



## **Coventry City London Supporters Club (CCLSC) – AGM agenda**

Saturday 1 July 2017, 11am – Calthorpe Arms, London

1. Apologies for absence and proxy votes
2. Approval of the Minutes of the 2016 AGM
3. Matters arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Committee member reports
  - 5.1 - Treasurer's report – Charles Tomkins
  - 5.2 - Website report – Rob Stevens
  - 5.3 - Secretary's report – Jay MacDonald
  - 5.4 - Travel report – Simon Fahy
  - 5.5 - Match Ticketing report – Barry Chattaway
  - 5.6 - Sky Blues International (SBI) report – Ian Davidson
  - 5.7 - Communications report – Ian Davidson
  - 5.8 - Player of the Season (PotS) report – Barry Chattaway
  - 5.9 - Supporters' Consultative Group (SCG) report – Colin Henderson
  - 5.10 - Affiliations report – Martin Garrett
  - 5.11 - Competitions report – Robin Ogleby
  - 5.12 - Social report – Kevin Mofid
6. Aims and objectives of CCLSC
7. Election of Committee for 2017/18
8. Any other business
9. Date of forthcoming meetings

## **1 - Apologies for absence and proxy votes**

The following apologies were received. Those names followed by (Colin) in brackets have written to give Colin their proxy votes: John Baines, Carl Lawton, Martin Hall, Simon Fahy (Colin), William Summer (Colin), David Clare (Colin), Jay MacDonald (Colin), Robin Ogleby, Jim McIlwaine, Michael Barlow (Colin), Alastair Laurie (Colin).

**Confirmed attendees:** Colin Henderson (chairman), Rob Parker (acting as secretary on the day), Ian Davidson, Rob Stevens, John Bryant, Rod Dean, Charles Tomkins, Martin Garrett, Kevin Mofid, Barry Chattaway, Robin Morden, Chris Webb, Phil Smith, Ross Sauvage, Adrian Hawthorne, Liam Crotty, Eric Whiting, Rod Williams, Mick Furnival-Adams, Pete Burgess, John Burgess, Kevin Randle, Mark Neale.

## **2 – Approval of 2016 AGM minutes**

Several copies of the 2016 AGM minutes have been provided and are in circulation today. These shall be considered approved by general assent unless any objections are raised.

## **3 - Matters arising**

The following actions from the 2016 AGM and subsequent committee meetings will be reported on and discussed at the appropriate section of the agenda today, but are repeated here for convenience:

3.1 - **Treasurer:** close the Lloyds account, get new debit card in Adrian's name, finalise accounts and sign these off (see Treasurer's report)

3.2 - **Website** - Rob S to continue the project via new hosting, new theme/template, new functionality for paying membership, ticket/travel ordering, members having own logins with contact details etc. Ensure a single up-to-date database of all paid-up members and enable an ability to pay for membership via the website; this should become the only means of paying (see Website report)

3.3 - **Secretary** - publish relevant information in new Committee Documents section of the website, investigate the role of patron and who could be a candidate to replace the late Jimmy Hill (see Secretary's report)

3.4 - **Travel** - Simon to write handover notes for Adrian to take on this role, in preparations for new fixture list being released on 21st June (see Travel report)

3.5 - **Communications** - ensure Amazon link included in newsletters and other communications (see Communications report)

3.6 - **PotS** – forget about re-acquiring the Phil Barlow trophy which is presumably still in Richard Keogh's possession, and get a replacement (see PotS report)

3.7 - **SCG** - continue to participate in the SCG but also provide more clarity on supporter representation / meeting with club directors, and be clearer on the SCG agenda-setting process. We continued this until the demise of the SCG (see SCG report)

3.8 - **40th anniversary dinner** - a number of actions related to this, which have now been successfully concluded (see Social report)

#### 4- Chairman's Report

Can I firstly thank everyone for attending today's AGM. Once again it's great to see some of our long-distance members here today. As usual, today's meeting has a full agenda with a number of items to debate and make decisions on. As in previous years I would like to manage the discussion time carefully to give everyone the chance to contribute to agenda items as they are presented.

There will be a break for lunch around 1.00p.m. We are aiming to conclude all matters for this AGM between 3.00pm - 3.30pm (hopefully earlier!)

Just like last year, when I started to reflect on what I might say in my report this year, one of the things I reflected on was what a rollercoaster experience last season was with an amazing high with our great win (and day out) at Wembley winning the Checkatrade Trophy, followed by the dismal reality of relegation to the fourth tier of the Football League, a position I never thought I would ever see when I first started to follow Coventry City way back in 1971. I think, in truth, even the most positive of Coventry fans knew from early on that we were likely to be relegated. I am sure we will continue to discuss how the club has managed to get itself into this situation.

Personally, I think the re-appointment of Mark Robins was a very positive step by the club. I am sure Mark has a clear plan on how the club can start the long journey back up the Football League. The weeding out of poor players, retention of some key players from last season and the early recruitment of eight new players (at the time of going to press) into key areas of weakness that got us relegated are all positive indicators for the up and coming season. I remember mentioning last year my wish that it would great to start pre-season for once with a reasonably complete squad (and with less loan players). Well, this year I am happy the manager/club have delivered.

I was also very pleased to hear that the club has now signed a short term extension to stay at the Alan Higgs Centre for the 2017/18 season. Hopefully a permanent solution will be secured in the very near future. I also look forward to improved communication from the club following the appointment of Dave Boddy as Chief Executive. Dave has been the club's Commercial Director since February 2017.

