



Westcountry Blues Season 2016-17 AGM

MINUTES

1. Meeting held on Saturday 15th April 2017 on board coach to Burnley game with 48 people present on the coach of which 40 were fully paid up members of the Westcountry Blues Supporters Club.

OPENING REMARKS

2. Ron Joynson, the WCB Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everybody to the AGM.
 - Ron explained that this was a change to the original plan of holding the meeting on the match day coach to Watford as that game had been switched to Friday 12th May to accommodate Chelsea and Sky TV, therefore we would not running a coach to the game.
 - Ron then explained that the '*mobile AGM*' was a trial to see if it was possible to do this in order to alleviate the need to book somewhere in early June and for the vast majority of members to make another journey from all over the West Country to a venue somewhere.
 - Ron will canvass opinion of its success at a later date.

CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW

3. Ron Joynson gave the Chairman's overview of the season:
 - *Everton Performance.* Ron felt that this is a better season under the leadership of Ronald Koeman with a good chance that 7th place is assured. This means that Everton are in with a chance of Europa League football next season.
 - *Development of Players.* Ron endorsed the thoughts of most Everton supporters that we have seen a wonderful youth policy at Everton with the development of young players such as Tom Davies, Mason Holgate, Ademola Lookman and Dominic Calvert Lewin.
 - *Contract Issues.* On a slightly disappointing note there are reported contract issues with both Romelu Lukaku and Ross Barkley.
 - *Westcountry Blues Performance.* Ron explained that we have had a mixed performance. We have had a number of midweek games without running a coach. Sunday games are problematic as we do not have a large coach and rarely fill the smaller ones resulting in financial losses. In order to generate some rebalancing we have had a good number of non-member visitors who have helped to bolster coach journeys this year.
 - *Mike Trebilcock.* Mike Trebilcock (EFC legend and goal scorer from the 1966 FA Cup Final) made the trip with us to the Sunderland game and this was a fantastic day.
 - Membership numbers down from the previous season.
 - Costs remain an issue though (see Mike Williams' report)
 - 8 WCB Goodison games in 2017 have brought us 29 goals (nearly 4 per game).

- Foreseen problems next season with TV and Europa games (again Mike's report)

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS/OFFICERS

4. The committee members were discussed as follows:

- Election of Committee Members/Officers. The current committee will remain in place for the 2017/2018 season as they were all formally voted in.
- Ian Davies was then formally voted to join the committee as our new marketing and merchandise secretary vice Mike Williams who will relinquish this role but remain as Treasurer.
- The committee for Season 2017/18 therefore will consist as follows:
 - Chairman Ron Joynson
 - Treasurer. Mike Williams
 - Secretary Danni Jones
 - Ticket Secretary Becky Martin
 - Asst Treasurer Chris Holmes
 - Member Jacky Mounty
 - Marketing and Merchandise Secretary Ian Davies

Please note: The 2017/18 season will be Becky's last as Ticket Secretary so please consider whether you could stand for election to this post for the 2018/19 season. Becky would be happy to speak to individuals about what is involved in the role and will happily provide support and guidance during the transition period.

TREASURER REPORT

5. Mike Williams the Treasurer read out the statement of accounts as at 14th April 2017. He also said that a finalised copy will be put on the website at season end. The report is as follows:

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
MEMBERSHIP FEES ADULTS	£630.00	COACH HIRE	£13,500.00
MEMBERSHIP FEES SENIORS	£30.00	MATCH DAY TICKETS	£3,125.00
MEMBERSHIP FEES FAMILIES	£60.00	2016 AGM FOOD	£300.00
MEMBERSHIP FEES JUNIORS	£20.00	2016 AGM RAFFLE PRIZES	£24.00
COACH FARES	£12,712.00	WEBSITE HOSTING/DOMAIN RENEWAL	£59.98
MATCH DAY TICKETS	£3,125.00	MIKE TREBILCOCK MATCH DAY TICKETS	£50.00
2016 AGM RAFFLE	£88.00	COACH DRIVER TIPS	£280
MERCHANDISE SALES	£25.86	BUS FLOAT	£20
EASY FUNDRAISING	£63.08	BANK CHARGE	£4
MISSED TRAVEL PAYMENTS	£98.00	MERCHANDISE STOCK PURCHASED	£76.53
MATCH DAY COLLECTIONS	£426.00	STATIONARY	£4.60
BACS TEST	£0.01		
BANK CHARGE	£4.00		
TOTAL	£17,281.95		£17,444.11
Excess Income over Expenditure		- £162.16	
Balance Carried forward from 2015/16 Season		£3,852.00	
Balance at Bank 15 April 2017		£3,689.84	

