

KINGSTONIAN FC SUPPORTERS CLUB AGM 2020 - MINUTES

Friday 14 August 2020 at 7pm, via Zoom

1. Apologies for absence

John & Stella Fenwick, Mark Anderson, Tina Belfiore-Vasilaras, Geoff & Maria Yorke. **Attendance 35.**

2. 2019 Minutes and Matters arising

John Bangs

The minutes were passed, with no amendments, by show of hands

3. Chair's report

John Bangs

Sadly during the year, we lost our previous Chair, Richard Webster. John Bangs took over, as he was Deputy Chair. The Chair's report was published online. Highlights include the coaches we provided during our Cup run, which took many fans to matches, including the Macclesfield match. We also supplied hundreds of different sized flags, which created a great atmosphere. Our main learning point during the year, was not providing a coach to the Weston Super Mare match. We've learnt from this, and will continue to provide coaches when there is demand. We've done lots of successful work with our Charity Partners. Kingstonian Mind United came along to a mental health day that we sponsored. There was a great Sparkle Day. Young Carers have been invited to matches and we've held events for them.. The Club Shop is working well under Rosey's guidance, with support from Margaret and John McCormack on the online sales. We've purchased a gazebo to improve the visibility of the Club Shop. Our online presence has improved with the set up of Twitter and Instagram accounts, thanks to Aidan McCormack and Sylvie Bowman. During lockdown we've kept communicating with fans through quizzes, and Zoom meetings with Hayden and players. No questions were raised to the report issued online

4. Membership update

John McCormack

Membership is currently 119 members, which is 20% higher than the previous year already. Thanks to all. We anticipate this number will grow significantly through the season.

5. Treasurer's report

John Howarth

Kingstonian Supporters Club accounts were issued online. We made a loss on the minibuses and coaches, but it was money well spent as it transported many supporters. Unless we fill coaches, it's difficult to break even. We're pleased that we can provide this service to our supporters. Donations to the Football Club were £6,215, due to kit, match and ball sponsorship, and some events income. The Club shop made a small loss due to the investment in the Gazebo, and other associated equipment. Also, the season was shorter than expected. A question was raised about access to Facemasks. John Bangs confirmed they'll be available by the end of the month and will be £5 or £4 for members. Fundraising – 'easy fundraising website', select Kingstonian and it will contribute to our funds. We started the Equality & Diversity sub committee this season. We invested in flags and posters for the football v Homophobia match. Sundry income was due to unclaimed winnings from a 50:50 draw. Bank account now has just over £4,008. A loss over the year due to one off investments such as flags, the gazebo and the transport to away matches.

Adoption of Accounts was agreed, by all, by a show of hands. John Bangs thanked John Howarth for his great work throughout the year.

6. Committee

John McCormack

The Meeting agreed to retain the current committee for 2020/21 by show of hands. Chrissie Twigg Stewart proposed and Peter West seconded.

Chair: John Bangs, Secretary: John McCormack, Treasurer: John Howarth, Club Shop: Rosey Wooldridge, Social Media: Aidan McCormack, Social Media Design: Sylvie Bowman, Women's Liaison Officer: Margaret McCormack, Publicity: Tim Wells

Equality & Diversity sub committee led by Adam Thompson consists of John McCormack, Sylvie Bowman, Aidan McCormack, Margaret McCormack

If anyone would like to join us, please let us know.

7. Proposed new Constitution

John Bangs

Changes to the Supporters Club Constitution proposed by John Bangs and seconded by Margaret McCormack, were agreed by show of hands

The changes relate to detailing all the Supporters Club activities. 2.2 and 2.5 widen the scope of the role to include Community engagement, and Equality & Diversity, and improving communication with fans. We've changed AGM dates to be held before end August. Chairman title has been changed to Chair. Financial decisions in future will be made by the whole committee. 4.4 previously empowered the Committee to suspend anyone it likes, but there must be reasons given moving forward.

8. Guest Speaker

Adam Thompson

John Bangs welcomed 'Thommo' back to the Club as Equality & Diversity Officer. Thommo thanked Richard Exworthy (Rex) and John McCormack for providing the opportunity to come back to the Club. Rex asked if Thommo had experienced any racism, and what advice he'd give to young black players coming through. Thommo hasn't personally experienced any racist comments, but says we should support the actions of any player, should they experience any abuse. Hayden Bird has already confirmed that he will not hesitate in removing his team from a match if any of his players experience racial abuse. Thommo has spoken to Gifton Noel Williams about the calendar of events in Equality and Diversity, and will be ensuring the Club gets more involved in these activities.

**9. Guest Speakers
Vasilaras**

Hayden Bird/Yioryos

Hayden mentioned the 12th Man Scheme. He thanked fans for their generosity in such difficult times, and also thanked Yioryos Vasilaras for his work with the sponsors. Yioryos backed up Hayden's comments about the support for the 12th Man Scheme. He congratulated the Supporters Club for its great work during Lockdown. He said he was delighted that Adam Thompson was back with the Club. Hayden confirmed that the Supporters Club was vital to the success of the Football Club, and doing great work. Yioryos mentioned that Iain Butler has suggested a match in memory of Brian Newman, which he believes is a great idea, and it will be followed up. Hayden welcomed Adam Thompson to the Club and confirmed that the Club is fully supportive of the Equality & Diversity team. Hayden confirmed that his players will be taking the knee before matches, and that he has no tolerance for any form of discrimination.

A question and answer session followed with the supporters.

10. Any Other Business

Peter West raised the point that at the 2015 AGM, the members elected himself and Brian Newman as life members of the Supporters Club. Peter paid tribute to Brian, and thanked Brian for all the work he did for the Supporters Club and the Football Club. In addition, the Supporters Club lost its Chair Richard Webster, who did a tremendous amount of work for the Supporters Club. Peter also paid tribute to the members of the current committee, for all its work and the profile it has established. The Supporters Club will provide a flag for Brian Newman's funeral which will adorn his coffin. Kevin Eagle proposed that we invest in a flag to remember Brian 'Fossil' Newman, which was seconded by Ollie Underwood, and agreed by all.

The meeting was closed at 8.15pm