



21 Hurst Street
Reddish
Stockport
Cheshire
SK5 7BA

5 November 2018

Dear SCSC Member,

Notification of 2018 Annual General Meeting

The 2018 Annual General Meeting of Stockport County Supporters' Society Ltd will be held at the Spinning Top, 20 Wellington Road South, Stockport SK4 1AA at 7.30pm on Monday 26 November 2018. The agenda is enclosed.

The meeting will first consider routine business, including approval of the Accounts, reports from Officers and a report on the Guardian Account.

If the election to the Board is contested, we will then hold a hustings, where candidates for election to the Board will address the meeting and answer questions from the floor. Ballot papers will be distributed after the hustings (if the election is not contested, the candidates will be presented to the meeting for approval.)

After the AGM there will be an opportunity for informal discussion.

If you are unable to attend the AGM, please return the enclosed proxy / voting form.

Please contact me if you have any questions, comments, or offers of help.

Best regards,

Caroline Burt

Independent Secretary



countycopsecretary@gmail.com



SCSC Secretary, 21 Hurst Street, Reddish, Stockport, Cheshire, SK5 7BA

Enclosures:

Agenda

Proxy / voting form

AGM Minutes, 9 November 2017

Accounts 2017/2018

Nomination Form

Stockport County Supporters' Co-operative is the trading name of Stockport County Supporters' Society Limited
Incorporated in England and Wales under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014
Reg'd No. IP29273R

www.countysupporterscoop.co.uk



Annual General Meeting

Stockport County Supporters' Society Ltd

Monday 26 November 2018, 19:30

The Spinning Top, 20 Wellington Road South, Stockport SK4 1AA

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 2017 AGM, for approval
3. Chairman's Report
4. Treasurer's Report and accounts for year ending 30 June 2018, for approval
5. Approval for the 2018/19 accounts to be independently examined rather than audited
6. Appointment of Inspectors of accounts (if Item 5 approved) or re-election of Auditors
7. Membership report
8. Half Marathon / Fundraising report
9. Media report
10. Guardian Account
11. Any other administrative business
- 20 min break
12. Election Hustings

The formal AGM will be followed by an informal meeting to discuss the future of the Society.

Annual General Meeting
Stockport County Supporters' Society Ltd

Thursday 9 November 2017, 7.30pm
The Bungalow, Hardcastle Road, Stockport, SK3 9DB

Minutes

Members present: 29

1. Apologies

Apologies and Proxies were received from John Cannon, Dan Levy and Les Pollard.

Apologies and Voting Forms were received from Stephen Ball, Paul Fielding, Sam Hall, Timothy Jones, Harold Maycock and Jean Maycock.

Apologies were received from, Vincent Kenny, Lloyd P Robinson and David Thompson.

2. Announcement of the Election Results

The Chair announced that there would be a slight amendment to the published agenda as a result of the election being uncontested. Instead of the proposed hustings, the candidates would now be presented to the meeting and members would be able to ask them questions.

The successful candidates were Andrew Burt, Edward Keane and Andrew Plant. These appointments were approved. It was noted that the Board is now carrying one vacancy.

3. Approval of the minutes of the 2016 AGM

It was noted that copies of the minutes from the 2016 AGM had been circulated with the Calling Notice. It was proposed by Ian Brown and seconded by Andy Plant that these minutes were a true record of the meeting.

4. Chairman's Report: Pete Towey

The Chair reported on achievements since the AGM last November.

The Co-op has been functioning well over the last 12 months, holding regular monthly meetings. There are also sub groups helping out with events and fundraising who also meet regularly.

The membership system is working well and people are renewing their memberships online, unfortunately we are also losing a similar amount meaning

the overall number remains static which is a cause for concern. The Co-op needs to make recruitment a priority over the next 12 months.

Something we are doing very well with is fundraising. We've had the Hatters Half Marathon again this year, the Beer Festival in June where the Co-op were given the Thursday night, and we continue to enjoy a good relationship with the Spinning Top. The cabin is also becoming a recognised base for the Co-op. People know where to find us on match days and it also raises money, slowly but steadily via membership fees and merchandise.

The Co-op have attempted to maintain a relationship with SCFC. The meetings should take place every six weeks but they tend to keep slipping which is a cause for concern.

It was reported at the last AGM that the Co-op still hold 17,500 shares in SCFC which remains the case. This means we will be invited to the upcoming shareholders meeting.

5. Treasurer's Report and accounts for year ending 30 June 2017: Paul Charnock

It was noted that the accounts for the year ending 30 June 2017 had been circulated with the Calling Notice. Ended the financial year on £40,836 in cash assets (including the Guardian Account) which is £10,000 up on last year.

6. Approval of the accounts for year ending 30 June 2017

This was proposed by Ed Keane and seconded by Dave Marchbank. Approved.