TICKET SECRETARY REPORT

6. Due to the logistics of moving people about on the coach Mike gave a very quick overview on Becky's behalf:

- Ticket sales for non-season ticket holders down due to limited seats available caused by large number of season ticket sales at Goodison Park.
- Becky is ordering tickets when the *forevereverton* tickets become available. This can be up to 5 weeks in advance of the game so if you wish to attend and do not have a season ticket let Becky know as soon as possible.
- Becky is ordering away match tickets up to 5 weeks in advance of the game. We have a number of regular away match attendees who sometimes cannot go, so if you fancy an away day let Becky know as she **may** be able to help.

WESTCOUNTRY BLUES MAN OF THE MATCH

7. Ron Joynson explained the current state of play with the Man of the Match award collected after every game. The detail is as follows:

- 19 Players chosen from 13 games with 2 games still to play in our competition.
- 5 points awarded for player with most votes down to 1 point to player in 5th place.

1	Idrissa Gana Gueye.	35
2	Ross Barkley.	31
3	Romelu Lukaku.	13

- And 4 players on 12 points - Tom Davies/Morgan Scheidelein/Seamus Coleman/Phil Jagielka.
- Completed Seasonal Result will be announced after the Chelsea match vote (on coach)

FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS

8. Mike Williams then gave an overview about projected costs for next season based upon a sheet of paper handed out to all members on the coach some two hours prior to this briefing. The brief was based on the current financial status including a projected loss for the upcoming game versus Chelsea on Sunday 30th April and a number of other reasonable assumptions as follows:

- Qualifying for Europa League could mean more Sunday games which historically are run at a loss.
- Improvement of performance means Everton could feature more on TV.
- Continued lack of non-season ticket holder seats available at Goodison Park.
- Berry's have implied that there may be up to a 5% increase in cost of coaches.

9. Mike Williams explained that options to raise more funds are limited to prices increases. Having examined all of the options the committee have suggested the following strategy:

- Increase Membership Fees.
- Restrict membership to Adults and Children therefore drop the seniors rate for both travel and membership fees.

10. Membership Fees for Season 2017/18 will be as follows:

- Adult memberships including seniors - £15
- Children's memberships - £10
- A family 2+2 membership - £30

11. Travel Fares for Season 2017/18 will be as follows:

- Member Adults - £25
- Member Children - £20
- Non-member Adults - £30
- Non-member Children - £25
- One Way Member Travel to remain at £20 irrespective of age
- One Way Non Member travel set at £25 regardless of age

12. Paragraph 10 and 11 were both put to members as proposals and accepted by the majority. One member raised a hand to indicate an objection, particularly in relation to the vote taking place on the coach, as the member was under the impression that the initial intention was to have an online vote following the Watford fixture. The Chairman agreed to conduct a further discussion with the member on arrival in Liverpool and this discussion took place as planned. However, as only one objection was raised and the majority of members raised their hands to indicate understanding and acceptance of the proposals, they were carried and will be adopted for the 2017/18 season.

13. We have to establish a consistent rule for no shows on match day. Currently, some pay and some do not. It is understood that there are many circumstances why people do not show up on the day and each case will be treated on its own merit. If your no show means that we miss the opportunity to downsize the bus or to actually offer the seat to somebody on a waiting list then full payment will be expected. Non-members who default will not be allowed to travel with us again. Persistent member no shows could have membership rescinded and may be asked to pay in advance of travel in future. If you can't make the coach due to a commitment you need to let Mike or Becky know by 12pm on the Friday at the latest. This simple act of courtesy will give Mike time to adjust bus size if applicable or Becky to inform anybody on a waiting list there is space.

OTHER BUSINESS

14. The website is working well for us and no changes will be made at this time. Mike Williams will continue to run this for us.

15. We had Easter biscuits on the coach which were supplied by Steve Jones courtesy of Hobbs House Bakery. Thanks Steve they were superb.

16. Ron closed the meeting with a quick reminder that today was the Supporters Day at Everton and as many of us needed to be in the ground by 2.40pm to cheer on our WCB Standard Bearers marching around the pitch. Chris Howard and lovely daughter Olivia are our representatives today and look forward to waving to us on their important pitch side journey/well done Chris and Olivia.

SUMMARY

17. In Summary, as Chairman, may I thank members of our management committee for their work and their support to me in my role and in particular to Mike for his help with this prototype AGM format briefing today.

Thank You