

Blackburn Rovers Independent Supporters Association

DRAFT MINUTES

Meeting No: 6 Blues Bar 13th October 2005

Present:	Paul Brooking	Apologies:	Claire Lloyd
	Dennis Gasgarth		Ste Birtwell
	Gill Pegden		Tristan Stock
	Glenn Pegden		James Billouin
	Mike Graham (Chair)		
	Claire Nolan		
	Carole Billouin		
	Peter Henderson		
	Matt Howard		
	Scott Thornton		

My apologies to anyone who was “present” but not listed above. I forgot to note this and my memory is clearly failing this morning. I found it difficult to hear some of the discussion, hopefully the following is accurate!

Item	Minutes of the Last Meeting	Action
1.0	The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the last meeting	
2.0	Publicity Leaflet The leaflet had been incorrectly printed and the membership application form is missing from the reverse. Various options for re-printing were discussed but it was agreed the leaflet should be used as it is. Cost and time prevented any changes. It was felt that the majority of potential members would sign up on the launch night or via the BRISA website	
2.1	Leaflet Distribution Liverpool – permission gained from LFC and a BRISA representative to meet the head steward prior to the game to show him a copy of the leaflet. BRISA volunteers would distribute leaflets prior to the game. All those going to the match took leaflets from the meeting.	
	Birmingham City – the club have given permission for distribution at the Birmingham game. Stuart undertook to coordinate distribution around the different stands. Individuals volunteered for different areas including local pubs, match day car parks and stands.	Various
	Stuart would organise A3 posters on the concourses	Stuart
3.0	Public Launch – agenda for the night Mike Graham presented his proposed agenda for the evening	
3.1	After some discussion the final agenda was agreed as:	
	Welcome from Mike Graham – 2 minutes	Mike
	What is an ISA – Mike/5 minutes	Mike
	Why BRISA – Mike/5 minutes	Mike
	Personal View – Paul/2-3 minutes – why I believe in BRISA	Paul
	Challenges and Achievements, IMUSA – Mark Longden/15 minutes	Mark
	Q&A from the floor	

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3.2 **Mark Longden – IMUSA**

Den to contact Mark to confirm his attendance and suggest he discuss the challenges IMUSA faced and the difference IMUSA had made to United fans Den

3.3 **Raffle**

The club have provided a signed shirt to be raffled as a fundraiser on the night. Jill to organise tickets and selling. Price £1 per strip Jill

3.4 **“Top Table”/Existing Members/Steering Group**

Mike, Paul, Glenn and Scott to sit at the “top table”. Mike to introduce other “activists” around the room by asking them to stand for a moment. All to have name badges (Clare/Stuart) Clare/Stuart

Everyone to mingle with the audience, answer questions, encourage fans to sign up

4.0 **Publicity/Press Release**

Press Packs, Press Release etc. all prepared and ready with the exception of the endorsements from Jack Straw and Wayne Hemingway. These were anticipated to arrive in time for release to the media on Monday 17th October. Neil

Club publicity via the Big Screen/Radio Rovers – Mike Graham would be interviewed in the next week for these two match day events. Text for the programme to be submitted to Lee Grooby by Scott Mike/Scott

5.00 **Next Meeting**

Committee to meet John Williams 7.00pm November 3rd Den

10th November at the Aqueduct or other local venue. Matt to contact the Aqueduct Matt

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- 5.2 Where?
To be decided but independent of the club
- 5.3 How Will it Work?
This point relates primarily to a formal committee structure. The meeting agreed for the current “Steering Group” to stand down at the launch would be counter-productive. The Steering Group would remain in place for six months after the launch date to provide continuity. After this period a formal committee to be elected at an AGM
- 5.4 Guest Speaker?
The meeting hoped to invite Tony Parkes for a short Q&A session
- 5.5 How do we Quantify a Successful Launch?
It was agreed BRISA could attract an initial membership of 100. The meeting appreciated building membership will be a long and continual process.
- 6.0 **Money**
- 6.1 How do we generate Money for BRISA? Sponsorship – how, who?
The meeting unanimously voted for a £5 membership fee with free membership for under 16s. Until BRISA “has something to sell” potential sponsors would not be approached.
- 6.2 How Much do we need to Generate? What are our Costs?
The meeting did not discuss a specific budget but considered the need for funding was pressing. Paul and Ste B indicated Admin of brfcs.com was in a position to make a small loan to BRISA if the meeting agreed. A vote was taken on with the unanimous result to accept the offer provided this clearly a loan, which MUST be repaid to brfcs.com. Ste B and Paul did not participate in the vote.
- 7.0 **Any Other Business**
Communication?
Emphasis was placed on the need to communicate swiftly and positively to every fan who expressed an interest in BRISA
Football Supporters Federation
Discussion took place on the need to be affiliated to this body. More information required
- 8.0 **Close of Business / Next Meeting**
There being no further matters to discuss the meeting closed at 10.15pm. The next meeting to be held on 16th August at 7.30pm, venue The Acqueduct. This meeting will be BRISA’s first opportunity to meet with other existing / now defunct supporter’s groups.

Dennis

Scott