per year. It can take around 100 hours a year to run the site.

Paul will not have the same time in the next year, George and Colin will assist.

Berwick Town FC have apologised for 'stealing' our website, they did mean to ask for assistance in setting their site up.

### **AOB**

a) Colin Pike proposed that allocation of some funds be allowed to upgrade the Duckett gate turnstiles, which will cost around £2,000. Structure would remain, but turnstiles be brought back into operation. The Trust could contribute to this, and float the idea to the Club and Supporters Club for their contribution. The idea was seconded by Paul Smith.

b) A member has brought up the issue of disabled access. The thought is still that this needs looked at as a bigger issue, and a coordinated plan, which needs pulled together.

- c) David Cook raised the subject of the Stewards commitment to professional development, often with no support from the Board. There has been some concern with the walkie talkies they use, particularly with the problem of interference from taxis. If we were to assist with the purchase of new equipment costings would be needed and question of contribution from other bodies which benefit i.e. Speedway. This to be brought back for further consideration.
- d) Stickers for seats which Trust bought have arrived.
- e) Paul brought books of raffle tickets for the main sponsors draw.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Saturday August 30<sup>th</sup> at the Pilot at 11.30am.