



MEETING NOTES

First General Meeting

19th April 2014, 2:30pm
Edwardian Suite, Royal Mercure Hotel, Ferensway, Hull

1. Attendees

See addendum for full list.

2. Formal apologies from members

K. Ogram, J. Newmarch, P. Crossland, R. Lawson, A. Medcalf, N. Hollingsworth, M. Hooper, J. Greenwood, C. Tyson, V. Markham, R. Overfield, A. Dalton

3. Introductions

M. Scott welcomed everyone to the first official meeting of CTWD members. He explained that the aim of CTWD has, to a certain extent, been achieved and the meeting would help decide the group's future.

A group of supporters came together last year for the Huddersfield debacle. While there was no change to the policing on the day – we did achieve apology from WYP. CTWD was born out of that “protest group”.

We don't know what will happen with name change now but regardless, it's felt that there is a space for a Hull City supporters' organisation. Its form is up for discussion.

4. Election of a Chairman

One formal nomination for the role was received: M. Gretton

Candidate spoke briefly about himself:

- Helped formulate the strategy of original group.
- Key role in the media sub-group of the original.
- Member of team CTWD sent to meet the FA.
- Lead role in producing written media messages.
- Chaired monthly meetings.

Agreed from the floor that M. Gretton should be the Chairman of CTWD.

M. Gretton thanked everyone for turning up. Explained the group agonised over moving the meeting when the Arsenal game was moved. M. Gretton thanked the original CTWD committee for the work it did and what it achieved.

M. Gretton placed on record his gratitude to the members of the original group who would not be standing for office in CTWD - K. Ogram, K. Ellis, A. Medcalf, A. Beill, F. Beill, M. Beill, M. Gothard, C. Jackson, A. Dalton, L. Motherby & J. Greenwood.

5. Election of officers

One formal nomination for the role of secretarial officer was received: M. Scott

Candidate spoke briefly about himself:

- East Stand season ticket holder. A fan since 1976.



- Involved since inception - part of group that fought over Huddersfield.
- Wrote a large part of CTWD's submission to the FA.
- Involved in the strategic outpourings of the original group.
- Organised person who likes to get involved in strategy.
- Wants to develop a strategy for CTWD going forward.

One formal nomination for the role of finance officer was received: A. Hemingway

Candidate spoke briefly about himself:

- East Stand season ticket holder.
- A practicing accountant.
- Ran his own accountancy practice for 4 years.
- Trustee at Hull's Childrens' University and runs a coaching school for Beverley Whitestar FC.
- Wants to help carry everything along and make it stronger.

One formal nomination for the role of membership officer was received: R. Harmer

Candidate spoke briefly about himself:

- Managing Director of a clothing company.
- Already been responsible for sending out membership packs.
- Keen to take CTWD forward as a Supporters' Trust.

One formal nomination for the role of media and communications officer was received: I. Waterson

Candidate spoke briefly about himself:

- East Stand season pass holder for over 30 years.
- Joined CTWD originally to ensure City Independent was properly represented.
- Tried to relay a consistent message to radio, newspapers, TV – which was made easier by the strategy devised by other members.

One formal nomination for the role of events and merchandising officer was received: R. Skelton

Candidate spoke briefly about himself:

- Looking to fill any role that needs filling.
- Responsible for numerous small roles in the original group but generally the distribution of merchandise.
- Feels Hull City fans interests are not properly represented by the "Official supporters club" hence involvement with the club's short lived FLAG initiative.

One formal nomination for the role of technical officer was received: G. Borthwick

Candidate spoke briefly about himself:

- Background is as a freelance web and social media technician.
- Attended first game aged two years vs. Leyton Orient.
- Not based in Hull but available remotely.

M.Gretton invited opposition to any candidate from the floor. None received.

Agreed from the floor that all candidates should be accepted into office.

6. Election to sub-group posts

Nine candidates spoke briefly about themselves:



C. Cooper

- Member of the original CTWD committee.
- Worked for the last three years as Hull City's Football Supporters' Federation rep.
- Involved in the Huddersfield protest – his son took WYP to court.
- Chairman of two sporting clubs.

A. Mills

- Season ticker holder for 30 years.
- Made angry by the happenings of the last few months.
- Experience in writing strategies for local council and transferable skills.
- Currently retired and residing in West Yorkshire.

C. Smith

- CTWD member #308.
- Christened with Raich Carter's middle name in 1949.
- A supporter since the 1950's.
- Worked as a director of advertising companies.
- In 2011 formed the Hornsea branch of the OSC and ran as chairman.
- Resigned as an officer of the board of the OSC in October 2013.
- Holds the view that "battle" has been won but the "war" is not over.

R. Saunders

- A fan since September 8th 1965 when Hull City lost 4-1 to York
- Would like to do more to help CTWD.
- Managed Monty Python until 2011 and knows how to develop a brand globally.

G. Bielby

- A Hull City fan since the mid 1960's.
- First fan group involvement of any kind was over Huddersfield.
- Used to work in a bank locally – now works nationally dealing with employee share plans. Whilst it doesn't sound like it, provides a lot of transferrable skills.
- Discovered last year that his family's involvement in Hull City AFC goes back to the original directors of Hull City in 1904.

T. Collins

- Applied for communications sub group as already works in the media.
- Thanked CTWD for the respect shown in the face of "antagonisation".
- Felt it was time to make a contribution.

