

Bath City Supporters Club
Annual General Meeting Minutes
Thursday 8 July
(video/conference call)

1. Opening remarks/Welcome

Chairman Steve Wiltshire welcomed the 15 members present to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Peter Foster, Les Bingham, John Moore

3. Minutes of previous AGM - Matters arising from the Minutes

Dan Tanner asked if his question at the last AGM regarding the use of the Club's volunteers on matchdays to help the Supporters Club was to be addressed and he was reassured that it will once normality returns.

The minutes were signed off having been proposed by Leon Webb and seconded by Dan Tanner.

4. Chairman's Report

Well, that was a season that we should all forget about and try to make the most of the way forward, I am sure that none of us will want to go through that again, so hopefully when and if we are allowed to go and watch our favourite team come the friendlies and the start of the next campaign we should all adhere to any rules that we have to live by.

Your committee has been working with a complement of 9 or 10 members in total this year due to the potential recruitment of Heather Thomas who is currently fulfilling the role of fundraising co-ordinator. The full complement according to the Constitution is 11 members. Despite this slight shortfall in numbers we have all worked incredibly hard in representing you and supporting the club in various ways, meeting at first once every month up until the unprecedented halt to the season. We have managed to meet every other month electronically throughout the remaining period.

There are still two vacancies if anyone is interested in helping this great club move forward. If you would like to become a member of the committee, then please contact us.

Martin (Bas) Brush has decided not to stand this year for the Committee, due to a period of ill health. I would like to convey my thanks to him for all the time and effort he has made for well over twenty years, with several as chairman. He ran the old SC shop, organised the away coaches for two separate periods and co-ordinated the

Matchday Draw. With members' support for a motion, we would like to create the position of honorary life member of the committee for Bas.

We have continued to communicate with Bath City fans and our members through the Supporters Club website, match-day programme, forum, social media and by sending email updates to members. The facility to sign up for Supporters Club membership has remained on-line, thank you to Ashley and Alison for managing this facility.

For the past season we continued to contribute to the funding of the team's training facilities, making a total payment of £5,250, as well as donating a further £750 as emergency funding to assist the Club as a result of Covid-19. We also contributed to the Club's recent Crowdfunder appeal, sponsored a matchday programme and made monthly payments to the Pledge.

There have been a variety of ways in which we have raised the income to pay for these things – members' subscriptions go some way, but we are also reliant on the efforts of volunteers. The Supporters tea bar was of course not open last season, let's hope this situation will change for 2021/22 and that this will be used to raise much needed income.

With the issues that last season brought about, it was decided that we would run an electronic draw, this was very successful and has generated £3,343 for the Club. Thanks to Ashley for setting this up and managing it.

Cheryl has been managing the Easyfundraising scheme, the figures for which currently stand at £1,606. Our thanks go to Cheryl for this. We are preparing to hold a Christmas Draw and details of this will be communicated nearer the time.

As you are all aware, the coaches to away matches did not run last season, however Cheryl will be working as hard as ever to try and secure the trips to as many places as possible when we kick off again in the coming season.

A reminder that the Supporters Club can only be as strong as its membership and we recognise the important role we must play by representing their views and well-being.

By the end of last season, we had just over 150 members, still well below the average home attendance. Due to the Coronavirus, it was decided that we would sell the memberships early in preparation for this long-awaited season. The total at the end of June was 180 members, of which 69 are new.

The subscription rates for the coming season will be kept at the same price as last year. We would ask you to help us in persuading as many people as possible to pay this small amount to allow us to continue supporting the Club financially.

Finally, we must try and support Jerry and the team both on and off the terraces to try and get a successful side that we will all be able to support for a very long time to come.

Stephen Wiltshire – Chairman, Bath City Supporters Club

5. Motions

The following motion was proposed in advance of the meeting...

To create the position of Honorary Life Member of the committee of Bath City Supporters Club. An Honorary Life Member can attend committee meetings but has no voting rights and cannot hold any appointed or elected office on the committee. An honorary member is appointed by the committee with the approval of the members.

Proposer – Cheryl Bradley
Seconder – Martin Powell

As proposer, Cheryl Bradley reinforced what had been mentioned in the Chairman's report that the committee would like this to be a way for the Supporters Club to acknowledge and reward Martin Brush for his outstanding contribution over a very long time. Martin Powell explained that if passed the wording of the motion would be added to the Constitution.

In the discussion which followed it was explained that in theory there was no limit to how many honorary life members could be on the committee and that it was not envisaged that one would then wish to become a full member. It was emphasised that the nomination should firstly come from the committee who would then seek permission from the membership.

In order to tighten up the wording of the motion Alan Finney proposed the following amendment....

*To create the position of Honorary Life Member of the committee of Bath City Supporters Club. An Honorary Life Member can attend committee meetings but has no voting rights and cannot hold any appointed or elected office on the committee **in that capacity**. An honorary member is appointed by the committee with the approval of the members.*

There was unanimous support for this amendment.

It was pointed out that there would need to be a second motion to enable members to indicate their support for Martin Brush to become an honorary life member.

Martin Powell explained that the two motions will be emailed to members for them to vote on. He added that the small number of offline members were asked in the AGM announcement which was posted to them if they wanted further paperwork, including voting papers, but that none had requested this.

Voting for the two motions concluded on 16 July.

96 members voted and there was 100% support for both motions.

The wording of Motion 1 will be added to the Constitution and Martin Brush will be welcomed as Honorary Life Member of the Committee.

6. Presentation of Accounts

Graham Weeks briefly went through the accounts which had been shared with members prior to the meeting and which showed a closing balance of £877.

He explained that considering the lack of income streams due to there being no spectators at matches that this should be considered a good return. Hopefully the coming season will see things return to normal and fundraising will increase, especially as there will be a revamped Christmas Draw.

It was pointed out by Alan Finney that the £2900 income from the streaming of matches should perhaps have had a note explaining that this was money paid into the Supporters Club's PayPal account rather than being funds raised. While it was accepted that it inflated the amount donated to the Club, Graham explained that the sum was included in the monthly payments paid.

Graham was asked about the significant drop in membership subscriptions and explained that this was largely due to the 2020/21 recruitment drive starting in the Spring rather than July to help raise funds for the Club during the first lockdown.

7. To receive, and if approved, adopt the balance sheet and accounts for the season 2020/2021

Proposer – Malcolm Mitchell, Seconder – Dan Tanner

The accounts were adopted.

8. Results of vote to elect nominated candidates to Supporters Club Committee

Cheryl Bradley, Alison Gibbons, Graham Weeks and Steve Wiltshire were all re-elected and Heather Thomas was elected having previously been a co-opted member of the committee. 18 votes were received.

9. Any Other Business

Dan Tanner asked if future AGMs would continue to be held via Zoom or in person at the Club. Steve Wiltshire said that ideally we will return to meeting face to face but it was agreed that to give those members either unable to attend or living in exile the opportunity efforts should be made to provide an online facility as well.

10. Closing remarks

Steve Wiltshire thanked all present for their attendance and closed the meeting.