



APFSCIL

(www.apfscil.org.uk)

Meeting 418

Monday 6 August 2018 @ 7:30PM

At The HORSESHOE, 24 Clerkenwell Close, EC1R 0AG

020 7253 6068

Nearest tube & mainline station is Farringdon

P = Present X = Absent A = Apologies

A	Aberdeen	P	Gillingham	P	Rangers
P	Barrow	A	Heart of Midlothian	A	Rotherham United
P	Blackburn Rovers	X	Hibernian	P	Scunthorpe United
X	Blackpool	A	Hull City	P	Shamrock Rovers
X	Bolton Wanderers	P	Ipswich Town	A	Sheffield Wednesday
X	AFC Bournemouth	P	Leicester City	A	Southampton
P	Brighton & Hove Albion	X	London Scottish	P	Sunderland
X	Bristol City	P	Manchester City	P	West Bromwich Albion
P	Burnley	A	Manchester United		
X	Celtic	A	Mansfield Town	P	Football Rep
A	Chester	P	Middlesbrough		
P	Coventry City	A	Newcastle United		
A	Derby County	P	Norwich City		
P	Everton	P	Nottingham Forest		
P	Exeter City	A	Plymouth Argyle		

Top Table: Kevin Wells, Chairman (Leicester); Neil Le Milliere, Secretary (Exeter), Roger Pyne, Minutes Secretary (Exeter) & Rob Madigan, Social Secretary (Everton).

Meeting Opened: 19:33

1 Apologies for Absence

1.1 Apologies: Chris Turner, Rotherham; Chris Freestone, Hearts; Paul Ashbridge, Hull; Ian Colley, Sheffield Wednesday; Elloit Marsh, Derby; Pauline Meakins, Chester; Steve O'Brien, Manchester United; David Cross, Mansfield; Nick Head (Treasurer), Southampton; Chris Turner (Darts Secretary), Rotherham, Kari Mahwood, Newcastle; and Greg Foxsmith, Plymouth.

2 Attending for First Time:

2.1 There were no first-time attendees.

3 Approval of the Minutes from Meeting 417

3.1 Liz pointed out that the attendance list had not been completed for Absent members, a revised version was subsequently circulated.

3.2 No other matters of accuracy were raised.

4 Matters arising from Meeting 417 not covered elsewhere

4.1 Nothing raised prior to, or at, the meeting and the minutes were taken as read.

43rd Annual General Meeting held on 4th June 2018. Although the minutes are not due to be approved until the 44th Annual General Meeting, as the minutes have been distributed, a correction is in order. The pool update was given by Martin Clubb, and not Martin Garrett.

Neil, Le Milliere, Secretary

5 Chairman's Report

5.1 We are proposing to alter our Constitution to allow us to appoint a President. The proposed additional paragraph 14 would read as follows:

“The Committee may from time to time propose to the membership at a General Meeting that the organisation appoint a Honorary President in recognition of services to APFSCIL. This appointment can be for life, or to expire annually, this to be decided by the membership when considering a proposal from the Committee. The Honorary President shall be entitled to attend General Meetings and the Annual General Meeting, but not be entitled to vote by reason of being Honorary President. The Honorary President shall not be deemed to be part of The Administrative Committee. The role of Honorary President shall not confer any role in the running or administration of APFSCIL. The appointment of a Honorary President can be rescinded at any time if proposed by the Committee and agreed by the members at a General Meeting.”

The proposal was discussed, one point being brought up concerned whether a change to the constitution had to be made at an AGM. Neil Le Milliere, Secretary, perused the constitution and confirmed a change could be made at a General Meeting. Once this was concerned the change was approved unanimously. Following on from this the Chairman recommended that Monica Hartland, one of the founding forces behind APFSCIL, be invited to accept the post of Honorary President. The meeting agreed with this unanimously – the Chairman said he would write to Monica accordingly. Kevin Wells, kwells@gwc-accountants.co.uk

6 Secretary's Report

6.1 An interesting and disappointing couple of months starting off with the news that Stoke City Southern Supporters were disbanding and would therefore no longer be members of APFSCIL.

