**Official Accrington Stanley Supporters Trust**

**Board Meeting – 19/08/2021**

**Attendees- Peter Leatham, Peter Warburton, Ken Jefferson, Joshua Adcroft, Megan Parker, Mike Procter, Andy Buckle, Jeff Cleary, Joanne Butterworth, Debra Phillips**

**Apologies – Jason Graham, Darren Woodhead, Jill Macintosh**

*The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as being a full and correct record.*

*A warm welcome was given to new board member and supporter chaplain Debra Phillips.*

**Ongoing Projects –** 43 garden plaques have now been sold with £2,610 of orders generating £1,120 profit. 102 packs of the player cards have been sold with Phil in Arizona selling individual signed cards through his eBay account to generate funds. Ultra Tee sales are steady with 70 already ordered, JG explained a couple more designs are on their way to attract more sales.

**New Facilities –** Following talks with Andy Holt and from his open and honest Twitter account, the concept of the new bar will move away from a supporters bar as such decorated with stickers, shirts etc. ASFC will use it for approx. 25 games per season, however it also needs to be suitably decorated for use on 300+ other days of the year. PL shared some concept art of the new bars from AH Twitter and all agreed that the design was smart and would be able to host numerous events, such as wedding receptions, birthdays, christenings, sports events, business meetings etc. The next area of development for the Wham Stadium will be the changing rooms to bring them up to EFL standard and requirements. They will still be situated in the same corner as currently, however the facilities will be larger, more modern and the plan is to have John Colemans office situated on a second floor above.

**ASFC Sierra Leonne –** PL shared an update on the Sierra Leonne’s team current progress, with them winning and drawing recent fixtures taking them through in a knockout cup competition in the local city. They have asked if we could help them purchase some supporters jersey’s by loaning them some money towards the cost of them. The idea is that they can purchase 18 shirts for 2,000,000 Leones (approx. £147) and sell them at 150,000 Leones each. Once all were sold, they would repay our £147 and use their profit of 700,000 Leones to help with their team costs. All board members present were in favour of loaning the £147, with PL to arrange a money transfer.

**Memorandum of Understanding –** PL & PW will soon be meeting with David Burgess from ASFC. Matters to be discussed include the Market Hall shops insurance, Club1968 purpose and the big screens future. Minutes of the meeting will be posted on the onstanleyon.com website in the coming days.

**ASFC Community Trust** – Community Trust recently awarded £6,000 grant to be used to engage with fans post Covid and assist in getting fans back into ground. £6,000 will be given to OASST as better placed to use the money to improve on the matchday experience of supporters. Ideas welcome on how to use the money and any marketing etc that can be done to draw fans back to the Wham after the lockdowns.

**New Projects –** The British Heart Foundation have now opened applications for funding for Defibrillators. All present agreed this would be a key necessity for not just fans at the ground but the wider general public too. There are 2 situated at the ground, however another 2 could be purchased by the Trust to improve access to a defib when in the perimeter of the ground. PL to explore costs etc.

**Big Screen –** A broken piece has now been removed and sent away to be fixed, this should be returned in time for the Wigan home game. Each time the supplier comes out the club are charged £600 on top of any work needed to be completed. AH has currently £2,000 of invoices to pay for remedial work that has taken place on the big screen over the last 24 months. Long term, it is likely the big screen will need to be re-sited due to widening of the away end. It would cost approx. £50,000 for a new big screen, so is currently low down on everyones current priorities.

**AOB**

*Retail* – No ASFC stock due in until December unfortunately. Should receive more Wham products imminently.

*Memberships* – 382 current, 97 life members across 23 countries. Reordered badges as ran out. Getting a small influx of new members from people travelling on coaches to away games.

*IT* – Questions for the Board section added to site. Any stories you want posting speak to Mike.

*Away Travel* – small increase from previous years so far, 51 people booked on for Crewe away, so far signed up 20 new members.

*Jack Barrett Walk* – 2nd October from Rochdale and Blackburn to Wham. GoFundMe page will be set up, 50% of proceeds to go to charity, board voted in favour of Hyndburn Baby Bank. Possibility to do bucket collection before the game on the 2nd October, home to Ipswich Town.

*Food Bank* – 2 planned for this season, 23rd October and 13th January. Murray and Zahida at Scott Dawson Advertising to co-ordinate them with collections taken at the ground.

***Next meeting Thursday 23rd September 7.30pm start at the Sports Hub.***