



DEE4LIFE TRUST BOARD MEETING – MINUTES

Saturday 24th October 2009 – Centenary Bar, Clepington Road, 11am

Present: Graeme Adam, Bill Brewster, Dave Forbes, Scott Glenday, George Harris, George Knight, Alex Kidd, Fraser MacDonald, Stuart Murphy, Graham Smith.

Apologies: Nicola Robb, Billy Shepherd

1. Approval of Minutes

Proposed by Stuart Murphy and seconded by Graeme Adam.

2. Matters Arising from Last Minutes

Still awaiting DFCTV website migration. Club Dundee draw winners to be confirmed by RI/KB in next 2-3 days. GH to provide RI with definitive list of sponsors and logos, then flyer to be considered.

GK still to confirm special prizes for Club Dundee (has one request from RI for October draw) and shop discount offer.

All missing DVDs have been posted out. New artwork received and RG to arrange 100 additional DVDs to be available for sale on Tuesday as stock will have run out today. These should be sold more proactively eg held up for fans to see.

Fans derby arrangements now in place, statement made expressing disappointment at police's insistence on all-ticket. Penalty shootout arranged for half-time with tickets now on sale.

Publicity for schools tickets / football handovers is still an outstanding issue with CF, raised by GK. New strip designs still to be looked at, GK acknowledged request for fan input and said Alan Provan also keen on this, but couldn't guarantee this.

NR to confirm availability of DSC for AGM including doors 10am for 10.30am start

FM updated on the mailing quotes sourced (£1299.90 + VAT from Fairprint for 3410 members, £1146.22 + VAT from ADM for all 4136 members) and outlined the approach taken following the "Dundee United" misprint on the envelope, including legal advice taken. FM would pursue the best possible recompense, although it was acknowledged this might be a discount not a full refund.

3. Merchandise and Fundraising

GK has confirmed two sponsors for Christmas cards at £350 each. GH to seek one or two more sponsors. DF confirmed cost of printing cards is approx £650, which was agreed as reasonable given the sponsorship would more than offset this eg all sales would be profit. Cards will be priced at £3 for 10 or £5 for £20. DF to arrange player signatures for Club Dundee card (floodlight design), and printing of all cards (which must be proofed by sponsors first).

GK to approach Alan Provan re selling the CD and DVD as a bundle for £10 at Christmas.

It was agreed that further t-shirts will be produced with new designs, and DR/GH have action to use up remaining stock of clocks.

The format of the Casino night will include blackjack and roulette with one each in the Captains' and Charlie Cooke lounges. The date agreed is Saturday 6th March.

It was agreed that Brian Kerr's sponsored shirt would be a prize at the Casino night (as a voucher). GH will look for sponsors for other prizes, and GK will book the lounges.

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4. Supporters Direct Feedback

BB attended and reported on Scottish Football forum at Stirling. Although not a waste of time, Bill confirmed that there were no actions / next steps taken from the meeting which was disappointing.

A further discussion took place on the general future of Scottish football and it was felt that a single governing body, play-offs, a bigger SPL and summer football were areas which had most support among the Trust board. FM gave an overview of Supporters Direct's role and remit, including the need to retain funding, and why their role would differ from that of a Football Supporters' Federation, if we had one in Scotland. The best approach may be a sub-committee reporting to Supporters Direct, and FM would pursue this with SD at next Thursday's Advisory Group meeting. FM will report back on the results of the SD survey recently undertaken, and it was agreed that the Trust should begin to use the survey capabilities of ITWM for its own membership,

5. Review of co-opted positions

GH expressed the view that the board worked well at present in terms of numbers and people. Looking at each of the co-opted positions, BB feels it works but can be difficult "wearing two hats" at times, but regardless of the person filling the role, it is right that the DSA has a representative on the Trust board. AK agreed that, like the DSA, the Development Club via SM required representation, but the Junior Dees is different. They are already submitting a report via Stuart and can continue to report, request funding, etc. in this manner.

If the board is to spend more time on wider issues such as the discussion on Scottish football above, and membership/strategy/community issues, more should be done via subcommittees eg merchandise and Club Dundee where RI is not on the board, and Junior Dees could fall into this category. It could still be useful to have a representative but of the younger fans, rather than of the committee running the JDs as is the current situation, bearing in mind U16s have no voting rights.

While it was initially felt this should be discussed further at next week's meeting, bearing in mind potential new nominees to the board and the reporting structure via SM/GK already in place, there was no longer a need for a co-opted Junior Dees position, and that this board position currently occupied by BS should be vacated with immediate effect. This was proposed by FM and seconded by SM, and unanimously agreed.

6. Club Dundee

The bulk of the discussion would be held over to next week's meeting when RI was present, and FM agreed to follow up on detailed info regarding the tasks and workload involved to help prepare for the discussion.

At this stage, the request for capital expenditure on a new HD camera (giving benefits in terms of picture quality, facility of upload, and of course a second camera angle) was considered and agreed.

Before agreeing this, the Trust's financial position was reviewed by AK, and funds are sufficient to cover this purchase. FM proposed and SM seconded the motion which was unanimously agreed. A news piece should be generated to ensure members are aware of the use of funds and benefits.

This prompted the recognition for an asset register encompassing both equipment (DFCTV, laptop etc) and stock of merchandise, donated items, etc. FM to ask for input.

7. Strategy

A discussion on membership strategy followed on from earlier conference calls, but it was agreed that to reach any conclusion a dedicated meeting was required, and an additional board meeting would be scheduled for next Sunday dedicated to the topics of membership and Club Dundee (as well as approval of the report for the accounts, which FM would prepare).

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8. Youth Charity

The application has generated a number of questions which were answered yesterday, but the timeline now means the charity won't be set up until around Christmas. Therefore the financial input from the fans' groups will be postponed until the end of the second quarter (31st January) but with no change in amount. SM has an outstanding action to clarify paperwork requirements to accompany the cheques, but this is no longer required for 10th November.

The plan will need to be revised next year, both depending on Club Dundee projected income and the Business Club in particular.

9. Junior Dees

Selan have agreed to sponsor the Junior Dees buses for the rest of the season. FM to do a news piece on this.

Regular meetings re community and Junior Dees have taken place and outcome circulated.

10. Other items

Nothing additional to report on matchday activities (details have been circulated).

AK to request a draft copy of the accounts for next Sunday's meeting.

A discussion on succession planning was postponed to a later meeting.

11. AOCB

A couple of firms have signed up with Saltire. FM to follow up to keep visibility of this.

Willie Douglas has agreed to run the Former Players Association, and Thompson Allan and Jim Smith are keen to be involved.

Date of Next Meeting

The next Trust board meeting will take place on Sunday 1st November 2009 at 11am in the Hilton.