Other positives last year regarding CCLSC was the excellent 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary dinner which was superbly supported by members. I was overwhelmed by the generosity of everyone who attended the night which enabled us to raise over £1,000 for the Alzheimer's Society.

We also had a very enjoyable curry night recently in Euston (for which I was late again!). My thanks to everyone involved in organising both events. We were unfortunately not able to organise a Q&A during the season for various reasons but we are looking to arrange at least one such event in the coming year with Mark Robins.

I would like to put on record my personal thanks to all the members who have served on the committee this year and who have supported me admirably during the year in my role as Chairman. I would like to single out two committee member for special recognition:

**Simon Fahy:** As you all probably know, Simon has recently moved to Toronto to take up a new job. As a result, he has had to resign from his two committee roles as Deputy Chairman (role now vacant) and Travel Secretary (now admirably filled by Adrian Hawthorne).

Simon has worked very hard covering both roles over a number of years achieving the best train fares for those members who travel to games and providing invaluable support

and advice to me in his role as Deputy Chairman. Simon will be missed by us all on Saturdays, but hopefully he will be able to visit each year as an SBI member.

**Barry Chattaway:** Barry has once again provided an amazing ticketing service to members this season, cumulating in the mammoth task of purchasing over 180 tickets for our trip to Wembley. Barry once again has gone above and beyond the call of duty on numerous occasions during the season to ensure everyone got their match tickets.

Barry also continued to run the Player of the Season nominations over the season. This culminated in the presentation of an excellent trophy to the player of the year Gael Bigirimana (who unfortunately has followed the trend from previous years by leaving the club once receiving our award!). The PotS presentation was well-organised by everyone involved and was a further improvement on the previous year.

I also spent some of the season working with the Supporters Consultative Group and I will report on this work at the dedicated section of the agenda.

Finally, the eagle-eyed amongst you will have noticed an adjustment to the advertised agenda order; this is to enable us to bring forward Rob's website report to an earlier slot than originally planned.

*Colin Henderson, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2017*

## **5- Committee member reports**

### **5.1 - Treasurer's report – Charles Tomkins**

#### 5.1.1 - Presentation of draft financial statement and summary documents

The Draft Accounts for 2016-17 which form are provided as part of the AGM pack.

Membership has increased during the season and total fee income was £1,007. Reaching the Checkatrade Trophy final in March led to a spike in membership numbers and hopefully these numbers will be maintained. Rob Stevens has been working on a development on the CCLSC website which will require all members to complete an online form when initially joining the club; and this should result in the membership list being maintained more efficiently than previously and to be readily available to committee members.

CCLSC is expected to have net assets of approximately £4,700 at the end of the year, this being approx. £5000 in cash and approx. £300 in creditors. Overall the club made a small deficit (£130) this season, subject to anything being approved at this meeting. There were a number of expenses incurred that are not expected to reoccur. These the Anniversary Dinner (net cost £126), postage for Checkatrade Trophy tickets (£102) and purchasing a replacement Player of the Season trophy (£300). However, due to the Supporters Consultative Group being disbanded (meaning lower travel costs) and the lack of a Q&A event this season, costs have also decreased. This season we are reimbursing the Ticket Secretary's mileage costs related to collecting match tickets from the CCFC ticket office. This is calculated using a mileage rate from the HMRC website.

The current membership subscription of £10 per member (£20 family) is therefore adequate to fund the ongoing costs of the club. The accumulated cash is available to spend but the Treasurer would recommend that we maintain at least £2,500 in the club to provide sufficient liquidity for match and train ticket purchases. The purchase of Checkatrade Trophy tickets was facilitated by a member lending cash to the club; this

has now been repaid and so does not appear in the accounts. In the event of similar circumstances re-occurring, a similar loan may be necessary.

We are in the process of obtaining debit cards for the new Travel Secretary and his deputy. However the bank requires us to amend our constitution to change how payments can be authorised; this will be dealt with in the Secretary's report section of today's AGM.

#### 5.1.2 - Membership report / discussion

As of the previous AGM, the responsibility for membership falls under the remit of the Treasurer. Therefore, this is the appropriate section for a general discussion of membership as a topic.

Our membership retention rate is high and we of course enjoy seeing long-standing members regularly and benefit as a group from the many hours done by existing members on an entirely voluntary basis. However, in common with many similar voluntary organisations such as Rotary, Lions, Round Table and so on, CCLSC seems to generally have a low recruitment rate for new members and has a high median age of active members; the overall membership size, and in particular the number of members regularly participating in CCLSC activities, has not grown in some years (other than through people signing up purely in order to get tickets for high-demand matches).

Therefore, the AGM is invited to discuss ways of promoting membership to non-members, particularly younger fans and those based in London and the south east (and, indeed, to discuss whether this should be an objective at all).

#### 5.1.3 – Approval of membership fees for forthcoming season

The current membership subscription is £10 per adult member or £20 per family (2 adults and 2 under-16s). The AGM is invited to discuss the subscription level and decide on whether or not these should be changed.

### **5.2 - Website report – Rob Stevens**

#### 5.2.1 – general update (incorporating travel, match tickets, MotM, etc)

Now that we've had a whole season with the website, we've been able to see how things do & don't work and make preparations for a full, membership website. Since last summer, Rob has been focussing on developing the most used parts of the site: Man of the Match, Travel, and Away Tickets. All votes/orders made via the website can be downloaded in a spreadsheet to make the process much easier for our committee members.