6.2 GDPR came and went without too many problems for our members.

6.3 Hat Trick TV production company got in touch asking if we had anyone who would go on their new show called Football Genius. Ian Todd (Sunderland) said that they had been in contact with the production company but were not selected.

6.4 Another company contacted us about the imminent release of the Sir Bobby Robson film – More Than A Manager.

6.5 Hackney Wick FC contacted us to see if we would advertise them as an alternative football team to go to on a Saturday afternoon.

6.6 Gametraveller got in touch to see if we could advertise their site and services to our members. See www.gametraveller.com

6.7 Then finally we received the sad news that another member was ceasing membership. Blackburn's football team had unfortunately folded and this has coincided with Alan Fell not being able to attend our meetings. So, with no one else coming forward to replace him, their committee has therefore felt it was inappropriate to continue in membership.

They also asked us to not accept any approach from any individuals or groups attempting to use the Blackburn Rovers or the London Branch names.

This has coincided with the London Branch continuing into their forty second consecutive season and we wish them well.

6.8 It seems that Quest TV are now showing the Football League highlights, this is also available via Facebook.

Neil Le Milliere, neil_le_milliere@btinternet.com

7 Treasurer's Report

7.1 Balances

Current a/c £1,422.98

Deposit a/c £5145.78

7.2 Memberships

Received from Gillingham and Middlesbrough.

7.3 Non-League Day

This cost APFSCIL £481.50.

Hull are still owed a refund of £26 due to a double payment, but I am awaiting payment details.

Nick Head, nickjh1480@hotmail.com

8 Webmaster's Report

8.1 We are grateful to Pete Reynolds who has produced an updated new introduction page for us as follows:

“The Association of Provincial Supporters' Clubs In London (usually referred to as APFSCIL) was formed in the mid 1970s and has grown from a handful of supporters' groups to a 38-member body, representing today in the region of 8,000 football supporters. Mirroring both the growth and development of regional branches of supporters' clubs, APFSCIL has emerged as a focal point for those clubs whose home venues are outside London and, in some cases, outside the country altogether. The range of teams represented is impressive, from the Premier League to non-league

outfits such as Barrow and Chester and in more recent years including European friends from Shamrock Rovers and AS Roma. Whatever leagues their teams play in, all APFSCIL clubs share a common bond of dislocation and one of the major reasons the organisation was founded was to facilitate travel to matches. With visits to home games often entailing day-long journeys of hundreds of miles, one of APFSCIL's great successes has been the concessionary fares scheme negotiated with the Train Operating Companies, enabling supporters to travel affordably and in comfort. While the actual mechanics of this have changed with the arrival of the internet, whereby cheap tickets can be obtained on an individual basis, it is still an important part of what the organisation does. Opposing fans travelling amicably together may not generate tabloid headlines, but it is a routine occurrence for most APFSCIL clubs, with good behaviour the norm.

It's not just travel though that brings the fans together, for APFSCIL runs its own Darts, Football and Pool leagues in which member clubs can take part. The annual 5-a-side football tournament enables even the smaller clubs to participate, with most clubs entering sides. Teams play for the 'Greg Peck Trophy' named in honour of the late Greg Peck, one of APFSCIL's founders. Also, in the darts knockout cup, teams who are not in the league can participate, so giving them a taste of what they're in for if they subsequently decide to join the league. The prizes for these various contests are awarded at the respective sports' AGMs except for the darts where the occasion is combined with an individual knockout competition, with a pairs knockout also taking place during the season. Clubs wishing to do so may also participate in the Home Counties Quiz League, though this falls outside the jurisdiction of the organisation.

For the past few years, APFSCIL has arranged a discounted block booking for tickets for the Non-League Finals Day. Held at Wembley Stadium, this features the finals of the FA Vase and FA Trophy and this year (2018) well over one hundred supporters from a variety of clubs, both league and non-league, enjoyed two excellent matches and the chance to share an afternoon with like-minded fans.

