

# Berwick Rangers Supporters Trust

(also known as Berwick Rangers Supporters Society Limited)

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## MINUTES

### Meeting of the Society Board

Date: 30/09/08  
Time: 18:30  
Place The Pilot Inn

### **PRESENT**

John Bell (Chair), David Spence, David Cook, Ian Gregory, Bill Purvis, Paul Smith, Colin Pike, Gordon Dickson, Karen Thorburn, Steven Scott.

#### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cameron Waterhouse and Ronald Kirk.

#### **2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOCIETY BOARD HELD ON 30/08/08, DECISION:**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Society Board held on 30/08/08, proposed by John Bell, seconded by Gordon Dickson.

#### **3. MATTERS ARISING**

A letter to the Supporters Club regarding the stickers for the seats has yet to be written, though we have a P.R. opportunity on Saturday when Trust Board members will be photographed in the new seats for the Berwick Advertiser, there could be an opportunity to resolve the issue then. There is an alphabetical Wall of Honour listing donors, but not how much they donated.

#### **4. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARIES REPORT**

Stands at 203, since last AGM we have gained 16 new members and lost 17. Signing up around 1 new member every two weeks.

#### **5. TREASURERS REPORT**

£7,904.20 in bank.

Board at Shielfield and programme advert to pay for. (About £600)

One board member asked how much income we received from subs per month, around £500.

Some discussion followed on the best place to keep money over and above running costs until it is needed. A report to be brought back to next meeting

outlining the options. The AGM date has been confirmed with Colin Frame for Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December.

## **6. EVENTS**

Les and Andy are trying to find an alternative night for a race night after the first date in November was double booked. Co-ordinators need to organise a meeting.

## **7. BOOKS**

3 copies sold at last Saturdays match. David handed board members a written list updating where books are and how many sold in each location. Could possibly sell some at Wooler and Seahouses TIC's as they are staying open for winter. Discussion followed on possible other outlets.

## **8. COMMUNICATION/MEDIA**

Colin continues to put out his e-mail communications, and has received feedback from the communication sent out to new members, mostly praising the good work that the Trust does. Could possibly e-mail new members and ask why they joined the Trust, especially those some distance away. Responses can be fed back to members via the printed newsletter. Paul is taking a members pack and newsletter over to Australia and hopefully we will gain new members from there. Paul also hopes to redesign the newsletter next year to keep it fresh. Match reports that used to go on the website have been missed by members, this to be investigated, to see how/who can restart posting reports.

Newsletter: Deadline is 17<sup>th</sup> November, will be 8 pages, though could be 12 if we include a questionnaire. This could be reproduced with different questions for non-Trust members on the website. A report on this to come back, along with ideas for possible questions, to next meeting.

## **9. A.O.B.**

- a) Discussion on production of 2009 calendar, everyone is still as keen to go ahead and we have possible sponsors, though Gordon has little time at the moment to produce the calendar as photographs etc would have to be sourced. Costs about £250 to produce, can ideally get £600 in sponsorship.
- b) The Board can see challenges ahead for the Club and it is imperative that we keep momentum and enthusiasm going even if events on/off the pitch are trying this. A good relationship with the Supporters Club should be continued to be developed for the benefit of the Club and Fans. Membership continues to grow and most members, particularly new members Ian and Dave have done a lot of good work since they joined.
- c) Members discussed the possibility of having an informal social night – a kind of ‘meet the players’ night, before Christmas. Viability of this to be investigated.
- d) Agreement in principal was given to fund the new radios for the Stewards, the cost being £1,800, hopefully co-funded by the Supporters Club. David Cook to speak to Brian Parkin (Supporters

Club) and Peter Waite to see if speedway would contribute as most football stewards also steward the speedway games.

- e) John Robertson has walked away from the Club after his mistreatment from the Board. This is a shame as the Club has lost someone capable of injecting funds and enthusiasm into the Club.
- f) There are still tickets available for the Gary O'Connor dinner at £30 per head.
- g) Retro Strip – Design is underway, though may be without collar, sample could be available. Aim to have ready by about Easter, or maybe start of next season. Pre-orders could be taken for nostalgic names to be printed on the back.

#### **10. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 11.30 at the Pilot Inn.