

Minutes: Committee Meeting 17/11/25

Attendees: MB, DW, NB, JP, MO, SR, IA, MP, DB, DL, SD

Meeting held in the clubhouse at 6.30pm. Secretary brought the meeting to order and reminded the group that the primary focus was alignment between club & football given the number of changes in football personnel since the start of the season and strong recent on field performance. Thanks to Steve, Danny and Dave for attending.

Minutes of Last Meeting - 11/09/25

Minutes were reviewed and approved with a few actions carried forward and captured at the end of these notes. This review provided an opportunity to bring football management up to speed on a number of topics and hopefully provide them with some useful background / context. It was evident that communication between committee and football can be improved ... cue Director of Football per below.

Football

After a scene setting ramble from DW a healthy and wide ranging discussion about the relationship between club & football ensued. Central to this was confirming that everybody wants the club to maximise it's potential on the field and ultimately promotion to the Southern League would be great as long the club is prepared and continues to be fiscally well managed. The atmosphere in the clubhouse on match days has been fabulous recently and Steve should be commended on the impact he has made in his few short months with the club.

There have been a few mis-steps in recent weeks, however, the club has progressed tremendously in just 18 months and we should be proud of our collective achievements. A few growing pains are inevitable and the problem of how we would approach potential promotion considered an elegant one.

Some important decisions / actions were taken:

- Dave Lewis (recently joined as Director of Football) was formally appointed to the committee at the meeting and will serve as the main point of contact between club & football. We anticipate this will facilitate better communication and remove much of the grit from the gears.
- Training arrangements & budget were reviewed and it was confirmed we will stick with the club's long standing schedule with u18s training at college on Tuesday and 1st & Dev on Thursdays during the winter months - the college is booked accordingly until March 5th and DL will coordinate future block bookings with NB.
- It was agreed to ring fence U18 Tuesday night training to avoid recurrence of recent issues (see u18 plan below).
- It was agreed that with fewer mid week fixtures the 1st team should be able to train on a Tuesday and that, conditions permitting, they can use the Grigg Lane pitch (no different to playing a mid week fixture and pitch team happy to prepare accordingly). Alternatively we have a relationship with Wallhampton school (2G pitch so not suitable for heavy sessions) and MB agreed to formalise this so it can be booked as needed. If neither option is available / suitable 1st team mgt can seek alternative facilities on an ad-hoc basis and the club will fund.
- DW agreed to write to u18 interim manager to address recent concerns, confirm Tuesday training and introduce DL as point of contact for football matters - this note has now been sent and a copy made available to the committee on group chat.

- A number of tactical kit purchases were approved with DL/DB to confirm exact requirements (numbers, sizes, preferred supplier etc..) to MB who will expedite ordering:
 - 5x kits (shirt plus shorts)
 - 4x tracksuits
 - 1x manager bench kit including long coat
- It was agreed that the club will stock the fridge in the home changing room with bottled water.
- DW has contacted Nick at Village Veg who has agreed to supply bananas for 1st team home games as part of his club sponsorship - he will set aside in his shop in the village every home Saturday morning for collection.
- VEO - the club owns the equipment but for historical reasons has no license to use it which it was agreed we needed to resolve. SD confirmed he would be happy with the basic level of service (approx £450 / year) and IA took the action to arrange.
- It was noted that current track suits are not wearing well and will likely need replacing for next season. SD also expressed preference for alternate supplier (VX3?) which MB agreed to explore.

Football obviously dominated the agenda but discussions were timely and well received by everyone.

A few other agenda items were briefly covered.

Finance

NB is making good progress getting on top of finances and our position “post-toilets” remains positive.

Toilet project is within budget and nearing completion - a few outstanding items to pay - a project summary will be produced at end of job.

NB/KH continue to work on some standard financial reporting and shared a sample based on first four months data. Committee agreed this is exactly what is required. NB/KH will complete the exercise with view to a finance focused committee meeting before Xmas.

Mark Lanning wants to hand payroll processing back to the club but has agreed to continue for a few months while we recruit the full time club manager. We need to add another person to the bank account and remove Mark. NB will make recommendation.

It was agreed that with finances continuing to be healthy NB should proceed with previously discussed plan to add a part time paid bookkeeper (a few hours per week tbc).

Clubhouse Manager

Advert has been placed on Indeed and has a few days to run. 14 applicants at time of meeting. JP to commence review / interviewing next week.

Level 4 Football Requirements

DW has the action to set up a meeting with FA level 4 ground grading folks and put together a definitive list of requirements for input to planning process ... DW is in contact with David Knight at FA in this regard.

Remaining agenda items were carried forward

- Floodlights
- Toilets wash up
- Kitchen project
- Volunteer shortage
- Brockstock 26
- Sponsor role handover
- Potential vets fixtures
- 26/27 budget process

Note: we urgently need to progress with floodlights quotes / grant application ... a plan needs to be formulated off line and discussed at December meeting.

Carried Forward Actions

- NB: write off of Shorey loan
- NB: any unpaid Brockstock supplier invoices?
- NB: any unpaid sponsorship monies?
- MB: post-Brockstock electrical fixes
- MB: ladies football plan
- MB: real ale festival
- Need to appoint H&S officer (replacing GR)
- Need to appoint Welfare officer (replacing MP)

Meeting closed: 9.15pm

Next meeting: December TBC