Going forward, we need to make sure members contact CCLSC/committee via the website, either via the respective bookings pages or the general contact form. This means we will have logs of all of our communication and if people need to step in for any reason, information is easily available & backed up. Today the AGM should discuss how to encourage this.

#### 5.2.2 – new web template and web hosting

Unfortunately, our current website template is no longer being supported by the developers so after we have launched the membership section on the current version,

Rob will be building a new version based on a more flexible framework: the Avada theme.

#### 5.2.3 – multi-page membership functionality

The final piece in the jigsaw is to have members register via the website and then, eventually, restrict access to parts of the website to members only. This will mean we will finally have a central database for our membership.

The membership section of the website has been built and is due to go live once final details are decided at the AGM. With the help of Ian, Adrian & Barry, Rob S has built an offline database to administer data for fixtures, clubs, pubs, grounds, players and members. This means that we can automatically build parts of the website from this information.

#### 5.2.4 – Social media e.g. publishing photos via Instagram

We need to decide how we want to develop our other social media, namely Facebook, Twitter & any others, e.g. Instagram – to be discussed by the AGM

#### 5.2.5 – publication of old newsletters & committee documents in an archive section

### **5.3 – Secretary's report – Jay MacDonald**

#### 5.3.1 – General update

The season continued much the same as in the past, with Jay continuing to coordinate and organise the committee and supporting Colin in ensuring committee members fulfilled their objectives. This was admirably balanced with the demands of a new job, a lot of miles run and the arrival of baby Toby (congratulations again!). As and where these demands on his time combined to prevent Jay from undertaking CCLSC duties, Rob stepped in as back-up. Jay sums this up in his message, sent as he is unable to be present today: *"Thanks to Rob for his support – this year has been a busy one for me personally with starting a new job and a family but I remain committed to CCLSC and will be back in the hot seat after the AGM. Cheers and PUSB!"*

#### 5.3.2 – Committee meetings held 2016-17

We held four committee meetings over the course of the season; these were in October, January and April (at the Calthorpe Arms) followed by a second April committee meeting held at the Gatehouse Tavern before the Walsall home game. The procedure of generating and distributing the agenda, then finalising and circulating the minutes amongst committee members, continues to improve.

#### 5.3.3 – Website updates

Rob Stevens, in his website coordinator role, has greatly helped the Secretary's role by giving Jay and Rob the ability to upload committee documents, such as the approved meeting minutes, onto a dedicated committee members' area of CCLSC.org.uk. During the coming season, the plan is to continue this progress by pre-publishing the AGM notice / agenda for all members, communicating the committee meetings agenda to members prior to meetings, and updating the site with finalised AGM minutes, updated constitution, and so on. We could also consider bring back to the "meet the committee" page, with clickable contact details, as one the old website, within the technical remit of the site itself– the AGM is invited to discuss the option for this.

#### 5.3.4 - Amendment to CCLSC constitution

With the appointment of Adrian Hawthorne as new Travel Secretary, we need to get our bank, HSBC, to issue us with a debit card in his name to enable him to purchase travel tickets effectively. HSBC have already responded to claim that our constitution does not authorise the committee to delegate payment responsibility to the Travel Secretary. Therefore, we have decided to amend the latest (2015) CCLSC constitution to provide authority for Adrian, via the committee, to make payments on our behalf. By providing the amended constitution to HSBC, we hope they will facilitate this.

The proposed amendment is as follows:

*"Additional clause 4.14 - to assist the various committee members in executing their responsibilities towards the membership in a timely manner, the committee may assign individual committee members the authority to make financial payments on the Club's behalf. Specifically, the relevant committee members dealing with the purchase of travel tickets and match tickets may be added to the Club's bank account as named signatories/debit card holders for the purpose of making such transactions. The appointment of such committee members as signatories/debit card holders shall be authorised by the AGM at the joint recommendation of the Chair and Treasurer."*

A vote will be taken on whether to accept the proposed amendment on a Yes/No, simple majority basis. If a majority vote for Yes, the constitution will be amended accordingly. If a majority vote for No, the constitution will remain unchanged. Absent members shall be entitled to vote via their designated proxies.

#### 5.3.5 – Required re-approval of CCLSC constitution

The constitution itself requires that we review the terms and contents of the constitution at least every 3 years; since the current version was adopted in 2014, we are now bound to review this today. Copies are available in the room for members to review. We therefore invite any comments or suggestions for constitutional amendments. If, by a show of hands, we are happy to continue with the terms as they are (other than the amendment above, if passed), we will consider the constitution reviewed and approved for the next three years.

#### 5.3.6 – CCLSC patron

At the 2016 AGM we discussed the opportunity of inviting a distinguished individual to become the patron of CCSC, following the death of the previous patron Jimmy Hill. Although some names were suggested on this topic, we did not progress this topic – the fundamental reason being that we lacked a clear remit within which to identify suitable candidates to approach. The AGM therefore has the opportunity to discuss the wider topic of what we want from a potential patron, specifically:

- Do we want a patron at all?
- Should the role be term-limited e.g. 3 years, after which we could re-appoint them or seek an alternative?
- Should we look for someone with a specific London/South East connection?
- What should be the purpose of the patron e.g. to attend CCLSC events (and if so, how frequently), to lobby on our behalf, to help to recruit new members by giving their time to 'press the flesh' with fans?
- Should this person be an active presence who is aware of our activities and participates in and promotes CCLSC, or more of a 'silent' patron whose name on our website/stationery brings us credibility without any active involvement?
- How to we ensure that we involve the patron appropriately and ensure we communicate with them sufficiently to enable them to fulfil the role effectively?

