



# Chelmsford City Supporters' Club

## Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 6pm at the EMG Inspire Stadium Clubhouse**

1. Present

From the Football Club (FC) – Steve Shore (SS), Micky Spillane (MS), Adam Drew (AD)

From the Supporters' Club (SC) – Jordan McManus (JM), Richard Macey (RM), Will O'Donnell (WOD)

2. Apologies

Apologies were sent in by Robbie Simpson (RS) and Richie Bethell (RB)

3. Updates on discussions with interested parties

- As previously stated, SS has been in discussion with two parties (Party 1 and Party 2) regarding takeover talks.
- Party 1 have been sent information by SS. They are currently away but SS expects to hear from them by the end of the week. In the short term, SS has a preference that Party 1 joins the board and works within the current set up rather than a full takeover, as they would bring much needed skills to the Board. In addition, if they wished to strengthen the squad they would be able to be involved in this from when it starts early in the New Year rather than now when a large number of deals are already agreed.
- SS feels that Party 2 would be less preferable than Party 1 as they are less connected to the club and hence SS is waiting until Party 1 has made a decision before progressing discussions with Party 2.
- SS also stated that he has been approached by someone interested in setting up a female academy. SS commented that whilst he thinks it is a good thing for the club and is one of the fastest growing areas of sport, he has not progressed this as he felt that the club had higher priorities currently; the Supporters Club representatives agreed this was the right decision.

4. Season Tickets (ST)

- SS acknowledged the mistake made in the FC being closed on the opening day of ST sales and apologised to those who turned up to the FC on Monday.
- SS is to look into the answering machine message backlog, although the phones are in the process of being changed over.



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### 5. Player Kit Sponsorship

- The SC are currently not in a position to commit to handing funds over to the FC whilst takeover talks are ongoing.
- The SC will lead on running/organising kit sponsorship, but the money raised has to be a 50:50 split between the SC and FC. If the FC want a higher split in their favour, then they will have to take ownership of organising this. SS to provide the SC with a final decision.

### 6. CCFC Staffing

- New General Manager (GM) has been appointed and will start on 21<sup>st</sup> June. The new GM will oversee all commercial activities and events.
- A new Events Coordinator role is being set up and progress is being made to fill this role, they will answer to the GM.
- A new Operations Manager, Paul Bailey, has been appointed at the racecourse who will also oversee related activities at the Football Club. Paul has previously been at Tottenham Hotspur and Charlton Athletic Football Clubs.
- Jackie is covering Administration and Reception.
- Sophie is covering Marketing and Media.
- SS to bring in the HR department at the racecourse to also be used as the HR for the Football Club.

### 7. Matchday Operations

- The SC actively encourages its members to volunteer for the FC, however any volunteering is carried out as an individual under the FC's control.
- The FC will lead on organising the volunteers.
- The FC is proposing to continue to use Regency for stewarding/security next season.

### 8. Ground Improvements

- FC still waiting to hear back on two grant applications. One being worth £10k from the FA ground improvement scheme to fund the dugouts. FC are also through to the 2nd round of talks for a £50k grant that can be used on major improvements to the facilities. The FC will need to pull a proposal together to support the application.
- SS to find out when the ground can be accessed by volunteers to prepare for the new season (Set up Ro Ro and Cro Ro).
- MS would like wall space in the clubhouse to showcase the Academy.

### 9. Student Fairs

- To be booked. SS to come back to SC with dates
- SS would like SC to help hand leaflets out.



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### 10. Chelmsford City Football Club Foundation

- This has now been set up and registered/received approval from the Charity Commission
- 19<sup>th</sup> July – Launch night at the Racecourse. SS to work on flyer and send to JM. Tickets will be free.

### 11. Chelmsford City Racecourse benefits for Supporters' Club Membership

- SS confirmed that this can be an additional benefit for SC members.
- JM will look into 2022 meeting dates (midweeks only) and will confirm desired dates with SS for approval.
- Will be free entry to the selected race meetings.

### 12. AOB

- MS specifically added that whilst the club may have finished third bottom it had one of the best defensive records in the league and at this point in time is in exactly the same position as Ebbsfleet which, it was reported the other day, had been spending £25k per week.
- MS & AD asked what type of squad the SC was looking for. It was suggested that the right mix was experience with younger local talent.
- FC is actively looking for Business Sponsorship for the Academy.
- RM asked SS who will be representing the FC at the National League end of season meeting at Celtic Manor. SS confirmed that he will be representing the FC and will also be there as member of the National League Board.
- MS and AD ask for fans to pull in the same direction and to be patient as lots of things are taking place in the background regarding potential new signings etc.

### 13. Date of Next Meeting – Week Commencing 27<sup>th</sup> June (Date TBC)