



THE ASSOCIATION OF PROVINCIAL FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS' CLUBS
IN LONDON [www.apfscil.org.uk]

37th Annual General Meeting
Monday 18th June 2012 at 19:30
The Exmouth Arms, 1 Starcross Street, London NW1 2HR

P = Present X = Absent A = Apologies

P	Aberdeen	X	Dundee United	X	Middlesbrough
P	Barrow	P	Everton	P	Newcastle United
X	Birmingham City	P	Exeter City	P	Norwich City
P	Blackburn Rovers	X	Gillingham	P	Nottingham Forest
P	Blackpool	X	Hartlepool United	P	Plymouth Argyle
X	Bolton Wanderers	X	Heart of Midlothian	P	Rangers
X	AFC Bournemouth	X	Hibernian	P	Rotherham United
P	Brighton & Hove Albion	X	Hull City	X	Scunthorpe United
A	Bristol City	P	Ipswich Town	A	Sheffield Wednesday
P	Burnley	X	Leeds United	P	Southampton
P	Cardiff City	P	Leicester City	P	Stoke City
X	Celtic	X	Liverpool	P	Sunderland
X	Chester City	X	London Scottish	A	West Bromwich Albion
P	Coventry City	P	Manchester City		
A	Derby County	A	Mansfield Town	P	Football Rep

The above table is compiled using the attendance sheet. If your team is shown incorrectly it is almost certainly due to the attendance sheet not being properly completed on the night.

The total number of clubs represented was 22. so only just quorate.

Top Table Chairman Kevin Wells (Leicester City) opened the meeting at 19.45. Also present on the top table was Roger Pyne, Minutes Secretary (Exeter City).

1: Apologies for Absence

1.1 Tony Vass, Vice Chairman (WBA); Neil Le Milliere, Secretary (Exeter); Nick Head, Treasurer (Southampton); Ian Colley, Sheffield Wednesday; Paul Beckett, Sheffield Wednesday; John Wood, Stoke; Mark Cooke, Bristol City; Richie Cockton (Sunderland); Stephen Perrins, Derby; and Steve Murray, Mansfield Town.

2: Minutes of 36h Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the 36th Annual General Meeting were approved.

3: Matters Arising

3.1 There were no matters arising from the 36h Annual General Meeting.

4: Chairman's Report - Kevin Wells (Leicester)

4.1 I would just like to say thanks to all the other committee members and Liz Cocks (Blackpool) who has done sterling work on the website, together with a hope that perhaps others would like to fill some of the vacant positions.

5: Secretary's Report - Neil Le Milliere (Exeter City)

5.1 Membership Attendance Records – please see annex A.

5.2 I have nothing else to report.

6: Treasurer's Report - Nick Head (Southampton)

6.1 Unfortunately, due to work Nick is unable to attend the meeting but he will be leaving the Treasurers report and the audited accounts at the Exmouth Arms prior to the meeting.

6.2 Given the current healthy state of our accounts, I am proposing that we freeze subs at their same level (£15 full and £5 associate). The proposed levels of subscriptions were approved by the meeting. Some discussion took place before the agreement. Dave Leitch (Barrow) questioned the level of subscriptions given the healthy bank balances. Kevin Wells (Chairman) suggested that monies might be required for the website or perhaps paying for guest speakers and that the matter should be revisited next year. If any member clubs have suggestions for the occasional guest speaker please feel free to pass these on to the Chairman. Ian Wood (Burnley) recommended expenditure on revamping the website.

6.3 The accounts as submitted were approved by the meeting.

7: Travel Secretary's Report – Neil Le Milliere (Exeter)

7.1 It has not been a particularly successful year for travel although there have been one or two areas where things have improved, notably the deal that East Midlands trains offered us. However at the same time relationships with some other TOCs took a definite turn for the worse.

When you add to this the apparent stagnation of anything happening with the Rail Football Forum then we face some big challenges with rail travel for the coming season.

8: Sports & Social Secretaries Reports

8.1 Social Report

8.1.1 With no social secretary there has been no social activities organised but we did have a good post meeting event when Dennis Tueart came along to promote his book.