## **5.4 - Travel report – Simon Fahy**

### 5.4.1 – Travel tickets summary

Last year's dire season on the pitch proved once again the resilience of travellers in the face of football that often verged on the unwatchable.

Tickets were purchased for 34 matches with 28 people using the travel service last season. Obtaining reasonable prices for members was again part art, part science and overall we again secured a good deal. The top three travellers were:

1. Adrian Hawthorne
2. Rob Stevens
3. Ian Davidson

One issue that should be considered is that with us having switched to people paying travel money into the bank account, Simon largely lost visibility of who had and hadn't paid for tickets as people often forgot to let me know when they had made payments. Consequently Simon couldn't confidently report on what (if any) monies from last season are outstanding.

Simon also suggested that consideration is given to how the website form is used by people to request travel - it's potentially a very useful tool but while it is used by only a couple of people regularly it has the potential to make the Travel Secretary's job harder by providing another source of information to keep up-to-date. Simon suggested we push people hard to use this over the coming season so it's seen as the rule rather than the exception.

Message from Simon in Canada: *"As Nelly Furtado once sang, all good things come to an end, and 10 years as Travel Secretary are no exception. I'm pleased Adrian has agreed to take over the role and wished him all the best in ~~herding cats~~ running the travel in the coming season. Good luck off the pitch next season and I'll see you at a game at some point."*

### 5.4.2 – new Travel Secretary

At the committee meeting in early April, the committee co-opted Adrian Hawthorne (with his consent!) to fill the role of Travel Secretary for the forthcoming season, subject as usual to the (re-)election of the committee at this AGM.

### 5.4.3 - progress of Simon's "handover" guide

Simon confirmed he has written a travel guide as a reference for Adrian to use in the coming season and is happy to help with queries remotely as they arise.

### 5.4.4 - application for new CCLSC debit card in Adrian's name

As stated in the Treasurer and Secretary sections, we confirmed that the process of acquiring a CCLSC debit card for Adrian Hawthorne is ongoing.



## 5.5 - Match Ticketing report – Barry Chattaway

### 5.5.1 – Ticket purchase 2016/17 highlights

This season we bought tickets for 35 away matches and 3 home games for our members including Sky Blues International members. There was a total of 659 tickets bought for 23 away league games, 9 away cup games, and 3 home cup games including the Checkatrade Trophy final at Wembley.

The biggest away attendances and turnouts, apart from Wembley, were:

**Millwall** - 40 tickets at a total ticket cost of £935.00

**Charlton** - 43 tickets at a total ticket cost of £879.00 43

**Swindon** - 27 tickets at a total ticket cost of £633.00

**MK Dons** - 29 tickets at a total ticket cost of £568.00

For **Wembley**, we bought a massive total of 198 tickets, including 34 SBI members, at a total ticket cost of £6,500.

Total ticket money spend for the whole season was approximately £15,000. The average away support by members was 16 per game, which, for a poor season, is a remarkable turnout.

There were 5 away games (**Swindon, Millwall, Charlton, Peterborough** and **Scunthorpe**) where we had a combined 23 SBI supporters request tickets. I also bought 6 tickets for SBI members for two home games. We also acquired match tickets for two home games for SBI members. We had no requests at all this year for non-CCLSC members!

Appended to the AGM agenda pack you will find a full breakdown of all tickets purchased for every game throughout the 2016-17 season.

### 5.5.2 - CCFC ticket office/Ticketmaster

Our relationship with the ticket office is still in good shape with Shelagh attending to our ticket requests to our satisfaction, with few or no issues.

Although it was a massive task acquiring the tickets for Wembley, Shelagh did an exceptional job in dealing with our mammoth request for 198 Wembley tickets (which resulted in her spending 3 hours on the phone with Barry). To purchase tickets on this occasion we had to go through Ticketmaster and Wembley Stadium to which resulted in all tickets having to be sent by post to each individual season ticket holders' address; this did cause us a few issues in retrieving tickets for redistribution. However, it did go well in the end and this was a good learning curve for future events at Wembley, hopefully this coming season!

Barry has personally been in touch with Shelagh sending thanks on behalf of the CCLSC for all her hard work. Barry confirms he would be happy to continue with the role of ticketing secretary for the coming season if elected.

## 5.6 - Sky Blues International (SBI) report – Ian Davidson

With our Wembley appearance, and despite a season which resulted in relegation, we continue to enjoy increased interest from around the world, in particular from Norway. Once again, we had SBI members join us at several games throughout the season and at the various pubs for pre-match drinks. SBI members were well represented from the opening away game at Swindon, to the 9 SBI members at Millwall, to the 3 Norwegians

at Charlton, to the 26 Norwegians, several Americans, Canadians, Germans, Irish, Maltese, Swedes and Danes at Wembley. I probably have forgotten to mention some countries for which I apologise.

Membership currently stands at 329, up 17 from the last AGM, 14 of which were Norwegians. Members come from 43 different countries. Australia has the largest number of members with 68, followed by the USA with 35. Thanks to Jorg Nannestad's effort with the Norwegian Sky Blue Army, Norway now has 32 SBI members, but they have several more members in their Facebook group. We are working to enrol them.

