



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE 1867 SUPPORTERS' SOCIETY LIMITED**

Registered under the Co-Operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014
(FCA Registration Number 8399)

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Society Members

Held on 3 July 2024 at 8pm via Zoom

1. Attendance

There were 20 members present and therefore the meeting was quorate.

Members of the Board (continuing and retiring) who were present as follows: Ian Bennett (Chair), Paul Smith (Secretary), Tom Scott, David Lee, Neil Seepujak, Peter Bradbury, Richard Marsh, Phiroze Mackenzie.

2. Apologies for non-attendance

Apologies had been received from one member.

3. Minutes of the AGM held on 19 July 2023

The Minutes from the 2023 AGM were approved.

A request was made for the agenda of future AGMs to allow more time for official business, noting that 30 minutes had been allocated on this occasion.

4. Accounts and Financial Report for the year to 31 March 2024

The written accounts and a financial report for the period ending 31 March 2024 were received and formally adopted, including the report of the Independent Examiner.

5. Authorisation *not* to undertake a full professional audit of the 31 March 2025 accounts

The members present gave their approval for the 31 March 2025 accounts to be independently examined (rather than having to carry out a full audit). It was noted that this is in accordance with Section 84 of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014.

6. Annual Report of the Board

A written report presenting an overview of key issues / achievements in the 12-month period to 3 July 2024 was received and approved.

Following a question from a member, it was noted that the Trust's activities are helped by having more Members and Associates, noting that there were 592 Members and 140 Associates as at 7 May 2024. P Bradbury stated that, following guidance from the FSA (which indicates that any individual that has paid a membership fee – including a one-off fee – to a Supporters Trust is regarded as a fully paid-up Member and hold a share in the Trust), 108 'Previous Members' (who stopped paying a recurring fee) are now classed as Members. In addition, I Bennett stated that the total number of Members and Associates will now exceed 1,000 following the Trust's presence at Owls in the Park on 29 June 2024.

7. Affirmative ballot regarding Board elections

P Smith stated that the elections had been managed by the Elections Management Group and was chaired by an independent person from outside of the Trust, Peter Tarbitten, of the Hull City Supporters Trust.

P Smith summarised the election report, noting that David Lee and Andy Floyde were the successful candidates. However, it was noted that Andy Floyde had subsequently decided to withdraw his nomination and, as such, members only voted to re-appoint David Lee as a Director of the Society.

It was highlighted that, following the resignations of P Smith and T Scott, the Trust now only has the minimum number of elected Directors (six), comprising the following individuals: I Bennett, P Bradbury, R Marsh, D Lee, N Seepujak and P Mackenzie. It was noted that the Trust can have up to 12 Directors and can co-opt other individuals as necessary; P Smith suggested that the focus for recruitment should be a Secretary and someone to manage the Trust's website.

Thanks were given to P Smith and T Scott for their work over the past number of years, noting that T Scott was a founder member of the Trust in 2020, and P Smith has been the Secretary for the best part of three years.

8. Members resolutions

The following resolutions from members were considered:

i. That the name of the Trust removes all reference to 1867 Supporters' Society Limited

Following a discussion, there were 2 votes in favour of the resolution and the remaining votes were against the resolution. As such, the resolution was not passed.

It was suggested that the Trust could ask members for their view at some point over the next 12 months on whether reference to '1867' should be removed.

ii. That the Trust appoints a 'News and Update' official for the Trust's website

It was agreed that resourcing the Trust's website and social media accounts is to be discussed by the new Trustee Board when roles are agreed for the year. I Bennett stated that a member he had spoken with at Owls in the Park showed some interest in this respect.

9. Board resolutions

There were no proposed resolutions from the Trust's Board.

10. Matters requiring no resolution and which may be put to a vote

P Smith stated that willing volunteers are always welcome to assist with the Trust's activities, noting the immediate need for a new Secretary. No other matters were raised under this item.

11. Any Other Business

A short discussion took place regarding engagement with the Club, noting that a presence at Owls in the Park had been permitted and that engagement with the Safety Advisory Group over the past few months has been constructive.

A longer discussion then took place regarding the recent development of a manifesto relating to the formation of an umbrella fans group, which has a nominal name of The Wednesday Fans Alliance (WFA). It was noted that the WFA was due to be launched publicly in mid-June, but that it had broken down following an Engagement Panel meeting with the Club; it was suggested that the Trust could consider seeking re-entry into the Engagement Panel. It was noted that the Trust now has the largest membership base amongst existing SWFC fan groups, and it was agreed that work relating to the WFA should continue so that it can be put forward as the independent fans organisation that is recognised by the Independent Football Regulator (IFR). It was noted that documentation relating to the formation of the WFA will be helpful as evidence that fan groups were looking to be ready for the introduction of the IFR.

12. Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 9:45pm.