



## AGM Minutes 11<sup>th</sup> July 2020

**1. Meeting attended by:**

Natalie (Chairperson) NB

Deborah (Vice-Chair) DH

Marc (Secretary) MH

Shane (Treasurer) SH

18 Non-Committee Members

**2. The agenda for the meeting was as follows:**

A. Introduction by Secretary

B. Chair & Vice Chair

C. Treasurer

D. Season Start

E. The FSA

F. Volunteers

G. A.O.B

H. Questions

I. Meeting brought to a close

3. Meeting started by MH who welcomed everyone to 1<sup>st</sup> BA AGM. MH then played video message from Amy Turner who thanked BA for all the support that the team receive. After video MH passed the floor over to NB & DH.

4. NB again thanked everyone and also hoped everyone liked Amy video. NB then passed over to DH who was going to talk about safeguarding.

5. DH explained that safeguarding wasn't just for children but for everyone involved. DH also stated that anyone who is Under 16 would need a responsible adult for membership. Also DH informed everyone attending that the BA is in the process of getting a welfare officer so everyone person has someone to talk to. More details will follow.

6. NB then started to talk about membership. NB thanked both SH & MH for the initial work on the free membership and introduced the new + membership for the 2020/21 season, and explained the perks for the new membership. NB said that monies go back into the BA for things such as flags, trophies for players, bigger buses and hopefully an end of the year event. The free membership will also run alongside the new membership. MH introduced FL who would be working alongside both MH & SH on membership. AS then stated that he would be joining, as he wants to contribute in a more structured way. NB then passed to SH.



7. SH stated that the accounts will run 1<sup>st</sup> June to 31<sup>st</sup> May. Current balance of account is £1,642.82. Over the year we have donated £700 to charities plus another £60 from the league line up to be given to charity.
8. DH then started talking about beginning of the season. DH reiterated that COVID-19 will dictate how things look, but we hope to be able to offer some elements to create atmosphere if games are BCD. DH said that as a bare minimum that the BA flags should go up. NB asked what the members would want.
9. MH unmuted everyone and invited questions from attendees. AO asked about away fans attending games and the possibility of watch alongs. NB said if games are BCD we will be doing watch alongs for games we are unable to attend.
10. NB asked would we all want away fans to attend LSV. IS said that he would be happy with away fans attending as long as it was reciprocal. FL said that ST holders must be prioritised for home games over away fans. AS said he would be unhappy if he couldn't go for the sake of an away fan. DP said that if away fans are allowed in maybe it should just be ST holders of that club rather than on general sale.
11. NB introduces discussion about our involvement with The FSA and our on-going work with them dating back to Oct 2019. NB advised that herself and DH would be having a meeting with Manchester United along with Deb Dilworth from The FSA.
12. SB asked if we could buy away tickets direct from the club in the future to save having to register with multiple different clubs. DH thanked SH for the work that he had done on getting the refunds from Birmingham City and also that the money should be coming back within the next few days.
13. NB asked the thoughts of the attendees on segregation. CM commented that in her opinion there is space for dedicated away ends in women's football. FL also suggested the possibility of a neutral section.
14. NB introduced issue of player welfare. Autographs & photographs will not be possible under COVID-19 conditions and players need to be respected. Players need to be allowed to go into the ground without being harassed.
15. NB moved the discussion onto volunteers. NB reiterated that DH, MH, SH & NB are all volunteers and they would welcome additional support. Separate subgroups exist for the operation of Travel, Merchandise and Social Media. The main WhatsApp group is open to all and is not an aspect of any membership. NB announced that MJ would be writing Match Previews and Reviews before every game that would be available through our Wordpress site. NB invited anybody who wishes to help to come forward. DP said that he would continue to do Instagram for all home games and MC also said that he would do the away games that he attends. SP offered to be an extra person to take photos if need be.
16. MH asked if there was any merchandise that anyone particular wanted CM & AO both asked about the prospect of winter bobble hats, MH said that he would look into it.
17. NB mentioned the prospect of a Social Media Policy inline with FSA recommendations, at the time of the AGM the Committee had all signed the policy. Anyone who has a role within the BA will be asked to sign the policy. DH asked if anyone sees anything that could bring



the BA name into disrepute then to notify the committee privately. MH told the attendees that the Social Media Policy was going to be sent to all members of the Women's FSA Network. DP asked for clarification about the policy on what he could post and not post on his personal accounts. NB aims for every member to sign the social media policy.

18. The floor is opened to questions from attendees. DK asked what was the reasoning behind no bus being run for the Brighton away game. MH replied that a decision was made at the beginning of the season and a number of factors were considered. SH suggests in the future the committee will canvass opinion from members before making a decision. NB said a meeting of the travel group would take place once the fixtures have been released. JM repeats that can we canvass opinion in the future.
19. MC invited members to come up with ideas for the social media accounts.
20. AO asked if there had been any updates about MUST (Manchester United Supporters Trust) and the women's membership. DH answered that you can become a member and choose the women's feed option. NB replied the COVID-19 had slowed down the process of the new MUST website and it is not ready but could still access via their old website.
21. SH asked if anybody would like to suggest a charity that we could donate the £60 from line-up league. MH suggested The Lou Macari Foundation.
22. FL acknowledged what had happened during lockdown and asked if any of the activities that have been started during that time would continue. MH said we would continue with them for the time being. DH invited members to suggest topics and put themselves forward for the weekly podcast.
23. NB asked if people still wanted a majority of communication done via email. AO and others answered that they would prefer it. NB asked people in groups would they prefer zoom chats or meet face-to-face. JM said that it might be easier to hold via zoom initially and maybe face-to-face every few months.
24. MH brought the meeting to a close and thanked everyone for attending.