Unfortunately, of the SBI members only 249 receive the newsletter. Over time we have lost touch as members move jobs, return to the UK or change their email addresses without notifying us. When an email is returned we have had a couple of successes in contacting the employer and have been given the new contact details. This doesn't work in every case.

Regulars who joined us on at least three occasions last season included Steve Pittam, from Dubai, Per Modem from Denmark and Jorn Erik Larson from Norway.

I receive a number of comments back praising the work we do at CCLSC for our international-based Sky Blues. Many include special thanks to Barry for collecting the match tickets for SBI members. This is a service they particularly appreciate. Indeed a couple of SBI members had insisted on paying membership subscriptions, despite being told it was complimentary. We should not underestimate the SBI members' enthusiasm for all things CCFC.

## **5.7 - Communications report – Ian Davidson**

### 5.7.1 – Communications round-up

In the last 12 months CCLSC, but probably more specifically SBI, received more focus from the media than for several years. BBC Coventry and Warwickshire (CWR), the Coventry Observer and the Coventry Telegraph all ran stories about SBI members and their trips to Wembley.

As a spokesman for CCLSC, Ian was asked to speak on CWR radio on several occasions last season. The highlight was speaking on the day about our own 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, the build up to Wembley, on the morning of the Final and at the Calthorpe Arms, where a CWR reporter joined us and interviewed "on air" a number of SBI members from around the world. Ian was invited to the BBC CWR on the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the FA Cup win and, when he declined on the basis of attending the CCLSC members' social event in central London to commemorate the anniversary (see Social report), he was asked to call in to the radio show to discuss our plans.

Many members will be aware that CCLSC host a table at the quarterly Diamond Club luncheons at the Ricoh and that Ian was asked to speak about CCLSC and SBI at the Autumn luncheon.

Once again this year, Ian would like to report that the monthly newsletters, regular emails for tickets and pubs and, in the past year, on the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner have been well received and that this demonstrates we are a vibrant supporters' club. Also, a membership acknowledgement email was sent for the first time for many years. Following the demonstrations at CCFC games this season, all paid-up members were asked on their views about the demonstrations, which confirmed our policy of neutrality towards the owners of the club.

The emails now go to 315 members in the UK, up from 298 at last year's AGM, and a further 249 SBI members around the world.

The newsletters continue to be opened by around 50-60% and the ticketing and pub emails see significant opening levels depending on the match in question. Not surprisingly, the two emails with the highest opening figures were the ones sent to members only regarding Wembley tickets and their views on the demonstrations. These emails were opened by 91.5% and 77.8% respectively.

The analytics received do not include some from work addresses, which block analytical reporting. As an example, some committee members claim they open the emails, but the analytics do not show this! Whilst this percentage might seem low, Mailchimp report that similar organisations would typically get a 20-25% opening rate.

Ian would like to once again thank Barry, Simon and Robin for their regular contributions to the newsletter throughout last season and to Colin for proof-reading and final approval.

As the new website continues to be developed, we will be able to tailor communications specifically to paid-up members, those who have expressed an interest in CCLSC and join us at the pubs, or those that just want the newsletter and not other communications. I would recommend again this year that we continue to send out communications to this wider audience, as it continues to generate more interest and potential members.

#### 5.7.2 – Use of social media in communications

Discussion on use of social media to mirror/promote existing communications content to a wider audience, as appropriate e.g. Facebook, Flickr, Instagram, Pinterest, Twitter etc.

#### 5.7.3 - Pubs report

Our policy of going to real ale pubs away from the ground again proved popular last season and will be continued for the coming season. The policy adopted a couple of years ago, of going to a pub near the ground for evening games also met with some success. For the coming season, Swindon and Stevenage are evening away games before Christmas and we have been to both pubs recommended. There is little choice nearer the ground at either.

Many of the grounds we will be visiting this season will be new (for many) and our last visit in some cases will have been decades ago. Pubs for all away games have been investigated and, where appropriate, contact made with the local branch of CAMRA for recommendations. The list of suggested pubs will be circulated at the AGM. These of course, will be subject to contacting the landlord before the game to ensure we are welcomed.

Away days this coming season will include a welcome return to one of our favourite pubs over the last few years, the waterfront-located Canalhouse in central Nottingham before the Notts County game. We do have welcome returns to the Borough Arms at Crewe, the Victoria Inn (Colchester) and all three of the sides relegated with us all have popular pubs where we have been well received in the past. The Derby Tup (Chesterfield), the Glue Pot (Swindon) and the Titanic Brewery pub the Bull's Head (Port Vale). It is also a quick return to the Devonshire Arms (Cambridge) where we were treated to a superb Sunday lunch last season before our disastrous FA Cup defeat.

There will be first trips for several years to places like Lincoln, Grimsby, Accrington and

Mansfield and that first ever visit to the Hive and New Lawn for Barnet and Forest Green respectively.

Ian has not made a recommendation for Barnet in October. This is likely to be well attended, given the lack of London games this season. The nearest CAMRA recommended pub to the ground is the JJ Moons, which some members will know from their Wembley trips. It is nearly 2 miles from the ground with a tube ride and 10 minute walk. The alternative, which proved successful for Millwall and the Trophy Final, is the possibility of meeting in central London and travelling out to the away ground via tube. The AGM is invited to discuss this topic with a view to reaching a collective viewpoint on the best approach.