APFSCIL has three grades of membership: Full, Associate and Sports. Associate membership is for organisations or individuals whose ultimate objective is to form a club with the aim of applying for full membership later, while Sports membership covers those teams who wish to participate only in the football league. Member clubs of all three categories must satisfy the Aims of the Association and are entitled to attend general meetings, but only Full member clubs have the right to vote at these meetings.

All this doesn't happen by itself and it is the job of the Administrative Committee, elected annually, to carry out the Resolutions voted upon by the membership. The Association meets monthly in central London, currently The Horseshoe, Clerkenwell Close EC1, on the first Monday of the month, and an AGM takes place with each club sending a representative. Meetings generally discuss current issues in football that affect the membership and guest speakers are occasionally invited to add to the debate.

Each member club has an entry on this site, explaining what they offer and do and there is also a contact number for membership enquiries. Also, several of the clubs are affiliated to the Football Supporters Federation (FSF).

APFSCIL is in regular contact with representatives of the major football administrative bodies and the media, actively representing supporters' interests.

With issues such as the influence of TV companies within football and the increasing expense of supporting a team, APFSCIL has an important role to play and it is hoped it can continue its good work, in conjunction with fellow supporter's groups, to promote the views and interests of real supporters.

For further information, contact the Secretary, Neil Le Milliere (Exeter City) (mail to secretary@apfscil.org.uk)”
Liz Cocks, elizabethcocks@sky.com

9 Travel Secretary's Report

9.1 After chasing a few different people I have discovered that the Rail Football Forum has been mothballed but no one thought to tell us. Even worse we are being warned that the BTP are rumoured to be cracking down on Supporters travelling and will be on the look-out for bad behaviour. Amanda Jacks (of the Football Supporters' Federation) then issued a warning to Supporters to behave.

9.2 Turning to a small bit of better news our friends at East Midlands have again agreed to a special deal for our members travelling on their services and details are now on their website. Phil Arnold (Leicester) confirmed that unlike many other ticket types, they are refundable if a game date is changed or a game is called off. Railcards cannot be used in conjunction with the East Midlands deal.

9.3 Don't forget to include your Travel officer's contact details on your membership Forms please.

9.4 Mick Strickland, Southampton, raised a question about the nonsense of trying to buy group tickets for travel to Liverpool on Virgin and wondered if any clubs who travel with Virgin had any advice. Comments from the floor included the useful news that their call centre is now based in the UK. Apparently other deals are available for group travel.

9.5 finally Amanda Jacks from the FSF was asking if any of our members could provide details of any special deals they had with the local train companies and I passed on the EMT details plus she was contacting Jon for the Norwich deal. Jon Goddard (Norwich) confirmed that the return fare was £21. Any more for any more?

9.6 Other travel points brought up at the meeting included;

Euston closures start from the August bank holiday weekend, services will start & terminate at Hemel Hempstead.

Steve Moon (Nottingham Forest) said that there would be no direct trains to Derby on the 18th/19th of August, the final part of the journey would be by bus.

Neil Le Milliere, neil_le_milliere@btinternet.com

10 Sports Secretaries Reports

10.1 Pool

10.1.1 APFSCIL Pool Clydie Weekes Summer Cup

Steve G has made the draw for the Summer Cup as follows:

First Round:

Nottingham Forest v Southampton

West Brom v Hearts

Second Round:

Newcastle v Hull

Forest/Saints v Barrow/Plymouth

West Brom/Hearts v Sunderland

Exeter v Middlesbrough

Semi-Finals:

Newcastle/Hull v Forest/Saints/Barrow-Plymouth West Brom/Hearts/Sunderland v

Exeter/Middlesbrough

All entered onto the website ready for dates.

We are a little late getting under way so please try and get first and second round games scheduled as soon as possible

Please contact myself or Steve Grant steve@stevegrant.co.uk

Cheers Steve steve_cole99@btinternet.com Mob 07772047273

http://apfscilpool.leaguerepublic.com/l/fg/1_269910850.html;jsessionid=97FC9AEFF40F0D85E101B9DCAE737FFE.clubsites1

10.2 Football

10.2.1 The football league had our AGM on Saturday 21st September here in the Horseshoe. It turned out to be one of the most momentous in the leagues recent history.