Hopefully someone will come forward to take on this job to reinvigorate our social side.

Neil Le Milliere, Secretary.

8.2 Darts Report

With just one fixture outstanding, which will not have any effect on promotion or relegation issues, the darts season is almost over. Phew!

The full tables can be viewed on the APFSCIL website. For last season's AGM Phil appended them to his report, but as I don't know to do this, you'll have to do it the hard way!

The important bits are that in Division One Ipswich Town again dominated, losing only once in finishing 14 points ahead of runners-up Leicester City with Derby County and Scunthorpe United being relegated.

Gillingham stormed to the Division One title, again losing only once and finishing a whopping 22 points ahead of Sunderland in second place. Newcastle United and Manchester City worked their way down to the basement division.

Things were MUCH closer in the Third Division with Bolton Wanderers on 87 points edging out Chester City by a single point to win the title. Had the latter beaten Blackpool by one leg more than the eventual 7-4 in their final game, they would have taken the title on points difference.

In the knockout cup, Nottingham Forest and Sunderland provided new faces in the final with Forest prevailing in what was an enthralling match. With the scores level at 5-5 going into the beer leg a 180 helped Forest edge it. Not sure if that's in the spirit of APFSCIL!

Leicester City's Raj Gujjalu and Steve Port beat Forest's Steve Garland and Craig Munro in a well attended Pairs competition while Raj beat surprise finalist (well, I was surprised!) Zach Mendelson of Blackpool to win the Singles competition to complete a fantastic season for him personally and his team.

Special mention must go to Forest's Andre Maxwell, who, in being part of the Cup winning team became, we believe, the first player to complete a clean sweep of Cup, Singles, Pairs and all three divisions. Of course if you know differently.....

My congratulations to all.

As there seemed to be little appetite for a presentation night the awards were handed out prior to the Pairs competition.

Ipswich Town and Derby County couldn't sort out a night for the Super Cup so by mutual agreement this was suspended for this season.

My thanks go to Andre Maxwell (Trophies Manager), Chris Farthing (Competition Manager) and divisional reps Ray Elliott, Tina Robertson and Rick Goby.

BIG thanks go particularly to Tina without whom the season would not have happened. She's been there to help with every crisis, and there's been a few, and has got to grips with computer stuff that left me floundering, nay, sinking!

The AGM, originally scheduled for July 2nd, has been re-scheduled for the following week viz July 9th, due to holidays. Mine. it will be held at The Sekforde.

While mistakes have undoubtedly been made in my first season as secretary, with lots of patience from team captains I'll learn from them and improve next season. That is, of course, unless someone else wants to take over.....

Peter did emphasise that new member clubs were needed and would be made most welcome, so please do speak to Peter if you are at all interested. Peter also mentioned that it looked likely that Burnley would be dropping out.

Peter Reynolds pete.reynolds3@btinternet.com

8.3 Football Report

8.3.1 We have not received a report prior to the meeting but I am hopeful there will be one made to the meeting. Terry Cecil, the Football Secretary, did report that there were various proposals and discussions expected to take place at the Football Section's AGM which took place of 25/5 which would then be brought to the main AGM.

Jason Cobine (Football Chairman), addressed the meeting and said that it had been a good season with good discipline throughout. It had to be noted, however, that the number of clubs taking part had for some time been falling, and the Football Section would like to find ways to address that, the suggestion that London based supporters of teams or countries outside the UK be accepted in the league to bolster numbers and the competitive nature of the league.

Ian Todd (Sunderland) recalled the debacle of Meadowbank Thistle's participation. The Football Chairman confirmed that the sorts of teams he had in mind would be genuine supporters of that particular club/country.

Robbie Jenkins (Rangers) emphasised that new entrants must be members of APFSCIL first, and attend the requisite number of meetings. When clubs paid their Football Subscriptions perhaps the APFSCIL subscription could be collected at the same time.

Kevin Wells (Chairman) confirmed that the proposal of the Football Section was not precluded by the constitution.