## **5.8 - Player of the Season report – Barry Chattaway**

### 5.8.1 - Votes cast & results

The CCLSC members polled 5,004 votes over 55 league & cup games, with the Checkatrade Trophy final at Wembley being the biggest contributor to the voting. 67 individual members plus a few SBI members cast their votes over the whole season. This was a remarkable total due to the poor season and in some cases unwatchable and very forgettable performances. Provided within the AGM pack is a breakdown of the number of votes per match this season.

Congratulations went to the CCLSC Player of the season 2016/17 Gael Bigirimana, who won with a massive 772 points, followed by Lee Burge in second place with 465 points & Ben Stevenson finished in third place with 410 points.

Next season in League Two is going to be a big test again; we do have faith in Mark Robins and are looking forward to the challenge. Again, Barry will be willing to stand for the 2017/18 season to accept your MoM votes. Thanks to all who took the time to send in their votes last season.

### 5.8.2 Discussion - ideas to increase participation

Participation rates does seem to be related to the performances on the field by the players; we had many occasions last season where members were just not inclined to give players votes for such inept performances. Other than Barry sending reminder emails out after every game to encourage members to send in their votes, we are looking for suggestions from the AGM as to how we can promote or encourage members to send in their votes.

### 5.8.3 - Presentation & trophies

The POTS presentation at the Ricoh Arena went very well on this occasion, giving members the chance and time to have photos taken with the players. Thanks to Kevin Mofid for organising the event. Gael Bigirimana received the PotS cup and a personal silver plated salver engraved with his name and our own CCLSC crest. Barry is now pleased to announce that we have finally after several years got the new POTS cup, fully engraved with all previous winners.

### 5.8.4 Next season

With overseas supporters able to watch all CCFC league matches this season on iFollow, this may lead to more MoM votes from SBI members – the AGM is invited to discuss whether the PotS rules (which currently allow any CCLSC member watching on TV to submit their votes) should change or stay the same.

## **5.9 - Supporters' Consultative Group (SCG) report – Colin Henderson**

Colin, as CCLSC's designated representative, attended a number of SCG meeting during the season where important issues such as the following were raised and discussed between the SCG members and CCFC directors:

- \* the club's lease at the Ricoh Arena
- \* the Academy's future
- \* standing and reserved seating issues at away matches
- \* food and drink offer at the Ricoh
- \* safety and security at home and away matches
- \* the potential of the Butts Park Arena as a new home.

Colin reported that he was able to voice a view that would meet the thinking of the majority, if not all, of our members on these key issues. However, towards the end of 2016, it became apparent that the SCG was not functioning in the way originally intended and, as a result, CCFC decided to disband the SCG with immediate effect.

Colin was recently invited to a meeting to discuss the possibility of a new, successor, group being established. He was unable to say more today as it was agreed by all concerned to keep the details confidential at this stage. We do not know whether this new group will eventually be established, but Colin is happy to contribute his time and ideas in order to try and make any new group work, as it is really important that there is a conduit of communication between supporters and the CCFC.

We now have to a discussion on the subject of whether CCLSC should continue to have representation at this type of group with CCFC, should such a new group emerge. Colin stated he would be happy to continue to attend meetings next year if the decision is Yes.

If the majority of opinion in the room is to hold a vote on this matter, this will be taken on whether to accept any future invitation to participate in a SCG-successor group the proposed resolution on a Yes/No, simple majority basis. If a majority vote for Yes, the resolution will be adopted and publicised accordingly, and the committee shall be authorised to appoint a designated representative for such meetings. If a majority vote for No, the resolution will not be adopted and CCLSC shall not participate in any such group during the 2017-18 season. Absent members shall be entitled to vote via their designated proxies.

## **5.10 - Affiliations report – Martin Garrett**

### **5.10.1 Football Supporters' Federation**

The Federation's campaigns remain largely the same – i.e. "Away Fans Matter (inc. "Twenty's Plenty")", "Fans For Diversity", "Safe Standing" (where progress continues to be predictably slow, though the Premier League has now written to all its clubs to see if they'd be interested in piloting safe standing following on from the trial at Celtic), and "Watching Football Is Not A Crime".

Fans are also urged to complete the Federation's National Supporters Survey 2017. This year's Supporters' Summit, run in collaboration with Supporters Direct, is actually taking place this weekend at St. George's Park, whilst quarterly meetings of the Southern branch of FSF continue to be held at various venues around the region (the last, the AGM in April, being hosted by AFC Wimbledon at Kingsmeadow) on Sundays. Martin

would be pleased to hear from any members who might be interested in attending on behalf of the club if a meeting was in their locality.

#### 5.10.2 Association of Provincial Supporters Clubs in London (APFSCIL)

There were no changes to the committee at this year's AGM in June so and the 'good ship' APFSCIL sails serenely on much as before. Regular meetings are held on the first Monday of each month (Bank Holidays and July (close season excepted) at The Horseshoe, 24 Clerkenwell Close, EC1 (nearest stations: Farringdon/Angel), "Kick Off" 7.30, and all members are welcome to attend.

It would be good to see a few new faces from time to time. Main topics for discussion continue to be travel arrangements and match day experiences (policing, stewarding etc.), with 'informal discussions' being continued in the bar afterwards. On a sporting note, Martin reported that this year we did manage to make it past the first round of the darts cup, beating Norwich 6-3, before exiting (by the same score) to Nottingham Forest in the last eight. Meanwhile, having been edged out for the Website of the Year award in 2015 by Middlesbrough, we again played 'second fiddle' in 2016, this time to Barrow. 2017's winner will be announced at August's meeting (third time lucky, perhaps?).