7. Approval for the 2017/18 accounts to be independently examined rather than audited

This was proposed by Pete Towey and seconded by Mike Davies. Approved.

8. Appointment of Inspectors of accounts

The Chair advised that Sedulo should be appointed to complete the inspection of accounts for 2017/18. This was proposed by Damian Beaumont and seconded by Clem Beaumont. Approved.

9. Approval for the Rulebook to be amended to reflect the changes in legislation

It was explained that the Rulebook in its current state refers to out of date legislation which, although it is still legally binding, it is bad practice. It was noted that a version of the Rulebook with all necessary amendments highlighted had been circulated with the calling Notice. It is proposed that the Rulebook be amended to reflect these changes.

This was proposed by Matthew White and seconded by Mick McKenzie. Approved.

10. Guardian Account Report

The current balance is £42,271. Income for the year includes £4,800 from the Hatters Half, Cabin takings of £1,900, Dave Marchbank ran the Ellesmere 10K raising £,700, the deal with the Spinning Top brought in £817, £700 was raised from the quiz nights, £300 from the Beer Festival, various raffles £200 and the 5 aside tournament raised £600.

Limited edition shirts have just been launched and are for sale with proceeds going to the Guardian Account.

The Co-op also launched an e-bay account which is bringing income in.

11. Approval for the preferred option for the Guardian Account to be the acquisition of an equity stake in Edgeley Park

John has put a lot of work on this and has put together a PowerPoint presentation that everyone should have seen. Having spoken to the Club, they are still talking to the Council so although the Club are supportive of the idea, they would rather we put this on hold for the time being.

However, it is widely acknowledged that without a focus the Guardian Account will not raise as much money. It is proposed to make the purchase of a stake in Edgeley Park the focus.

It is important to remember that ultimately the use for the Guardian Account will remain flexible. The point of the Guardian Account is to buy an asset which could be a training ground, a stake in EP, or worst case scenario, a Phoenix Club.

Q: You have repeatedly said that the Club is in negotiations with the Council. About what?

A: Stockport County have been negotiating the conditions of the lease.

We have to think long term. We are not in a position to buy a stake in Edgeley Park tomorrow. This is going to take time and by the time we have the money in place we might not be talking with the current Directors.

Q: What is the main advantage of setting a focus?

A: If we have an asset owned by the fans, we are in a much stronger position if owners come to the football club that don't have the best interests of SCFC at heart. We would like to own a physical asset.

Q: Can you guarantee that this asset is secure?

A: The Guardian Account money has to be spent on an asset to safeguard the future of this football club, not on wages etc. Not a penny will be spent without the approval of the members.

Q: Can we not vote tonight and take this away? Some aspects need to be re-examined. Could we go for a golden share instead? How would 5% give us a veto if someone came along? It's such a small amount. There is talk in the document of borrowing against the ground to set up a Phoenix Club. If you are setting this up as a marketing tool, people will take this seriously and there is a credibility issue here if it doesn't happen. Why have the Co-op not spoken to the Council before putting this proposal to the members? Can it not be left as it is without a focus? Could sell the Guardian Account in its own right which is a better marketing tool than telling people we will buy a 5% stake in 2 years' time.

A: The vote is about do you support the focus. If you don't agree with it, vote no. Nothing changes after this vote, it just gives it a focus. People currently don't understand what the Guardian Account is for.

We haven't approached the Council as there isn't enough money in the account yet. The Co-op could be accused of going behind members backs if we'd spoken to the Council before this meeting.

Q: Two examples worry me – Huddersfield and Coventry. Got to make sure we are properly safeguarded. Not sure why this needs a vote, it just seems to be a marketing focus. The main purpose is just to buy an asset.

A: The Board are just asking for a steer from the Membership that we should make buying a stake in EP as a main focus. Currently, the fundraising events bring 95% of the money into the Guardian Account and only 5% in donations.

Q: A 5% stake in the ground – how much ground does that give us? If Council disposed of their 95% to a developer, would our 5% be able to stop that happening?

A: When the Council bought the ground they did it to help the football club. If we owned 5% it wouldn't stop a developer, but if it did get sold we would get our money back. Plus it would make it harder to sell.

The Chair outlined that there were three choices open to the Membership tonight, vote to approve the proposal, reject it, or refer it back to the Board.

It was proposed to refer it back to the Co-op Board. A vote was held, and the majority voted against.

It's important to remember that we are voting on the principle that this is the preferred option. A vote was held, the majority voted in favour and the motion was carried.

12. Membership Report: Damian Beaumont

The membership system is now online. The level of membership seems to have stagnated over the last 12 months. We currently have 400 paid up members.

Q: Need to incentivise the fan base. Can some of the membership fee not go to the Guardian Account?

A: Not a bad idea, but once the money goes into the Guardian Account, we can't get it out. We need the money from membership to top up our current account for running costs. If we were to take this idea forward, we might have to put the membership price up.

