

Amateur Football Combination
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting
Civil Service Club
6th May 2020

Present: J. Maskell (Chair), I. Andrews, N. Johnstone, B. O'Toole, M. Armstrong, J. Whitmarsh, M. Sainsbury, N. Macdonald, S. Lovejoy, T. Julien, R. Gibbs, S. Goldring

1. Apologies for Absence

1.1 A. Cashmore-Till, A. Meyer, S. Smith, A. Robinson

2. Conflict of Interest

2.1 There were no conflicts of interest to be recorded at this time, but mindful if any discussion takes place involving a member or members club, then such a conflict must be declared.

3. Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 14th Jan 2020.

3.1 The minutes were agreed with the following amendments requested by ACT

3.2 6C. Awards Committee To be inserted after the minute "the general appraisal of the Survey Returns were:....."

These comments related to observations by the DC and comments received from Clubs during the organisation of previous Dinners. Hence the requirement for a Survey of Club's opinions on the future format of the Dinner.

Trophies Update

To comment: "AC-T will produce a paper that will need to go before the AGM regarding the sale and disposal of the Trophies" creates a false emphasis.

The AC will produce a paper for the Exec. The AC's recommendations may be not to sell / dispose of any Trophies. The disposal of a Trophy or Trophies is just one of a variety of potential options for the Exec to consider and agree upon.

4. Matters arising from the Executive Committee Meeting on 14th Jan 2020.

4.1 It was noted that the update on the plan for the trophies is "The AC's current Terms of Reference is to produce a detailed Report within a timescale that facilitates (if appropriate) recommendations being made by the Exec to all AFC Clubs in order that this topic could be discussed with Clubs at the 2020 AGM". ACT

4.2 JMa will contact Blue Fin and see what club discounts if any will be available for season 20/21 and pass any updates onto NJ for his comments. SG also advised that his research done in October was completed but he hadn't sent on and will do so. JMa/NJ

5. Secretary Report.

5.1 All arrangements for season 20/21 are in hand and it should be noted that Alan Robinson will no longer be standing as Exec member for 20/21. An additional Exec member is required from the VP list.

5.2 Norman MacDonald needs to nominate a new President for 20/21 NMc

5.3 JMa and MA will have a chat re succession into Chairman role for AFC JM/MA

5.4 It was agreed that the AGM should be held on 25th June starting at 7pm and being held via Microsoft Teams. JW will set the AGM up on teams and link in the polling option to enable club votes and send invites. JW

5.5 A discussion on the 20/21 season then followed in which it was suggested reducing or scrapping club and/or teams AFC affiliation fees. SL would produce various options and SL

send to all members as the AFC has been in profit in the past two seasons. MA asked that a note be sent to all clubs re this option, which will be included in the AGM Notes document that is sent out with all AGM papers. IA

- 5.6 Pembroke College OB had requested joining League in 20/21 and JMa would further contact them and other three clubs that had shown interest and report back at next Exec JMa

6. Committee Reports

- a) **Club Support Committee:** - Nothing to Report.
- b) **Development & Communications Committee:-** Nothing to Report.
- c) **Awards Committee:-**

To date the following actions have been completed.

1. A general photographic record of all AFC/LOB Trophies was undertaken. In tandem, a Valuation was produced by Raven Silverware. This information was combined in a Report dated 17/5/19.

2. A further photographic record of all the Trophies stored at BYS in West Norwood was undertaken by Mick Kelly on 24/11/19. Such Trophies represented those Trophies either not presented at 2019 Dinner or were spare Trophies not currently in usage. This exercise collected additional pictorial images of Hallmarks and dedications, inscriptions, etc. on individual Trophies. The resultant information has been incorporated into a spreadsheet.

3. When in February 2020 LOB Trophies were returned to the AFC Engravers, MK embarked upon a similar exercise transcribing dedications and inscriptions from Trophies into the spreadsheet whilst compiling a photographic record of Hallmarks etc.

It was the Awards Committee's intention to complete this information gathering exercise on the Trophies in early April once all the AFC Trophies that had been with Clubs were returned to the Engravers as a precursor to the May 2020 Awards Ceremony. The lockdown has thwarted this objective. I understand that there may well be consternation about paying a further year's insurance premiums on the Trophies, which is due on 24 September 2020. The cost of 2019/20 insurance premium was £3,500.

I have contacted both The National Football Museum and Graham Budd Auctions, the two organisations who have expressed a conditional interest in purchasing the AFC/LOB Trophies. Not surprisingly both organisation are currently closed.

The National Football Museum's main income source is from admissions. They have a separate budget for acquisitions but are utilising this budget to defray costs in other areas of their business operations. Hence they are not currently in a position to make purchases unless the Trophy or Trophies are bought at a substantially discounted price.

The leading Sports Memorabilia Auction Houses, eg. Staceys, Sportingold, Barnebys, SAS, Mullocks and Buds, have switched their marketing strategies to sales 'online only'. I have been advised that sales prices in the room have fallen dramatically. Apparently football memorabilia collectors prefer to physically examine items they are bidding for and place less reliance on a Condition Report. There are therefore numerous options for the AFC to consider dependent upon a variety of scenarios.

- d) **Club Rep Committee:-** Simon Goldring was now able to resume his role as chairman of this committee following his wife's recovery from her riding accident. SG
- e) **Finance Committee:-** Latest accounts were sent to all members and SL was asked to prepare accounts showing three options of a reduction in club & team fees for 20/21. Following much debate on how the AFC could help subsidise clubs moving forward it was agreed to vote on the preferred option at the next Exec meeting.
- f) **Fixtures Committee:-** A draft Constitution would be drawn up and should the Covid rules be such that the start date of 20/21 season is delayed or many teams drop out due to financial reasons then an EGM would be held to discuss options. LOB Cup Finals would be played asap once we start playing again.

It was proposed and agreed that the two teams that won their division Fitzwilliam OB & Old Pegasonians be presented with the trophies that they won once the new season starts. This was agreed and the two trophies should be suitably engraved.

- g) **Referees Committee:-** Nothing to Report
- h) **Representative Committee:-** Nothing to Report
- i) **Rules Revision Committee:-** BOT advised that there was no requirement to add any Safeguarding in the current AFC rules. He would get all rule changes ready for next meeting and asked Committee Chairmen to contact him with any changes required
- j) **SOF Committee:-** Nothing to Report

7. **AFA Representatives Report**

- 7.1 It was to be asked of the AFA Board the planned Referees fees for 20/21 plus any reductions in County Affiliation Fees for 20/21 in line with other counties in the SE.

8 **AOB**

- 8.1 None

Date of Next Meeting – 1st June (Micro Teams)

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm.