**Carlisle United Supporters Club London Branch**

**Minutes of Meeting held via Zoom on 9th January 2025**

Meeting opened at 7:00 p.m.

**Present**: Dave Brown (chair), John Bowman, Ken Hullock, Andrew Dobinson, Andy Hall, Graeme Harker, Anna Jensen, Peter Smithson, Terry McCarthy

**Apologies**: Paul Irving, , Simon Clarkson, Kris Foster

**1. BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

i. **Matters Arising**

i. December meeting minutes were approved.

ii. Record of committee decisions made via WhatsApp or E-mail since last meeting:

A number of previously approved actions were carried out and recorded on Whatsapp and decisions made including re-investing £10,000 deposit which had matured, agreement to presenting 7475 shirts to former players and the Academy player of the month was chosen.

ii. December action notes reviewed.

1. It was agreed that the proposed competition should be postponed until the atmosphere around the club was less toxic.
2. AH reported that the branch Instagram account had been transferred to the Information team. AJ said she’d have a go at linking it to the Facebook account

**Agreed**:

Competition postponed.

AJ to link Instagram and Facebook accounts

**2. REPORTS**

i. Treasurer

AD highlighted key points in his Treasurer’s report and concluded that the branch was in a healthy position financially. Tthere was over £9,600 available for CUFC/good causes. He also pointed out that there was effectively another £3,500 to add to this which, although previously committed to the Academy, had not been required therefore was likely available.

ii. Matchday Organiser

TM reported that the Club’s Finance Officer Suzanne Kidd had told him that in future when tickets are ordered he should phone in the branch card details for payment each time. TM will inform AD what has happened after future orders.

**Agreed**: TM to keep AD informed about how process worked for future ticket orders

1. Membership Secretary

**Agreed**: PS to copy in GH on all relevant communications.

**3. AGENDA ITEMS**

**i. LB comments to owners re. current management of club**

There was a long discussion about the precarious league position the club has got itself into, and the potential major problems, particularly financial that would result from relegation. It was agreed that, nevertheless, it was inappropriate for the branch to comment officially on the managerial or coaching positions.

**ii. Matchdays**

TM highlighted the fact that there are 4 away games in 19 days. It was noted that 7 branch members are travelling to Grimsby from London by train.

**Agreed:** Use X to communicate where travellers are after arriving at Cleethorpes

**ii. Sky Sports matches**

DB has booked rooms. Unfortunately, we have to pay £60 per booking. There was a discussion about the possibility of finding an alternative venue. AJ offered to contact potential venues on behalf of the branch if there were any ideas about where. AH & AJ will put out publicity re. televised viewings.

**Agreed:** AH/AJ to publicise future matches on Sky.

iii. **Jack Ellis match shirt**

DB reported that a request had been made by James Stringer for Jack Ellis’s match shirt for his mother who, as a teacher, had taught Jack. The branch would have to pay for a replacement to get the shirt before the end of the season.

**Agreed:** To pay for a new shirt if it’s possible. DB to check with SC if we can get the shirt . If not, to pass on the shirt at the end of the season.

iv. **Sponsorship/donations**

As the branch is in a healthy financial position, It was suggested by DB that we could make donations to a few organisations including, for example, the Community Sports Trust. AH pointed out that the CST is funded centrally as is currently ‘cash rich’. However, if the club drops out of the league it will not get the same level of funding.

AH also said that, if there was money available, to undertake a different style of interviewing of former players etc. on behalf of the branch it would be good to purchase a particular piece of equipment.

**Agreed:** To hold on to funds at the moment. AH to come back with details of equipment.

**iv. 50th Anniversary**

It wasn’t considered appropriate at the moment to go ahead with either a celebratory mug or polo shirt.

**Agreed:** To postpone proposals for mug or polo shirt

**4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**i. Date of next meetings**:

February6th at 19:00 via Zoom