Further information can be found on the organisation's websites:

[www.fsf.org.uk](http://www.fsf.org.uk)

[www.apfscil.org.uk](http://www.apfscil.org.uk)

### **5.11 - Competitions report – Robin Ogleby**

#### 5.11.1 – 2016/17 results

We had 70 participants last season, and increase of 11 on 2015-2016; Scott Harbertson, who had already won the competition with two games to spare, didn't much mind that his season had also come to a stuttering end (only getting two points over the last four games). He ended up coming top of the league with eight clear points. He was, however, surprised that he had done so well, as not even he had foreseen that the Sky Blues would get relegated this year!

Simon Fahy and Philip Vernau saw this bitter end coming some time ago and, as a result, managed at the last minute to secure the vital 2nd and 3rd big money positions in the Prediction Competition.

Barry Chattaway had been on a good run-in towards the finish but he eventually got edged out of third place by the smallest of margins - a single goal - on the last day of the season. Roy Ebbessen (Norway), in fifth place, also ended up on exactly the same points as third placed Philip Vernau (USA). Second place Simon Fahy has now moved to Canada to further add to the SBI challengers.

Apart from the very top of the league, and the very bottom, this year's competition proved to be a very tight affair. Let's hope, however, that eternal optimist Peter Singh (France) fares much better next year. Special awards go to Nick Caplan for predicting a remarkable 10 accurate scores throughout the season. He also had a run of three 6 pointers - as did Alistair Laurie, Robert Gauci and Jim McIlwaine.

The full final results of the 2016-17 Prediction Competition are as follows:

Position	Name	Points	Position	Name	Points
1 (1)	Scott Harbertson	121	36 (27)	Sara Robb	84
2 (3)	Simon Fahy	113	37 (48)	Julian Foster	84
3 (8)	Philip Vernau	112	38 (38)	James Bowler	84
4 (6)	Barry Chattaway	112	39 (33)	Adrian Hawthorne	83
5 (2)	Roy Ebbesen	112	40 (31)	Chris Lambert	83
6 (4)	Alan Plumb	111	41 (53)	Jim McIlwaine	82
7 (5)	Christer Robertsen	110	42 (51)	Mauro Pizzolato	82
8 (10)	Nick Caplan	107	43 (30)	Jorg Nannestad	81
9 (14)	Mick Furnival-Adams	103	44 (54)	Albi Mozer	80
10 (7)	Jim McCluskey	97	45 (46)	Steve Woodfield	80
11 (9)	Rob Stevens	97	46 (50)	Shane Hookey	80
12 (20)	Jim McEwan	97	47 (35)	Eric Whiting	80
13 (16)	Matt Chattaway	97	48 (56)	Dave Clare	79
14 (11)	Christian Mullen	96	49 (40)	Baljit Heer	79
15 = (26)	Rob Parker	95	50 (34)	Andrea Mozer	78
15 = (24)	Jon Slade	95	51 (45)	John Bains	78
17 (13)	Alastair Laurie	94	52 (52)	Phil Smith	77
18 (12)	Mark Styles	94	53 (44)	Hannu Solanne	76
19 (23)	Robert Gaucci	93	54 (57)	Mark Neale	76
20 (25)	Cornelia Kehl	93	55 = (43)	Peter Dipple	76
21 (28)	Martin Hall	93	55 = (60)	Scott Pittam	76
22 (15)	Kevan Ridgway	93	57 (49)	Steve Smith	76
23 (19)	Dave Evans	92	58 (55)	Brian Sharp	73
24 (29)	George Ogleby	91	59 (63)	Rod Williams	70
25 (17)	Martin Garrett	90	60 (59)	Colin Henderson	69
26 (41)	Ian Davidson	90	61 (58)	Christine Davidson	68
27 (22)	Kevin Randall	89	62 (61)	Steve James	68
28 (47)	Stephen Harris	88	63 (62)	Mark Davidson	66
29 (21)	Jorn Erik Larsen	88	64 (64)	Michael May	64
30 (18)	Michael Sykes	88	65 (65)	Steve Pittam	63
31 (32)	Carl Lawton	87	66 (67)	George Flynn	63
32 (36)	Robin Morden	86	67 (68)	John Bryant	61
33 (37)	Rod Dean	85	68 (66)	Chris Webb	58
34 (39)	John McCulloch	84	69 (69)	Nicola Ellis	49
35 (42)	Keith Rogers	84	70 (70)	Peter Singh	45

### 5.11.2 – 2017/18 results competition

The competition form for the 2016-17 season is now available; you can download the form here: <http://cclsc.org.uk/forecasting-competition>. You will need a copy of Microsoft Excel or Apple Numbers to open the file. There is also a copy of this season's form included in this AGM pack. It is free to enter, a bit of fun and the top three at the end of the season win prizes.

For all this fixtures listed, enter your predicted score for the Sky Blues in the Forecast (F) column and the predicted score for the opponents in Forecast (A). Compare these throughout the season with the actual scores. Keep a copy of your predictions and send in your entry before the Notts County game on the 5th August to Robin Ogleby at [competitions@cclsc.org.uk](mailto:competitions@cclsc.org.uk)

The latest table will appear in the monthly newsletter so you can check how you are doing against other members throughout the season.

