

Arsenal Scotland Supporters Club

Chair:	Dave Harrold
Secretary: and Ticket Manager:	Martin O'Donnell
Treasurer:	Alan Speed
Membership Manager:	Mike Buchanan
Edinburgh & Lothians Regional Reps:	Ryan Mills & Jamie Lynch
Grampian & North East Regional Reps:	Caz Moir, Linda Collie, Colin Shanks
Glasgow and West Scotland Reg Reps:	Gav Glover, Eric Mutasa & Ant Maley
Fife Regional Representatives:	Chris Alexander and Tich Wighton
Ayrshire:	Ally Richardson
Perth, Dundee and Angus:	Jason MacDonald and Billy Mitchell
Dumfries & Galloway:	Mikey Boyd
Communications Project Convenor:	Peter Burnhill

Apologies received: Ant, Ally, Peter(maybe), Jamie, Mike, Billy, Alan.

Notes

From Management Committee Meeting - 20.00 on Tuesday 7th December 2021 via Zoom

1. Report since last meeting in October.
 - Masks added to the website shop.
 - Comms Update – Ongoing – We have been running with the Website and links are in place to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Discord. All running well.
 - Peter has suggested that we ask for two types of volunteer to assist with the website: a web editor who can prompt & edit new blog posts and edit and amend web pages as required. And a webmaster who has the skills & experience to fix technical problems and add improvements in service delivery. Peter does both now and it makes sense to have back-up and prospect of succession with both tasks. Peter is going to prepare descriptions of these tasks so that we can issue invitations to the membership. [Also see item 7 below].
 - Supporters Clubs Meetings attendance – Dave and Eric attended the SC meeting of 25th November. The next one is due on 17th December at 7.00pm with special guest JACK WILSHERE – Peter and Gav confirmed they would like to attend.
 - - Jason and Linda would like to do the next on in January – **20th January at 7.00pm**
 - WhatsApp groups have been set up in Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee/Angus, Dumfries & Galloway.
 - Good blogs on the website about The Butchers Arm in Aberdeen and Alfies in Glasgow. Another blog due soon for the Polwarth Tavern in Edinburgh and The Old Bank in Dundee.
 - Linda successfully retrieved the framed Charlie Nicholas shirt back from McGinty's Bar in Aberdeen and it now hangs in pride of place in The Butchers Arms in Aberdeen, which is the new preferred bar for Grampian Gooners.
2. Presentation to Honorary President Bob Wilson for his 80th Birthday. Dave and Colin attended the Watford game on 7th November prior to which they presented Bob Wilson and his wife Megs with an engraved quaich, a quality Malt Whisky and a bouquet of red and white flowers (with Willow). A full account is on the website.

Bob and Megs plan to be in Scotland in 2022 – maybe arrange a do – Covid allowing!

3. Charity Donations:

- Team Lukas – We have arranged a prize draw for LNER trains, hotel and match tickets for the last home game of the season which has a fixed date that even the TV companies cannot mess about with. Update from Jamie indicates that £550 has been raised to 6th December. The draw will take place at The Polwarth on the day of the Leeds game on 18th December.
- Christmas donations – since the last meeting we agreed to arrange eight donations of £100 of gifts each to a variety of local beneficiaries. These were donated to:
 1. Befriend a Child - Aberdeen - *Linda*
 2. Edinburgh Sick Kids Hospital - *Chris*
 3. Mike arranged for four deliveries (with added £40 donation by Mikes friend)
 4. 'Fife Young Carers'.
 5. the 'Harmeny Education Trust in Edinburgh'
 6. The 'Cottage for vulnerable families in Kirkcaldy'
 7. 'Circle – disadvantaged Children in Pilton, Edinburgh'.
 8. Glasgow Trussell Trust – *Eric*
 9. Childrens Ward Fracture Clinic [TORT] at Ninewells Hospital, Dundee – *Billy and Jason*.
 10. Crosshouse Hospital Out of hours emergency staff – Ayrshire – *Ally*
 11. Victoria Hospital – Kirkcaldy – *Tich*
 12. Dumfries & Galloway Hospital - *Mikey*

4. Ticketing Update – *Martin with reports from Mike and Chris.*

So far, no issues with ticketing although Man United and Leeds had to go to a ballot draw. Spurz away will be the same without a doubt.

376 tickets purchased so far!

Roughly £14,590 worth!

5. Financial Update – Treasurer – *Alan*

Balance to date – was £5,229.90 on 27th October. Current balance - **£6,900**

6. Membership Update – Mike has recently reported at the end of last week our 500th member has joined the club. We had 395 listed at the AGM in May.

7. New matters!

• Constitution

Martin proposes that the club constitution be amended in readiness for voting at the next AGM next summer. To include a recommendation that the future executive members (Chairman, Treasurer and Club Secretary) normally come from within the management committee and past committee members. You might already be aware that these three posts are the only ones recognised by Arsenal FC.

Also to include an item about holding 'Virtual' meetings to formalise those paragraphs in the Constitution.

- Dave announced his intention (as planned) to step down as Chairperson at the end of this current season at the 2022 AGM.

- Martin will continue as Club Secretary through to the 2023 AGM.

• New Regional Reps

Martin proposes that more Regional Reps be added to the Management Committee.

For Edinburgh Jamie and Ryan propose that Peter Burnhill and Liam Finn be added. Both are long standing members of Arsenal Scotland. Martin will second the proposal. [addendum: Both Peter and Liam are now in the Management Committee]

- Comms Convenor
Peter Burnhill has been providing the club with skillful assistance as the 'Comms Convenor' over the past 8 or 9 months and is happy to be helping on this. However, it is recognised that this was never an official position within the club. It came from necessity as the website 'in particular' was in poor shape. It is proposed that Peter carry on in this unofficial role until the end of this season (June 2022) at which point we should create the Comms Convenor position as an actual post elected by the Management Committee. This was agreed.
- Arsenal Bulgaria have invited all SC's to take part in their 5 a side tournament in May. This has been promoted by Arsenal. It was agreed that a message of best wishes should be issued to Arsenal Bulgaria, however we do not propose to do any more than that.

8. Banner – Still waiting on a decision by Arsenal on the Banner design. Martin and Dave have both reminded Mark Brindle at Arsenal. Hopefully we can persuade Arsenal to let us have this design and dimensions. We are advised to expect a decision in the New Year.

9. Merchandise – Menu on website – we will add new items from time to time.

New car stickers have arrived and laid aside to include with next seasons membership cards to all members as free issue. They self-seal to glass so can be peeled off and reused without damaging the windows. The cost was £500. We will store them until next June 2022.

10. Future Events –

- Maybe a zoom with Harry Clarke? [may be moving to Hibs?]
- Martin has asked Mark Brindle if we can invite Keiron Tierney to a short zoom event.
- Quiz Night?
- Football Tournament? 5 A sides? Should we be planning for next Summer now?
- Fantasy Football trophy – Pair of Cat C tickets? – *Tich/Nat Fisher.*

11. Any Other Business.

12. Date of next meeting – Propose **Tuesday 25th January 8.00pm?**

Martin O'Donnell
Club Secretary
4th January 2022