

Minutes of the WFCSA AGM 11 February 2024

Agenda Item	Action
1. Registration/ Quorum :	31 Members attended and the Quorum was achieved.
2. Apologies for absence.	Angela Bawtree, Jane and Steve Proctor, Gary Moores, Dave Scott.
3. Introduction and welcome by Chairman. 4.Chairman's Report.	Good afternoon Firstly I will apologise for the AGM being around 5 months later than usual but our Secretary Angela was unwell for a fair while and then my wife and Treasurer Sarah Cohen also got ill and eventually passed away after a short illness. I now thank the committee for all their efforts during 22/23 season, some of you on the committee always go that extra mile to bring in much needed revenue, ideas for making money and generally turning up at the monthly meetings to discuss matters arising. During the 22/23 season we spent money wisely, £3011 for WFC seats in the stand for ground grading, £1500 for crush bars to WFC also for ground grading and £350 for tables and chairs for WFC, this totals £4861.00 This is why membership is important, as is selling tickets for the golden goal and sponsor a goal which Paul Garrard does. I'd also like to mention the volunteers who turn out every Wednesday doing odd jobs around the ground which saves the club a small fortune, your help is very much appreciated and you do a great job. The WFCSA has been around for at least 20 years and committee members have come and gone. There used to be hardly any members or committee, but they still raised money through hard effort: Roger Johnson used to sell snacks before the Club ran the Food kiosks, as did Steve Stapley, this kept the Supporters Association going. Which brings me to the last point, our friend Trevor Smart has been on the committee for many years, Trevor has decided to hang his boots up which almost brings to an end for the old guard, I've really appreciated Trevor's dedication and input over the years and also the effort he put into membership when he was membership secretary. Trevor, I'm disappointed that you aren't staying but you deserve your WFCSA retirement with our best wishes, I think when Steve Stapley retired from the committee I didn't get a chance to thank him so also thank you to Steve as well. All the best to everyone and thank you to all the members for your continued support. Thank you
5.Treasurers Report.	The accounts for the year ending 30 June 2023 were presented and hard copies of the accounts had been placed on the tables.
6. Membership secretary's report.	The current Membership stands at 174. This is lower than at the same time as last year, due in part to the really bad weather at the beginning of the season making it difficult to catch people coming in, before they were running for cover. Now that the Club has a proper shop, we will be looking to use the WFCSA gazebo so we can sign people up in comfort.

	We are now half way through the season, so we are dropping the membership fee to half price and going for a second push, as the success of both the Men's and Women's teams are attracting more and different supporters. All help in promoting and recruiting members would be much appreciated. As Gary has already said, our subs go into the fundraising pot so that we can pay for improvements around the ground and, also, pay for things like: • Maintaining the Website (paying for the domain - the design is all done by volunteers), • Broadcasting equipment for RebelYell including essential items such as replacing the microphone! • Getting the pin badges produced, • Paying up front to hire coaches for away travel and providing the website for this • Paying up front for merchandise such as our Designer T Shirts • Providing the money for the free cash draws. So, well done to our Members - and that means us - for our excellent financial and volunteering contribution!
7. WFCSA Constitution.	The Constitution had been circulated by email and amendments included. Hard copies had been placed on the tables. No objections have been received prior to or at the meeting. Proposed by Trevor Smart, seconded by Ange Tanner. Confirmed by majority vote (none against and no abstentions.)
8. Election of officers and committee.	All of the officers stepped down at the point in accordance with the WFCSA Constitution and a number of nominations had been received for the Committee. Trevor Smart, Ian Coles and Allison Van Brien had asked not to be re-nominated as Committee Members. Gerry Donohoe and Jon Loveland had asked to be nominated. The Committee and authorised officers were elected by majority vote (see Appendix A.) Gary Cohen, Gerry Donohoe and Paul Garrard are to be added to the authorised signatories for the WFCSA Natwest Account and Gerry Donohoe is to be authorised to draw down funds from the Ticketpass account. Angela Tanner will remain a signatory and an authorised officer in respect of the Ticketpass account. Natwest require us to minute this in a particular way, which is provided below: We resolve that: • if we add or remove Authorised Signatories in the "Add or Remove Authorised Signatories" section on the "About your request" page of this form, the Bank will update our mandate accordingly for the accounts we specify in this form's "About your business" section • if we change the Signing Rules in the "Change the Signing Rules on the Mandate" section on the "About your request" page of this form, the Bank will update our mandate accordingly for the accounts we specify in this form's "About your business" section • and the current mandate will continue as amended.

	The WFCSA Constitution also allows the Committee to appoint new Committee Members during the season, so if people are interested roles might include: • Selling 50:50 tickets on the gate just before the Men's game starts, • Recruiting new members before the Women's and Men's games, • Helping in the kiosk at the Women's games, • Organising and supporting fundraising events, • Joining in the ad hoc "Working Party" events • Driving mini-buses for away games If members feel they would enjoy filling some of these roles and would like to get involved, please contact Worthingfcsa@hotmail.com
9. Appointment of competent financial advisor 2023/2024.	John Whyte. Proposed by Ange Tanner Seconded by Gary Cohen. Confirmed by majority vote (none against and no abstentions.)
10. Any other business.	See Appendix B.

Appendix A. Election of the WFCSA Committee.

