



**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.



26th February 2024

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 3rd 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



26th February 2024

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.



26th February 2024

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!



26th February 2024

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.