### 5.11.3 – 2016 prize whereabouts

Colin Henderson to update the AGM on the whereabouts of the 2016 prize, won by Peter Dipple

## **5.12 - Social report – Kevin Mofid**

### 5.12.1 – 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner

2016-17 was another successful year on the social events front, the highlight undoubtedly being the latest quinquennial celebration to mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CCLSC. Held at the Horniman at Hays in London Bridge, the event was attended by 55 members and their guests. The crowds were entertained by a raffle, compared by the social secretary, a delightful after dinner speech from Chris Cattlin and the reading of a special message from John Sillett (who, due to ill health, was obliged to decline our invitation to attend in person) to mark the occasion. Special mention must be made to Colin Henderson for his assistance in sourcing the venue, organising prizes and liaising with our after dinner speaker. Also, to Colin's wife Rachel and her staff in decorating the room and making it look a vision in sky blue! Onwards to the next landmark anniversary! Suggestions, of course, already gratefully received.

### 5.12.2 – Player of the Season presentation

Once again we held our player of the year presentation at the Ricoh Arena at the last home game of the season against Walsall. Overall this was another success, with almost 25 members in attendance. Whilst appreciating the club continue to be mere tenants at the Ricoh Arena it should be noted that it was felt that arrangements seemed harder to organise compared to previous years.

### 5.12.3 - Curry night

We also held a curry night to mark the 30th Anniversary of our famous FA cup win over Tottenham Hotspur. Twenty members attended this event and a good time was had by all, especially Rob Stevens who notched up the highest bill, but also was the last to pay!

### 5.12.4 - Sandown Park racenight event

Dates have been suggested for a horse racing night at Sandown Park and this has been advertised in the CCLSC newsletter. It was subsequently noted that Sir Tom Jones was playing a concert that night which may have resulted in higher than anticipated ticket prices for the event. There were no takers for this event so the date was changed to later in July, when no crooners were scheduled to play and re-advertised. There were still no takers perhaps suggesting CCLSC members enjoy the Green Green Grass of home during off the season?

### 5.12.5 - Potential Q&A with Mark Robins

Another idea to be mooted is to run one of our Q&As with Mark Robins and perhaps club directors. If/when we agree a date with a speaker, the social secretary will be delighted to organise.

### 5.12.6 – Other social options

Kevin stated he is keen to undertake more social events, and we have previously examined the possibility of a CCLSC golf day; he returns from honeymoon in February and plans to start playing golf again in the subsequent months, perhaps this event will gain more traction in 2018? Please do reach out if there are any other events members would like CCLSC to organise.



## **6- Aims and objectives of CCLSC**

### 6.1 - Relationship with CCFC / takeover

The below resolution has been proposed by John Bryant. The AGM will discuss this and decide whether to have a formal vote on adopting this resolution and publicising it.

*"The CCLSC believes CCFC should have owners who are lifelong City supporters and whose primary motivation is to work with the club's fanbase to secure the long term future and success of the football club, rather than those who regard the CCFC as just another asset in an investment portfolio whose losses can to offset against their tax liabilities.*

*This is why CCLSC formally supports Gary Hoffman (a former CCLSC Committee member), and his consortium of local business investors, in their attempt to purchase CCFC from SISU owned companies.*

*The AGM of CCLSC, in passing this resolution, asks the Committee to make sure this decision is communicated to the local press and other media serving the Coventry area."*

If the majority of opinion in the room is to hold a vote on this matter, this will be taken on whether to accept the proposed resolution on a Yes/No, simple majority basis. If a majority vote for Yes, the resolution will be adopted and publicised accordingly. If a majority vote for No, the resolution will not be adopted. Absent members shall be entitled to vote via their designated proxies.

We will also discuss whether CCLSC or its committee members have had, or will be having, discussions with consortium leader Gary Hoffman regarding the proposed takeover of CCFC.

### 6.2 - CCLSC corporate approach to demonstrations during 2016/17

As noted in the Communications report, we emailed members during the season to canvass opinions on whether CCLSC ought to take a public stance regarding the issue of the ownership and off-field management of CCLSC, which saw several protests at matches during the course of the season. On the basis of feedback received, the committee decided to maintain the "independent" stance adopted at the 2014 AGM, subject to further discussion today. We now invite discussion on how to proceed on this matter.

## **7- Election of Committee for 2017/18**

### 7.1. Election of Vice-Chair

Should we have receive nominations for multiple candidates, there shall be a secret ballot of all those present, including absent members via their proxies. The candidate receiving the most votes of those cast will be deemed elected. If there is only one candidate is nominated, a simple majority (including absent members via their proxies) of those voting via a show of hands shall be deemed sufficient to elect that candidate.

### 7.2. Re-election of committee

Members are entitled to stand for any committee position, subject to nomination and seconding by present members – election for all committee positions shall follow the procedure outlined at 7.1, above.

## **8- Any other business**

### 8.1 - CCLSC merchandise

As members will know, no longer has a designated committee member with responsibility for CCLSC merchandise. The AGM is invited to discuss any particular items of merchandise that are of interest and how to acquire/promote these. Members attending the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner each received a commemorative keyring with the CCLSC logo and the date of the dinner, which proved popular. What other ideas would people like e.g. something to commemorate the Checkatrade Trophy final, a CCLSC "League Two tour" T-shirt, CCLSC mug, pin-badge, etc?

## **9- Date of forthcoming meetings**