	Nominee	Nominator Proposing	Seconded	Majority Vote?
Chair	Gary Cohen	Angela Tanner	Steve Stapley	Yes
Secretary	Angela Tanner	Gary Cohen	Paul Garrard	Yes
Membership Secretary	Colin Edwards	Angela Tanner	Trevor Smart	Yes
Treasurer	Gerry Donohoe	Gary Cohen	Pete Vale	Yes
1. Committee Member	James Easton	Gary Cohen	Chris Biggs	Yes
2. Committee Member	Spencer Webb	Gary Cohen	Jason Price	Yes
3. Committee Member	Gordon Caplin	Gary Cohen	Jon Loveland	Yes
4. Committee Member	Peter Vale	Gary Cohen	John Whyte	Yes
5. Committee Member	Paul Garrard	Gary Cohen	Gordon Caplin	Yes
6. Committee Member	Jacco Mulder	Gary Cohen	Spencer Webb	Yes
7. Committee Member	Jon Loveland	Gary Cohen	Sam Virgoe	Yes

Appendix B: AOB received.

1. Robert Pepper presented the following proposal.

Object: To encourage Worthing Football Club and Supporters to consider joining the "Fair Game" campaign.

Recommendations to be put to the vote.

Information

Several Vanarama South clubs are already members. *(From the Fairgame Website.)*

"...Our Vision: A sport where every fan can put their shirt on in the morning proud in what it stands for, safe in the knowledge that the traditions and heritage of their club will always be there.

Our Mission: We are led by clubs, supported by experts and backed by politicians.

We believe in sustainability, integrity and community.

We wish to see football governed with fairness, openness and transparency at its core; honouring the mantra that the game can be a force for good and putting clubs at the heart of the communities they serve.

Outcome

The Recommendation "That the WFCSA requests that WFC consider

["https://www.fairgameuk.org/fair-game-clubs"](https://www.fairgameuk.org/fair-game-clubs) and provides feedback to the Membership on progress and outcomes" was accepted by majority vote.

2. Stephen Stapley presented the following proposal:

Object:

1) To regularise the position with regard to the attendance of the members of Worthing Football Club Supporters Association (WFCSA) at the various end of season presentation events organised by Worthing Football Club (WFC).

2) To utilise the WFCSA membership database, with regard to (1) above and to seek amendments to the voting procedures for(a) Player of the Month/ Season and(b) the presentation of the Milestone Appearances Awards.

Recommendations to be put to the vote.

1) That the WFCSA Committee is authorised to discuss with WFC, the attendance of nominated members of WFCSA , at the various end of season presentation events held by WFC.

2) That an electronic ballot of the membership is used to select the WFC delegates.

3) That the Player of the Season Award(s) , supplied by WFCSA, are presented by the WFCSA delegate(s),

4) That the current practice of canvassing votes for Player of the month / Season , on a monthly basis FROM ALL SUPPORTERS , is discontinued, in favour of an end of season electronic ballot , restricted to the membership of WFCSA.

5)That the WFCSA membership database is used to select those who will present the Milestone Awards during the Season.

Information.

While there is no requirement in the WFCSA Constitution for a Player of the Season Award it has become an accepted convention.

With the expansion of the Football teams operated by WFC, the members of WFCSA have been excluded from the Club's presentation events. These proposals are submitted for consideration in order to address this imbalance.

The WFCSA membership database can be used to activate the recommendations contained in this report.

A precise number of WFCSA delegates has not been specified, in order that the Committee may have a degree of flexibility in their discussions with WFC.

In adopting the proposals set out in this report there is the potential for (1) bringing the membership and Committee together any (2) stimulating interest in WFCSA's activities.

Outcome

The Recommendation of:

- 1) "That the WFCSA Committee is authorised to discuss with WFC, the attendance of nominated members of WFCSA, at the various end of season presentation events held by WFC" was accepted by majority vote.
- 2) "That an electronic ballot of the membership is used to select the WFC delegates" was accepted by majority vote.
- 3) "That the Player of the Season Award(s), supplied by WFCSA, are presented by the WFCSA delegate(s)" was accepted by majority vote.
- 4) "That the current practice of canvassing votes for Player of the month / Season, on a monthly basis FROM ALL SUPPORTERS, is discontinued, in favour of an end of season electronic ballot, restricted to the membership of WFCSA" was not accepted by majority vote. An alternative recommendation was received from the floor that "The Player of the Month" system for the Men's team (of engaging all supporters at the ground using hard copy voting at the beginning of the Men's home games) remains the same as it is at the moment. This was accepted by majority vote.
- 5) "That the WFCSA membership database is used to select those who will present the Milestone Awards during the Season" was modified to include the option of selecting a person at short notice (such as on the day if the chosen member was unable to attend.) The modified recommendation was then accepted by majority vote.

3. WFCSA Committee. Gary Cohen presented the following proposal.

Object: To identify an effective way for the Association to communicate with Worthing Football Club as an organisation and to propose this to the Club. The objective will be to have an agreed protocol where both parties may raise questions and receive answers in an agreed format and within an agreed timescale.

Recommendations to be put to the vote.

That the WFCSA works with Worthing Football Club Ltd. representatives to develop the agreed protocol for communication and provides feedback to the Membership on progress and outcomes.

INFORMATION

The role of "Community Lead" was removed from the WFC Board in October 2023. The person in that role acted as the link between the WFCSA and other supporters' to raise their concerns with the Club. There has been no clarification since last October to indicate how communication with the WFCSA as an organisation and other supporters will be carried out.

Outcome

The Recommendation "That the WFCSA works with Worthing Football Club Ltd. representatives to develop the agreed protocol for communication and provides feedback to the Membership on progress and outcomes" was accepted by majority vote.