Not sure how successful this would be though. To incentivise people you need to offer some sort of short term reward.

Q: Need to look at the title. It's very legalistic. It doesn't appeal to the younger fans.

A: We could rebrand if necessary.

There are plans to have a recruitment drive on a match day to try and drive the numbers up.

Hopefully as the Guardian Account gets promoted more, this should drive the membership as if you want a say on how the money is spent you need to be a member.

13. Hatters Half: John Giles

The third Hatters Half Marathon took place on Sunday 3 September 2017. There were 402 paying runners with 311 runners actually taking part. The event raised £4,837. A special mention goes to Des Greene, our Guardian Account Hero, who raised £744 for the Guardian Account.

Robinsons sponsored the event for the third year in a row. They give us a 4 figure fee, so their support is invaluable.

This year we linked up with the Wellspring charity who took 30 places in the race.

A big thanks also goes to the 70 volunteers who helped out on the day.

The next event will be on Sunday 2 September 2018.

The Chair thanked John for all his efforts in getting the event on.

14. Media Report: Ian Brown

The main communication focus over the last 12 months has largely been on the Guardian Account.

We've done our best to keep members fully informed. The newsletters have all gone out via the usual channels – e-mail, social media, Stockport Express, the message boards. We always welcome suggestions on how we can improve.

Offline is always tricky as it isn't as easy to communicate with people who don't have e-mail. This is where the cabin has been an invaluable tool giving the Co-op a physical presence on match days whilst also raising funds. It raised £2,000 for the Guardian Account last season and £1,000 so far this season. A big thanks goes to all the supporters for their generosity in donating merchandise.

The iconic shirts have gone on sale with proceeds being split between SCAN and the Co-op. So far we have sold 21 shirts raising £300 for the Guardian Account.

The Chair thanked Ian for all his hard work over the last 12 months.

15. Any other administrative business

None.

16. Presentation of candidates to election to the Society

It was noted that three nominations had been received for election to the Board, for the four vacancies available. These nominations been ratified by an independent elections committee, of which Neil le Milliere from the Exeter Supporters Trust was Chair.

Andy Burt, Ed Keane and Andy Plant were called to the stage for introduction to the Membership.

As the Board are carrying a vacancy, we may well look at co-opting someone on.

Thanks go to the outgoing Board members, Christine Robinson, Paul Charnock and Billy Byrne.

Being no further questions or comments from the audience, the meeting was declared closed at 9.20pm.

STOCKPORT COUNTY SUPPORTERS' SOCIETY LIMITED
TRADING AS: STOCKPORT COUNTY SUPPORTERS' CO-OPERATIVE

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

	30.6.2018		30.6.2017	
	£	£	£	£
MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS		3,542		4,344
OTHER INCOME				
Donations	12,038		10,803	
Fundraising	9,393		11,793	
		21,431		22,596
TOTAL INCOME		24,973		26,940
OPERATING EXPENDITURE				
Fundraising costs	4,706		6,567	
Printing, postage and stationery	354		683	
Publicity	300		450	
Web costs	482		291	
Membership costs incl AGM	150		288	
Insurance	395		386	
Accountancy fees	600		600	
Professional fees	-		-	
Sundry costs	577		350	
Donations	265		155	
Bank charges	31		117	
		7,860		9,887
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		17,113		17,053
Bank interest receivable		-		2
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		17,113		17,055
Corporation tax		-		-
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAXATION		17,113		17,055

STOCKPORT COUNTY SUPPORTERS' SOCIETY LIMITED
TRADING AS: STOCKPORT COUNTY SUPPORTERS' CO-OPERATIVE

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 JUNE 2018

	Notes	30.6.2018	30.6.2017
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Investments	2	17,500	12,500
CURRENT ASSETS			
Prepayments		298	425
Cash at bank and in hand		52,220	40,411
		<u>52,518</u>	<u>40,836</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accruals and deferred income	3	2,723	3,186
		<u>2,723</u>	<u>3,186</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>67,295</u>	<u>50,150</u>
TOTAL ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)		<u><u>67,295</u></u>	<u><u>50,150</u></u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
Share capital	4	289	411
Capital reserves	5	2,177	2,023
Accumulated surplus		64,829	47,716
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS / (DEFICIT)	6	<u><u>67,295</u></u>	<u><u>50,150</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 4 to 8 were approved by the Board on 22 November 2018
and signed on their behalf by:

Pete Towey - Chair

Ian Brown - Board Member

STOCKPORT COUNTY SUPPORTERS' SOCIETY LIMITED
TRADING AS: STOCKPORT COUNTY SUPPORTERS' CO-OPERATIVE

STATEMENT OF RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

	30.6.18 £	30.6.17 £
Retained surplus brought forward	47,716	30,661
Surplus for the year	17,113	17,055
Retained surplus carried forward	<u>64,829</u>	<u>47,716</u>

The notes on pages 7 to 8 form part of these financial statements