**Minutes of a Meeting of the Barrow AFC Independent Supporters Society Ltd (“the Bluebirds Trust") held at St Georges Primary School, School St, Barrow-in-Furness on Saturday 18th March 2017 at 12.00pm**

**PRESENT**: Ian Carruthers, Frazer Stewart (Chair), Steve Herbert

**Meeting not quorate with only 3 directors present**

**IN ATTENDANCE**: Richard Ingham (Secretary), John Hanley (Observing Member), Peter Greenwoord (Observing Member)

1. **APOLOGIES**

The Secretary confirmed that apologies had been received from the following Directors: Stuart Nichols, Matthew Messenger, Ryan Potter, Chris Altree and Ian Rainford.

**2. Actions from the previous meeting**

Action: FS/RI to promote the lottery. **Ongoing**

ACTION: RI to email Emma Athersmith to arrange tickets for the Dover game as

requested by Natalie. **Ongoing**

Action: PGr and SH to generate Safeguarding Policy **Ongoing**

Action: RP to generate Accounting/Finance Handling Policy **Ongoing**

Action: FS/RI to check policies then provide to Board **Ongoing**

Action: FS to ensure domain is transferred **Ongoing**

Actions: SH volunteered to take on card writing and producing the monthly

newsletter **Ongoing – will be ready imminently**

RI to investigate ways to make recording membership information more efficient **Ongoing**

Action: SH to begin organising the tournament. Dates etc tbc. **Ongoing – SH speaking to Graham Shaw from Hindpool Tigers this week.**

Action: IR to keep in touch with SB and report any developments. **Ongoing**

Action: FS to contact Kerry and give her the go ahead to create the new site. **Ongoing- Kerry is working on moving the site over.**

Action: Subgroup to meet with Andrew Casson and continue to organise the

event. **Ongoing**

Actions: JH/FS to create a survey on survey planet for the membership/fans to

gauge feeling about fundraising for various schemes and include the scoreboard

as an option – **Ongoing**

3. Correspondence

Notihng received

4. Finance Update

In the absence of RP, the secretary announced the current bank balance as £17533.16 plus £5000 held in the Credit Union. The Community Sports Company have been paid this month from their share of the raffle takings.

SH asked for an update on how much is left in the Herbie’s Hitch fund for tickets.

**Action: RI to update SH with the figure**

SH reported pupils from Dane Ghyll would be attending the Wrexham game.

5. Membership update

The secretary updated the board on the numbers of members which currently stands at 310. There has been one renewal this month.

It was suggested the secretary contacts Jon Story for assistance with linking the online membership form to the members database.

**Action: RI to contact Jon Story**

6. Trust Travel

Details for Solihull, Chester and Maidstone had been decided and advertised.

7. End of Season Awards Dinner

Members of the sub-committee updated the meeting on arrangements for the End of Season Awards Dinner. Everything has been booked and the hot buffet menu chosen from the Nine’s own selection. Other caterers approached were unable to supply us.

Posters are done and it was expected that the event would begin to be advertised week commencing 20th March. The club are taking bookings.

8. Scoreboard/Other Schemes

JH presented the meeting with a proposal for the survey and explanation text but was unsure of the wording. SH offered to have a go at re-writing this.

**Action: SH Rewriting the explanation text. Once completed, survey to be made live to members to respond, followed by canvassing of views of the general fanbase via the forum.**

The board felt it was important that the options presented to members be achievable as a project that the Trust could project manage (with appropriate help where required from outside and from members). Current suggestions meet this requirement.

JH reported that his meeting with Andrew Casson had gone well and he felt the club had responded positively to his proposal, in keeping with the current relationship between the Trust and the club. He felt it sent as message to Paul Casson about kick starting the re-development of the club

9. Trust Survey

The chair ran through the results of the Trust Members survey carried out in December/January as supplied by Levi Gill. It was noted that in general, members who responded are at least satisfied with the way the Trust is being run.

In response to a request for more members events, it was proposed that we look into arranging a trip to the races (Cartmel or elsewhere).

**Actions:**

**TBC to look into Races trip**

**SH to create an advert for Trust Travel trips that can be slipped into match programmes**

**FS to redraft Levi’s comments for members and include graphics to be included in the newsletter**

**ALL to advertise the Commercial Partnerships using social media and look into inviting further business to join and expand the scheme**

10. Player of the Season Vote

The secretary had set up an online survey using our Survey Planet subscription to be used to select the Bluebirds Trust Player of the Season. After discussion it was decided to close the voting on the Monday before the awards dinner. I t would be an open vote with non-members able to participate.

**Actions:**

**PGr to arrange the purchase of the trophy and engraving of the winning players name**

**RI to advertise the survey on the forum/newsletter and social media**

**11. AOB**

PGr is arranging trophies for the Junior Player of the Year from the boys and girls teams and will pass these on to Margaret Straker for presentation.

PGr has used an NSPCC safeguarding policy as a template and has edited it for the Bluebirds Trust. It requires a named individual to be responsible for implementing it. SH volunteered to be that individual.

The meeting was closed at 13.10.