The suggested course of action by the Football Section was approved by the meeting.

8.4 Pool Report

8.4.1 We are almost there. Congratulations to Southampton, Exeter and Nottingham Forest for completing their fixtures. Please make sure that all matches are played by Friday 20th July. Steve Cole (Newcastle) told the meeting that there were four game left to play and that a Summer Cup was planned.

<http://apfscilpool.leaguerepublic.com/>

Steve Cole steve_cole99@btinternet.com

9: Webmaster's Report – Liz Cocks (Blackpool)

As my first season with webmaster comes to a close, I would like to thank those who have bothered to send updated information for their supporters association. Hopefully other groups in the association will use the closed season to send through their changes.

The website was obviously in a outdated information state and although it isn't perfect I am continuing to make progress.

Liz reminded member clubs to see if their information was up to date on the APFSCIL website. If it was not then could the clubs contact Liz to correct this.

10: Election of Officers

A number of Officers have agreed to stand for a further year but all would be more than willing to stand aside should anyone else feel moved to fill their roles.

Please remember that we really do need the empty posts filled and, in particular, the Vice-Chairs'.

10.1 Chairman	Kevin Wells, Leicester City
10.2 Vice Chairman	Vacant
10.3 Secretary	Neil Le Milliere Exeter
10.4 Treasurer	Nick Head, Southampton
10.5 Travel Secretary	Neil Le Milliere Exeter
10.6 Press and Publicity Secretary	Vacant
10.7 Social Secretary	Vacant
10.8 Minutes Secretary	Roger Pyne Exeter

There were no other nominations, so the above were voted in en bloc.

The following positions are appointments rather than elections and in the case of the Sports Secretaries, each section's own AGM appoints them.

10.9 Webmaster	Liz Cocks Blackpool
10.10 Darts Secretary	Vacant
10.11 Football Secretary	Terry Cecil, Manchester City
10.12 Pool Secretary	Vacant

11: Supporter and Newsletter of the Year Awards

11.1 We have received no nominations for the Supporter of the year.

11.2 We have two received entries for the Newsletter/Website of the year and the committee will consider these in due course.

11.3 The committee invites anyone who has not yet entered to submit their entries now and they will be considered in time for the August meeting.

12: Date of Next Monthly General

12.1 Monday 6th August at the Exmouth Arms at 19.30..

13: Motions

We have received three motions for debate.

13.1 Motion from Paul Beckett, Sheffield Wednesday

Please find below a proposal to be raised at the AGM next month. Now I will not be in attendance unfortunately (well not unfortunately really as I'll be in Kiev), so if it is not possible to raise a proposal in the proposer's absence, then so be it. My proposal relates to Section 5 (b) of the constitution. I am proposing a change to the first sentence and to Clause 5(b)i only. The rest of the paragraph remains unchanged.

(b) General Meetings

General Meetings of the Association shall be held upon the first Monday of alternate months commencing each August except:

i. Where the first Monday in alternate months is a Bank Holiday then the General Meeting in that month shall be held upon the second Monday.

ii. The Administrative Committee may cancel a General Meeting providing the proposal is passed at the General Meeting which immediately precedes the proposed cancelled General Meeting.

iii. A General Meeting may be called at the discretion of the Administrative Committee at any time and shall so be called at the request of no fewer than one quarter in number of the affiliated organisations of the Association.

iv. Notice of A General Meeting pursuant to sub paragraph (iii) of this paragraph shall be given by the Administrative Committee sending written

notice to each affiliated organisation not less than 7 days before the date of the intended meeting.

In practice this will result in General Meetings in August, October, December, February, April. The date of the AGM remains as noted in the present constitution.

I am suggesting this change because the meetings appear mainly to be repetitious (reporting on Secretarial, Travel, Finance, sports arms, etc.). Clearly, these do need to be reported upon and the reports of these standard portions could continue to be circulated on a monthly basis via the various APFSCIL mailing lists.

The AOB element at the end of these meetings is usually pretty short. According to the minutes of the last 12 month's meetings, 8 out of the 11 have lasted 35 minutes or less, (but note this does include the April 2012 Dennis Tueart meeting) and I would argue that there does not seem to be enough "new" business to warrant a meeting every month.