10.2.2 Unfortunately, over the summer the league has lost 5 teams. Celtic and 'Boro have left to seek other challenges. Roma and Panathinaikos have left to play 7-a-side and Blackburn have folded due to not having anyone willing to run the team and a lack of interested players. On the positive side though Rob is working on starting an Everton side and will be entering them in the league this season. The league is now down to 9 teams, but the consensus is that they are 9 strong teams and we have gotten rid of some off the 'deadwood'. Celtic and 'Boro leaving is a blow but it does mean that all teams in the league are now of a similar level. It should make for a very competitive league this year.

10.2.3 We are also going to have a mid-season break this year with a 7-a-side tournament taking place during the break. We are also planning on using this tournament to introduce teams to the league and possibly get lapsed teams back involved with a view to playing in the full league next season.

10.2.4 Jonny from London Scottish was also voted in a fixtures secretary for the coming season.

10.2.5 It has been a tough close season, but everyone is now looking forward to getting back playing. The season will kick off on September 23rd.

Gary Warren APFSCIL Football League Chairman

Information etc can be found on the MITOO website as follows:

<http://football.mitoo.co/Noticeboard.cfm?countieslist=LondonMiddx&LeagueCode=APFS2013>

10.3 Darts

10.3.1 The AGM has been held and minutes and the amended rules will shortly be on the APFSCIL website or, alternatively you can request a copy from Neil.

10.3.2 Unfortunately, Burnley have withdrawn from the league owing to lack of players, but they do intend to enter the cup competition. Thanks to Burnley for their sterling service over many years.

Other than Burnley, no other team has informed me they will be withdrawing, so that leaves 16 teams for the 18/19 season.

10.3.3 As those in Division 2 last season are aware, not all fixtures were completed by the cut-off date of 29 July. Rule 3 refers. Plymouth or Bolton are the most affected by not having completed their fixtures, but neither team was present at the AGM.

10.3.4 As highlighted in the minutes, and agreed at the AGM, the divisions for 18/19 will be made up as follows;

Division 1 – Nottingham Forest, Chester, Sunderland, Leicester City, Rotherham United and Scunthorpe United

Division 2 – Plymouth Argyle, Gillingham, Manchester United, Newcastle United and Blackpool

Division 3 – Bolton Wanderers, Everton, Exeter City, Southampton and Manchester City

10.3.5 Over the summer I'll work on the fixtures and proposed dates for the coming season and get them emailed out to you all.

Happy to discuss anything further with any team.

Chris Turner Chris.Turner@communities.gsi.gov.uk

APFSCIL Darts Secretary

11 Social Secretary

11.1 An early date for your diaries and those of your members, this coming season's Non-League finals Day will be Sunday 19/5 2019.

Neil and I will keep a watch for the announcement about tickets going on sale.

11.2 Rob said he was maybe looking at a prediction league or fantasy league this year.

11.3 Rob also showed the meeting Everton club membership cards which were in an Oyster Card-like folder. He also had similar cards made up to give to potential new

members when travelling, on the reverse side they had APFSCIL contact/website details, other clubs might like to follow suit.

Rob Madigan horseshoeclerkenwell@hotmail.co.uk

APFSCIL Social Secretary

12 Press and Publicity Secretary - Position Vacant

12.1 No items raised prior to, or at, the meeting.

13 Any Other Business

13.1 Date of Next Meeting

Our next General meeting will be on Monday 3 September.

13.2 Newsletter and Supporter of the Year

13.2.1 The Chair, Secretary, and Minutes Secretary were able to consider the entries for the Newsletter/Website before the main meeting. There were 6 entries, all of a good quality, but the Committee, by a majority verdict, decided the winning entry was by West Bromwich Albion. Congratulations!

13.2.2 Unfortunately we did not receive any nominations for Supporter of the Year, so this will not be awarded this year.

Meeting Closed: 20.25