

The Jammers Fans Association Committee Meeting

February 2022

Date: Wednesday 23 February 2022

Location: The Black Rabbit Pub, Maldon.

Attendees; Richard Buckby (RB), Anthony Knight (AK), Lee Witney (LW), Roger Stapleton (RS), Alan Taylor (AT), Tony Williams (TW)

Apologies; Charlie Duggins-Jones (CDJ), Graham Mann (GM), Martin Gilbert-Bryan (MGB)

Chair: Tony Williams

Minutes: Richard Buckby

Subject & Minutes		Action Decision Message
1. Welcome	N/A	
2. Minutes of last meeting	One error raised by AK which has been resolved. Minutes confirmed as a true and accurate record.	M
3. Chairs Update	Nothing to report.	M
4. Treasurers Update	Report provided by AK. Bank balance is sitting at £510.86 in the current account, this has moved with £110 worth of new members, along with £11 for badges and 1 polo shirts.	M
	Advertising board has been ordered – great step in the right direction. £300 was the cost and this invoice has been paid. We are now awaiting delivery of the board.	M
5. Secretaries Update	N/A	
6. Media Update	Nothing massive to report. Media team are in discussions with Kevin Painter about attending a fixture in the future, which came off the back of the club's appearance on the Chase. RB is leading on discussions and if it comes off, the JFA will cover the relevant admissions fees. TW agreed.	M D

7. Membership Update

6 additional members since the last meeting, taking the total to 65. We have 8 junior members, resulting in 57 paid members. It would appear 3 members are yet to pay for their subscription.

M

RB will continue to work with AK to resolve outstanding payments.

A

Membership cards have been received, with thanks to AT for arranging for them to be provided. Cards to be handed out at forthcoming fixtures and where members are not available, cards will be posted accordingly.

M

8. 100 Club

First draw has taken place, with the money being handed out in prize money. Both winners were delighted within their winnings. The results, including prize funds have been published on the JFA website.

M

Ticket sales increased from £160 to £170, the prize fund is now £71 for this month. Bank balance is currently is £276 and is likely to rise to £367 once the subscriptions are paid.

M

We need to drive ways to increase subscriptions, externally outside of the football club. You don't have to be a member of the JFA to join the 100 club. Potentially, could we look to get the information in the local press.

M

Prize money can be advertised via social media after 28th of every of month.

D

AK has had two members come forward, to be the lottery certifiers. Both members will sign the form, which is great as they are both independent. Both members have to sign a disclaimer on a monthly basis, to ensure the draw is fair and correct. AK is leading on this process.

M

A

Continuing action, for all members of the JFA to actively promote the lottery. RB has introduced a pop-up feature to the website.

A

9. Club Meeting Update

TW and RB have met with M&T. It was a slightly positive meeting; however little progress has been made. The club are wary of the JFA at the moment.

M

M&T have previously asked for the help with volunteering, however only one member of the JFA came forward. The football club were disappointed that no one stepped forward. RB highlighted the late notice and the lack of awareness, around the responsibility of volunteers.

M

The point of merchandise was discussed and the club mentioned they are looking to do it. The JFA are happy to help the club get it up and running. AK mentioned that we have sold more polo shirts in the last two months, than the club have sold shirt. RB will work with M&T to push for merchandise to be available, in time for the 2022/23 season.

M

A

M&T confirmed the intentions are for season tickets to return next week. RB will continue to engage with the football club, to establish the details once confirmed.

M

10. End of Season Event Update

Prices have been returned from the club and they are high. Originally, the club wanted to charge for Security, however this will be waived, providing we provide our own "cover". Quotations have been sought from other venues and including VAT and food for approx. 50 people, the football club is currently the highest in terms of hire charges.

M

- Maldon Stadium - £1308 inc VAT
Without food = £468 inc VAT.
- Rivenhall Oaks Golf Club - £1000 inc VAT
- Forresters Golf Club - £850 inc VAT
- The Mitre Lounge (*Lounge Area Only*) - £400 inc VAT

RB has also sourced a DJ for the evening, who would be available for approx. £250, depending on the timings. The total approximate cost of hiring the venue and the DJ would equal £1560, if food was to be included. Advice has been received that we should cater for 50% of the attendees, assumed 80 supporters and 20 players/management team.

