

**MUWSC**



**EST. 2018**

## **AGM MINUTES 17<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021**

**1. Meeting attended by:**

**Natalie Burrell (Outgoing Chair)**

**Deborah Henry (Vice Chair)**

**Marc Henry (Secretary)**

**Shane Higgs (Treasurer)**

**Fiona Lynch (Vice Treasurer)**

**Plus 11 Members (Names withheld for privacy)**

**2. The Agenda for the meeting was read out as follows:**

Welcome

Message from outgoing Chair

Treasurer Report

Membership

Voting of Committee

Vice Chair

Rebrand

Return to Games

AOB

3. Meeting started by MH who welcomed everyone to the AGM and thanked people for attending. MH then passed over to NB who acknowledged that she had stepped down from her role as Chair but wanted to thank the existing committee for their support. NB also mentioned the need for members to step up and support the committee and for people to volunteer their help in order to make MUWSC the best supporters club that it can be.

4. SH introduced his Treasurer's Report. SH explained that due to being unable to attend games, extra money had been spent on postage costs and no money had come in from travel for away days. This has had an impact on the financial status but a small profit was made.

Query from a member, JM, to stick with team flags due to the turnover rate of players coming in and out. DH replied that we are now using a cheaper flag company and considering having more generic flags going forward.

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5. MH moved onto memberships and revealed that due to not being able to attend matches and use one aspect of the Plus Membership, renewals would be reduced by 10%. New badges will be available for the upcoming season with the new branding.
6. MH announced that ahead of the AGM, voting forms had been sent out but no one chose to stand so positions remain the same going forward. As DH will remain as Vice Chair, the position of Chair remains open so if anyone wanted to stand for it, the committee could co-opt someone on, if necessary.

Question from JM, could we nominate someone from the existing committee to become Chair? SH said it was possible but the committee member would want to stand for the position. DH explained that to have one of the current committee members take the role would leave another gap in the committee, which would also need to be filled.

7. DH asked if she could thank NB for the hard work both as Chair and before the supporters group had a proper structure. DH took the opportunity to thank the current committee for their work during the last year and also recognised the work of IS, who has done an incredible job covering matchdays on twitter. Also MJ was thanked for his work on the match previews and reviews. JM and DK were reminded that a return to games would see them kick into gear on the travel. DH proudly claimed that MUWSC were the only supporters club in women's football to offer a watchalong for every match and again thanked MH for being on top of the emails to organise this.

MH talked about NB being the energy behind the website as well as the watchalongs and thanked her.

8. FL moved onto talking about the rebrand and how a change of name wouldn't change the way we support the team. The reason behind the change was to appeal to all fans, not just those who associate our support as being rowdy. Some may be put off by the name so hopefully this will show that we are there for every United fan. A website has now been launched which should help explain who we are to people unfamiliar with us.

Question from DK about the 'Barmy Army' and had this now ended? NB explained that we'd still be a Barmy Army. DH who said that the Barmy Army would form a sub-section of the wider MUWSC echoed this.

9. DH mentioned that with regard to returning to games, there had been a lot of dialogue about the concerns and preparations about fans going back into the ground. DH did acknowledge that the constant request for feedback may seem waffle but the communication channels with the club are now active and constant. SH explained that as an example, he'd asked about taking an overnight bag into a ground so it's worth people raising issues of any size. MH Shared that he was concerned about the change of rules with face masks and wondered about hand sanitiser and anything else to make people feel safe.

JM asked if the club would impose any rules around not being able to sing or stand together. MH said it was his understanding that we will return to exactly the way things were before. DH thanked JM and repeated that all queries were important rather than having people avoid attending matches.

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JM mentioned that the communication from the club had been poor over the summer and would there be an improvement. MH told JM of a meeting he'd recently attended that explained the reasoning for United keeping quiet unless they have something to share.

10. The meeting was then opened up for any other business. DK asked when he would be likely to receive his season ticket. MH said that this was likely to be soon as men's season tickets had just been released and asked DH and SH to raise it as a point at their next club meeting.

IS asked if Covid Passports would be required at games. DH explained that the fact that some people couldn't receive a vaccination meant that passports couldn't be implemented. However, if the government mandated it, then the club would have to go with that. More details have also been requested about possible staggered entrance and exits.

TO asked to speak to thank the committee for all their hard work and for including her and ED in everything we've done. They are hopeful to have a chance to come over as their last plans had been cancelled due to Covid.

MH thanked everyone for their contributions and closed the meeting.