The present constitution makes allowances for additional meetings to be called and this clause (5.b.iii) could be activated if events dictated that a meeting be held in one of the "off" months.

One downside of such a change would be that if more of the meetings had Q&A-type sections (like the Tueart one), then the formal element may end up being cut short to hit a start time. Alternatively, these types of Q&A meetings could be scheduled, where possible, to fill the "off" months which would probably be better anyway as the majority of attendees would be from one or two clubs associated with the guest.

I am uncertain of the status of the Middlesbrough proposals (initially raised back in October according to my notes) on the future direction of APFSCIL which may contain proposals on this subject.

An important part of the monthly meetings is the social side, and of course there is nothing to prevent "informal" gatherings on the "off" months for those who wish. Please advise if it is possible to put this forward for a vote at the AGM. There may possibly be ramifications on other Clauses as per the terms of the Constitution.

Many thanks. Paul Beckett. London Owls

13.1.1 There followed a wide-ranging debate regarding the monthly meeting. Steve Cook (Newcastle) seconded the motion. Many speakers, including Paul Welch (Brighton) and Martin Garrett (Coventry) felt that guest speakers would be a good idea. Ian Wood (Burley) felt that monthly meetings were needed as an effective method of communication with member clubs. Monica Hartland (Stoke) felt that having fewer meeting would be the start of a slippery slope for the association and would send the wrong message. Steve Moon (Nottingham Forest) felt that having fewer meetings would detract from the social side of

APFSCIL, taking away to opportunity to meet representatives from other member clubs.

There followed a further deal of discussion regarding a possible amendment to the proposed motion. The eventual feeling of the meeting was that the proposed change to the constitution be voted on before any amendments be considered. A vote was taken, with the majority not in favour of the proposal, four clubs voting in favour. The proposal was therefore not approved.

As the proposal was not approved, the possible amendment to the proposal was not put to the vote. For the record, the possible amendment read as follows:

“The meeting continue monthly, but the administrative committee reserve the right to cancel or curtail the formal business in the event of there being a guest speaker or equivalent social function“.

13.2 Hi Neil, A proposal regarding the website.

Some years ago I was involved with a small charity and they wished for their website to be improved. What they did was link and work with a local University/college who proposed the project as a part of Students project and competition. What they offered was a £500 prize and in return got a really good website from what was judged to be the winning project. It would have cost maybe 3-4K in the commercial world.

I think technologies such as using a CMS, for easy updates would be necessary rather than static pages, which are cumbersome to maintain.

Cheers, Simon Newell,

PS My suggestion isn't really about the content which as you pointed out is maintained very well. It was purely about a possible way in which the association may be able to lever for a small fee a dynamic modern website.

13.2.1 The proposal was noted by the meeting with interest, with perhaps the Committee to investigate further with Liz Cocks (Webmaster), but no vote was felt necessary by the meeting and none was taken.

13.3 Hi Neil - can't remember if an ordinary meeting follows the AGM but could we include a short motion passed at the Man City AGM yesterday.

"Manchester City Supporters Club London Branch calls upon APFSCIL to be more campaigning in regard to travel to improve the poor deal currently experienced by London-based supporters of teams from outside the Capital in these difficult financial times."

Members felt that we should flex our economic power particularly where a large number of teams travelled with a particular train company e.g. Virgin.

Cheers Maggie Reeves

13.3.1 The motion passed by Manchester City at their AGM was read to the meeting and duly noted.

14: AOB

14.1 John Goddard (Norwich City) advised he was doing a 10K charity run. Sponsorship would be most welcome via the usual channels.

14.2 Paul Morrison (Aberdeen) offered to give help and advice to any teams considering trying to set up a team to take part in the Football Section. Please feel free to get in touch (contact details via the APFSCIL website).

15: Meeting Closed at 20.55

Annexe A – Attendance Statistics 2011-12 (from 11 meetings)

We will present these to the August meeting as they have yet to be put together.