M

It is envisaged that should the event take place, it would be on the 9th April, although this is early, it is the last Saturday home game. RB has spoken to Paul Abrahams, interim manager, who believes after a game, is the best chance of the players attending the event.

M

Should the event go ahead on the 9th, RB is proposing that members are charged £15 to attend, whilst non-member tickets are priced at £20. This would help recover some of the costs of hire charges, however the number of attendees is unknown and the players/management team would attend free of charge.

M

40 Members (£600) + 40 Non-Members (£800) = £1400. This would require a contribution of £160 from the JFA, which would increase should the attendee numbers not reach the proposed levels.

M

If we held the event without food, the cost to attendees could be reduced heavily.

M

To cover the costs of the event, we would need approximately 80 paying attendees, based on the existing costs from the football club. RB does not believe the event should be held elsewhere.

M

RB has spoken to Ron Dangerfield (RD) from M&TFC and there may well be some movement on the price of hiring the venue, should we decide to proceed with an actual event. This is in no way a guarantee; however, RD believes it might be worth having a discussion with the owner of the premises.

M

Alternatively, we could present the trophy on the 18th April, which is Bank Holiday Monday and our final home game of the season, advertise this will be the case and encourage members to stay behind after the game, resulting in increased revenue over the bar. We can ask the bar to stay open longer than usual, if the Committee would prefer this option.

M

AK mentioned the possibility of a pizza delivery for the 18th, RB mentioned we could ask the football club.

M

RB requested the committee vote on the two options. Unanimously, the Committee voted for the presentation to take place on the 18th April, after the game. RB will discuss the matter with the club and request for the bar to remain open until around 7:30pm. Details to be publicised to all JFA members.

D

M

11. JFA Player of the Season

A JFA member is generously supplying a £100 voucher and a bottle of fizz to the winner. AK will source a trophy and a keepsake for the chosen player. AK will confirm a cost for both items as soon as possible, however doesn't envisage the cost to be higher than £50. The trophy is to be retained by the JFA committee.

M/A

RB suggests we also hand out a Golden Boot trophy. Committee in full agreement. AK will source trophy and confirm costings.

M/A

Voting will take place online and will be limited to one vote, per member. Members will need to record their membership number when casting their vote. Those without online access will be provided with a form, however any form votes will be cross-checked with online submissions, to ensure no member has voted twice.

M

12. Easter Egg Collection

TW has spoken to the Hospital, however they've suggested the JFA actually consider Old People's Homes and Woman's Refuges, etc.

M

LW has contacted a number of local organisations and care providers, to see if there is interest. LW has had an email in response from Homestart – they support 40 children. Homestart happy to collect and then distribute.

M

M&T would like the event led by them, with the JFA in support. Although the Committee would prefer for it to be JFA led, agreement reached that on this occasion M&T will lead the event, however some contribution is expected from the football club. Thoughts that the players could be included as part of the handover, RB is confident that a number of players would be prepared to participate.

D

Collection dates are to be confirmed, in advance of Easter.

M

AT suggested the collections should be held at the club. RB will ask the club. TW will send LW the Reverend details. RB will relay the proposal to the football club and seek their agreement.

A

13. JFA Committee

TW tabled a potential issue in relation to the Secretarial role within the JFA. CDJ has not been present in person at a single meeting to date and has only attended one meeting via Zoom. TW has tried to contact CDJ directly via telephone and RB has made attempts to contact CDJ via the Group. Neither TW or RB have received a response.

M

The Committee acknowledged the situation and agreed, following a suggestion from RS, that TW will write to CDJ outlining the situation and giving CDJ two weeks to respond. In the meantime, the JFA will look for an interim secretary. It is appreciated by the JFA that CDJ has recently moved home and has recently become a Father and therefore, appreciate that CDJ may be able to no longer commit to being Secretary of the JFA.

A

AK highlighted that the Secretary role needs to be active, involved and is crucial in the running of the JFA. AK acknowledged that RB has deputized to date, however this is not sustainable and cannot continue without action. AK is confident that a member from the JFA will step forward, to take on the role.

M

AK would also like to see a female representative, on the committee. All in attendance agreed and RB reiterated the need for additional committee members and advertisements should be issued for additional members to step forward, in advance of the AGM.

M

No formal apologies were received from either CDJ or MGB for February's committee meeting, despite a number of requests for apologies.

