**Official Accrington Stanley Supporters Trust**

**Board Meeting – 23/09/2021**

**Attendees- Peter Leatham, Peter Warburton, Ken Jefferson, Joshua Adcroft, Debra Phillips,**

**Jill Macintosh, Jason Graham, Darren Woodhead.**

*Apologies – Mike Procter, Andy Buckle, Megan Parker, Jeff Cleary*

*The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as being a full and correct record. NB. from August’s minutes it should have read as members in 13 countries, not as stated.*

**Ongoing Projects**

ASFC Sierra Leonne have received the funds we sent for them to purchase supporter shirts. They have made a fantastic start already by selling the initial batch of 18 shirts and have now reinvested the money into the purchase of a further 18 shirts.

The £6000 Community Trust grant monies will be used to purchase the portable ‘Quick Pour’ beer dispenser as previously accepted by vote by the board. All agreed to cover the difference from the Trusts’ reserves.

Peter Leatham and Peter Warburton met with David Burgess for a Memorandum of Understanding meeting, with the minutes now available to view on our website. We have finalised the purchase of the GPS tracking vests and equipment, with further PR to follow.

The club have spent £2000 to repair broken parts on the Big Screen. This has now been completed and is operational.

48 Garden Plaques have now been ordered and the majority have been installed and are in situ in the Memorial Garden. 115 players card packs have been sold, with 74 Ultra Tees also sold. Darren Woodhead’s My Life In Football book has been purchased 152 times, with circa £480 profit towards the OASST. Match badges have been selling well so far, across our first 4 home games we have generated £799 in revenue leading to £242 of profit.

**AGM Update**

The OASST will hold our AGM on the 16th December 2021, with confirmation of a venue in due course. We have 4 new directors to be ratified in Mike, Darren, Andy and Jeff. Debra is currently co-opted in her role as Chaplain. As per our rules, 2 original directors are required to stand down, however they are able to stand for re-election alongside any new candidates. If no directors offer to resign, the 2 to stand down will be drawn by lot. The OASST will provide the opportunity for members to stand for election through an application form that will be made available on our website, through our newsletter, via email, across social media and on matchdays. A full timetable in the run up to our AGM can be viewed at the end of these set of minutes.

**Club 1968**

JA updated that new member sign ups has slowed down, so thoughts welcome on how to improve this. Recently there has been a higher amount of ‘drop outs’ than usual, although various reasons for this show no signs for concern. JA explained that it is difficult to get timings right during Half Time on matchdays when we do the draws, so a discussion took place for the best solution. The board suggested holding the draw approx. 2.40pm in the marquee, with Stephen Lowe an ideal host for the draw. Further discussions to take place to ensure the viability of this.

**Memberships**

OASST membership currently stands at 473 members across 13 countries. A graphic will be created showing ‘Where In The World’ we currently have members, with the hope that people in new countries will join to put themselves on the map, whilst also pushing for renewals from members who haven’t recently renewed.

**Stand Up & Be Counted Walk**

Taking place on Saturday 2nd October before our home game vs Ipswich Town, we have 5 people walking/running from Rochdale to the Wham Stadium, with a further 9 walking from Blackburn. As well as online donations through just giving, Andy Buckle will organise a bucket collection on matchday to help raise funds for the Hyndburn Baby Bank, our chosen charity.

**Away Travel**

OASST Away Travel has started well this season with coaches running for each away game so far, including a long trip to Oxford on a Tuesday night! All agreed to continue running the offer whereby a supporter who travels 10 times in a season will receive a free, 11th coach journey up to the value of £15 (if the away game costs more than £15 for a seat, the money can be used as a credit towards the full cost.)

**Supporter Chaplain**

Debra updated that she has had a positive start in her role as Supporter Chaplain. She has joined the ASFC S.A.G.E advisory board who cover topics such as inclusion and diversity through the club. MIND are running free training sessions currently covering mental health, and Debra explained that she has had positive conversations with Sport Chaplaincy UK. Currently, including through the OASST Accrington Stanley, 85 of the 92 EFL clubs have a chaplain.

**Remembrance Day**

Discussions have taken place with Peter Leatham, David Burgess, Mark Turner and Jon Hosty on how we can mark Remembrance Day. Possible games are the FA Cup 1st Round fixture if we are drawn at home, the Plymouth home fixture in the league (however this may be postponed due to International Call-ups), or a service in our Memorial Garden. Jase explained that he is in the process of producing a new Lest we Forget banner that can be used for years to come. The board agreed that previous tributes including the poppy display were well received by all, and an idea was raised of incorporating the Accrington Pals into the new display.

**AOB**

OASST, ASFC and ASCT met to discuss bringing all the media under one ASFC banner.

The glasses used with the Quick Pour system need to be recycled in one of the dedicated bins around the ground and in the marquee. There is a cost involved with each glass so it is important that these are recycled and not put in general waste. The glasses are sent away to be professionally cleaned before each reuse.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 21st October at the Sports Hub, 7.30pm start.

**Timetable for AGM**

*24th September 2021*

Ask for nominees to board of directors.

*14th October 2021*

Indications of board nominees received.

*21st October 2021*

Nominee forms issued to those indicating interest. (our rules stipulate this must happen at least 8 weeks before election) Candidate to agree on nominee form that their details can be posted on our website.

*18th November 2021*

Last day for return of nominee forms.

*25th November 2021*

Details of AGM issued to all members including date, start time and meeting venue. Details to give an indication of the business to be carried out, although this does not have to be an agreed final agenda at this point.

Candidate details will be posted on our Trust website.

Voting forms to be issued via both email and post.

*2nd December 2021*

Final agenda to be agreed. Final check that accounts are correct and in place.

*9th December 2021*

Last date for voting forms to be returned. Meeting agenda published.

*16th December 2021*

OASST AGM