



**STOCKPORT COUNTY SUPPORTERS' CO-OPERATIVE LTD  
(REGISTRATION NUMBER 29273R)**

**MINUTES  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**THE SPINNING TOP, WELLINGTON ROAD SOUTH , 7pm  
MONDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 2024**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present:** Dave Marchbank ,Ian Brown, John Giles, Paul Thompson, Caz Burt, Graham Privett, Ian Watts, Damien Beaumont, David Waters, David Cunliffe, Terry Arnold, David Siddall, Michael Swan, David Wetters , Matthew White.  
Via Zoom Link- Cath Shanley , Ian Shanley, John K Bilsbury, Ian Brooks, Steve Cunningham  
Proxy Voters : Mary Wood ,Laurence Cross , Graham Allsop.  
( 19 of above 23 were eligible to vote )

**1. Welcome, Apologies and confirmation of Quorum**

**Apologies:** Jo Chick , John K Bilsbury ( who attended remotely), Paul Holt .

**DM** thanked everyone for their attendance and confirmed the meeting was quorate- 5 attending remotely via Zoom, 3 having lodged Proxy Voting Forms for the meeting.

**2. 2024 Election Results.**

**DM** confirmed that David Wetters and John K Bilsbury had been successfully nominated , and invited the meeting to approve their addition to the Supporters Cooperative Board- this was carried unanimously.

**3. Minutes of February 2024 SGM.**



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**DM** asked that the Minutes be approved . This was moved by **MW** / seconded by **DB** and carried unanimously.

#### **4. Chairman`s Report.**

**DM** then gave a wide-ranging assessment of the situation the Cooperative finds itself in currently, pointing to many achievements in the recent days- the ACV Renewal covering EP, our sponsorship of the Club`s Flag Bearer Scheme for a 3<sup>rd</sup> year, the initiative to provide County tickets to needy County supporters, and other initiatives including the recent brochure that was successfully distributed to a large EP crowd.

Drawing the meetings attention to our obvious Membership issues, **DM** indicated much work needed to be done but that possible solutions could be on the horizon.

With the improvement in membership numbers , especially young members , in mind **DM** introduced the meeting to the Board`s decision to link with the Con Club Coach Travel organisers on a trial basis,

Questions- Answering a number of questions **DM** confirmed that currently the Board would be comprised of 6 elected and 1 Independent Secretary from this meeting.

On how Coop members could be identified for Coach travel- **DM** indicated that much had still to be discussed and resolved . It was noted that there would be an online booking system in operation probably.

**DM** confirmed that the coach travel plan was not carried unanimously by the Board.

The Chairman`s Report was adopted unanimously!

#### **5. Treasurers Report.**

Treasurer **PT** presented his report highlighting , with satisfaction, that the Accounts had been submitted on time.

Balances at bank in our accounts were confirmed as :-

Guardian Account £82819.68

Working Account £4578.50

YTYT Account £581.03

**PT** pointed out that there were 3 signatories to the Guardian Account 1 of whom ( **IB**) would have to be removed having ceased to be a board member . Also - the YTYT account will be transferred to the Guardian Account

The Treasurer`s Report was approved unanimously.

**6. Approval of the 2024/25 accounts to be independently verified rather than audited.**

Approval was moved by JG seconded by GP then carried unanimously.

**7. Appointment of inspectors of accounts (if item 6 approved) or re-election of auditors.**

Approval was moved by **GP** and **IW** seconded and carried unanimously.

**8. Membership Report**

**IB** confirmed current numbers **218** members, **212** adults, **51-6** to 25 and 1 under 16's expressing disappointment at the current situation.

For the future more face to face contact with lapsed or pending lapsed members called for & a suitable replacement match day ops spot to the Grassy Knoll is an essential.

**MW** in questions stressed just how important membership retention was, saying it needs to be the top priority even at the expense of a potential knock back to membership numbers.

Other questioners pointed to the need for a usable system that incorporated automatic renewal.

The Membership Report was agreed unanimously.

**9. Fund Raising**

**JG** in reporting ,pointed to numerous fund-raising activities undertaken by the Board in the past year:-

Charity Work has been a major focus including an Xmas collection for The Wellspring that realised £1019 and a very successful drive that filled the collection room of the Chelwood Food Bank with food etc. The Calendar had raised £860 for St Ann`s Hospice , and a series of events had raised good sums for charities –Dave Jones Evening ( £1200 for the Christie), Andy Preece Evening ( £277 raised for the Coop) and the Osher Williams/ Tommy Sword ( £200 raised for the Coop) events both raised good sums.

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Upcoming we are publicising and helping with Forever Friends of Uganda who have Fraser Horsfall + another player for their evening soon. The Fundraising Report was approved unanimously.

## **10. Comms /Media Report**

**IB** presented the report highlighting a year of change and frustration as the intended handover of IC duties was interrupted when **EC** resigned from the Board due to ill health.

**IB** pointed to and thanked **PT** and **JG** for their work on IT & Social Media respectively.

**IB** indicated pleasure that John K Bilsbury will now take on Stockport Express and Match day Programme duties expressing confidence that John would be terrific in both roles.

In conclusion **IB** said it was time for a fresh face / new approach on Comms/Media and wished the new IC every success.

**IW** asked for a V.O.T to **IB** for his work over the years- this was carried unanimously.

## **11. Charity of the year 2025**

**DM** indicated that the Board favoured that we continue to support the Wellspring – this was agreed without debate and unanimously.

It was pointed out that at the Peterboro game on 20 December we would again by collecting for Wellspring!

## **12. New Supporters Trust Rules**

**DM** pointed out that this would require a 75% majority to prevail. Discussion followed plus 2 questions submitted prior by **GP** –

a) Title- Please explain what is changing, are we still a Coop?

**DM** confirmed in his answer that we were just falling in line with SFA rules- we will definitely still be a Cooperative.

b) Coopting-Please confirm that coopted Board members will still be in a minority!



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**DM** answered that a majority of elected members on the board will be maintained, confirming the composition to be 6 elected plus our Independent Secretary.

Following further discussion, it was made clear by members and the Chair that we would definitely seek to continue to co-opt members to the board as they often render excellent service!

The Motion was then Moved by **MW** & seconded by **DW**, being carried unanimously.

### **13. Any other business**

The meeting carried a vote of thanks to **GP** for the excellent work he again did producing and selling our unique Football Season Calendar, unanimously and to applause!

**DM** thanked **IB** warmly for his service upon retiring from the Board- **CB** presenting him with a gift from the board.

The raffle followed, involving all members present, logged on remotely via Zoom, or represented via a Proxy Voting Form.

It is good to report that David Siddall had the winning ticket and claimed the 95-96 County Away Shirt.

**Meeting closed with thanks to the Chair.**