M

RB mentioned GM absence, which is due to personal matters. All present would like their best wishes to GM noted and we look forward to seeing him soon. GM's absence is likely to remain for a number of months.

M

14. Members Suggestions

R Warner

M

1. *"Guidance to be provided, around the use of the JFA What's App Group. Should there be for example as this it is a Jammers forum there will be members who may support many different other clubs and one person's banter may not be another's and therefore to not alienate anyone the forum should be solely Jammer's content. Equally we do not know who all the members are. I am guessing it could include current or former players and/or their families and as such detrimental comments about a player should be avoided. It should be a positive forum."*

Committee Response: In general, the committee agree with the points raised by R Warner. Swearing and bad language should be avoided, at all costs. There are no ex or current players within the group and the intention is for this to remain. Use of the WhatsApp group is covered by the JFA and those within the group will be reminded to refer to the social media policy which is available on the JFA website.

D

Guidance will be issued and advice will be released in to the group. A

2. *"I notice that there is no obvious Man of the Match award currently given or certainly not announced by the Club. Perhaps the JFA should set up a Man of the Match and then Player of the Month award to be voted for by JFA members. Man of the Match could simply be an announcement on social media after each match and then possibly give a monetary donation to the Player of the Month out of the 100 Club money, say £25?"* M

Committee Response: The ability to award a Player of the Match is part of the sponsorship packages offered, by the football club and therefore, the JFA do not want to contradict what the club are trying to achieve and do not want to prevent businesses or people from taking up available sponsorship packages. However, the Committee agree that a player of the month vote could take place, with members picking their player. M

AK is however concerned that not everyone knows the players, due to the high turnover and therefore, we might end up with the same winner, each month due to the lack. RB suggested that the JFA Committee narrow the selection down to four players and then the members can vote for their choice. This will commence from February 2022, without a voucher at the moment, however possible that a certificate could be presented to the chosen player. D

RB will notify M&T of the suggestion and ensure there are no objections. A

3. *"Look for all JFA members to sign up to a volunteers register. With say 30 home matches per season, 60 members, 2 per match would greatly help the Club, they would only have to volunteer 1 match per season. More members, more volunteers per match. This would help improve the connection between supporters and the Club and with JFA members helping the Club will give JFA more of a standing with the Club."* M

Committee Response: AK doesn't believe people join the JFA to feel obliged to chip in and help the club for free. AK feels it could be a difficult sell – TW agrees, however doesn't see it as a problem to ask people, should they wish to volunteer. AK doesn't feel it should be an obligation and feels it might interfere with the independence of the JFA. Those in attendance agreed with AK's view, however agreed that it should be advertised to members. However, generally, this is something that the football club should be actively advertising for, if there is need for additional volunteers. M

Before, the JFA advertise the need to members, RB will speak with the club and seek to understand what exactly is required and what each role consists of. D

M Boden

1. Local cause dear to my heart. Maldon Boxing Academy, amateur gym funded by donations, all the coaches give up their time for free. Formed in 2011 Maldon Boxing Academy encourages social responsibility by promoting teamwork, self-respect, discipline and the benefits achieved through exercise and fitness. The club places a strong focus on encouraging younger people to adopt a healthier lifestyle and become more aware of and involved in sporting activities within the community. It aims to impact young people's lives in a positive manner, limiting any future problems that could arise through anti-social behaviour. Charity number : [1191511](#) Address: 23a The Causeway CM9 4LJ. Any help will be very gratefully received.

M

Committee Response: AK mentioned that we need a charity mandate, to establish a purpose and a direction/policy. RB mentioned we need a set-criteria and is it up to the members to decide on what charities, if any, we look to support. AK agrees. TW reiterated however, that the JFA do have an intention support local charities, which all agreed with.

M

The committee agreed that the mandate needs to be introduced before any donations are issued or decisions are reached. Once the mandate is agreed and released, a decision can be made on whether or not the Boxing Academy meet the set criteria.

D

AK will work on the charity mandate and will draft in time for the AGM.

A

15. AOB

AK just mentioned that we are doing well and we need to keep building momentum. AK identified the number of supporters that went to Bury Town and the numbers were increased, based on previous away trips.

M

16. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 30 March 2022 @ the Black Rabbit.

M

Meeting closed at 21:28.