P. Johnson

- Lifelong Hull City supporter and third generation.
- Positive personality.
- Works with the fans' group "Tigerlink".
- Involved in "Huddersgate".
- Member of the club's FLAG initiative.
- Member of the original CTWD group - Attended the meeting with Dr. Allam and organised the Tigers Lair meeting.
- Currently retiring.



C. Ball

- Member of CTWD since meeting two.
- Works with the fans' group "Tigerlink" to promote Hull City and Hull.
- Proud of the work of CTWD so far.
- Would like to do whatever I can.
- Still feels like a lot of fans need to be brought together.

R. Overfield (Absent)

- Hard working press officer for Hampton and Richmond FC.
- Contributes media and radio reports and from next season, the match programme.
- Ex Tigers Co-operative committee member.
- Feels he can contribute from afar.

M. Gretton invited opposition to any candidate from the floor. None received.

Agreed from the floor that all candidates should be accepted into sub-group posts.

7. CTWD Key Decisions

Supporters' Trust

M. Gretton addressed concerns that CTWD "won the battle but not the war" by stressing the importance of having people with experience of the "No To Hull Tigers" in place on the committee to organise if it happens again next season.

M. Gretton suggested that the view of many people is that CTWD could be more than a single issue group. It could be a Supporters' Trust. For that, it must be independent and would need to negotiate with the Tigers Co-operative to create a merger.

M. Lammiman from the floor offered his thanks for the work done so far. Cardiff took adversarial view, CTWD didn't and worked. Feels the group must be careful not to lose the name that everyone knows and there should be caution over how the "takeover" of the Tigers Co-operative is handled.

C. Cooper responded that the merger raises some technical issues of Supporters' Trusts. Legalisation changed in the Blair government as to what constitutes a co-operative. The Tigers Co-operative has to change its constitution regardless as a result. The change in legislation gives trusts the opportunity to raise huge amounts of money. CTWD have received offers of help from Supporters' Direct for legal fees incurred in establishing the trust.

M. Gretton added that CTWD have had conversations from the off with F. Beill and M. Beill so no suggestion of an aggressive takeover.

S. Bradley, a 4th generation supporter since 1964 whose Grandad was a fan from 1905 asked if CTWD would need charitable status as a Supporters' Trust?

C. Cooper answered negative suggesting it would become a Community Benefit Society instead, giving the opportunity for larger funds to be generated.

S. Bradley heard of CTWD through social media and is happy with the job done so far. There are not many things to really belong to and Hull City is one. Worried that if this goes through, what does it allow next? What's to stop it moving from Hull? We belong to the City of Hull, the City of Culture 2017 and we are City till we die. There is a common theme.



A. Smith believes in CTWD. Not sure she wants to be involved in organisation where everyone doesn't also believe in "CTID". Worried that the Tigers Co-operative merger would lead to an influx of people with no conviction, like the OSC.

F. Beill explained that the Tigers Co-operative were always completely separate from OSC. In fact, felt the OSC was set up to spite the Tigers Co-operative. Tigers Co-operative has supported the campaign from the start and even funded the leaflet at the Liverpool game. A few members have dropped out over the issue but a ballot of Tigers Co-operative members found they were mostly against.

J. Lawson, a fan since the last days of Billy Bly spoke. Felt it would be ironic if the name of CTWD changed. Worried that while the response has been fantastic outside Hull – its been "tragic" how many fans in Hull are not bothered. The local media has not helped. Future strategy should be to get more support from inside Hull on board.

R. Kerr felt CTWD had not been persuasive enough in the media. Not argued key points strongly enough such as claims made by the club's Vice-Chairman on the "Burnsy show". CTWD have not given enough back. Mostly spoken about how much we're not against Allam.

I. Waterson felt that CTWD were predominantly seen as a protest group. That had to be countered in what was generally very little time allocated. We had to walk a tightrope as local media feel they can't jeopardise their access to City.

S. Benwell trekked from Hove to be part of the meeting. Felt caution should be urged over forming a Supporters' Trust too soon. Felt it would open the group up to criticism from those who are anti-CTWD on social media who think CTWD wants to run the club or tell Mr. Allam how to run it.

M. Gretton felt good points were made. However the current situation was only to check if those at the meeting were in favour of moving towards a Supporters' Trust before opening the question up to the whole membership.

A debate ensued about the mechanics of holding a vote at the meeting and whether that would constitute a "yes/no" vote when the meeting did not properly represent the full membership of CTWD. It was agreed that this would only represent the view of those in attendance and that the full membership would be emailed and invited to vote. The email will give the full argument both for and against CTWD becoming a Supporters' Trust.

A show of hands from the floor showed all in attendance are in favour.

Group Name

M. Gretton asked for views from the floor on the name of the group, explaining that the name CTWD may hamper future discussions with the club.

Joe felt the campaign name "No to Hull Tigers" had achieved some notoriety around the world and felt that CTWD could continue as an almost separate entity to the campaign.

D. Martin, who introduced himself as a "plastic fan" suggested keeping the acronym but changing the name to "City trust working democratically". Also asked that the names of people in attendance are all logged to ensure the number of attendees can't be brought to account.

M. Scott agreed to take a register on the way out.

C. Ball spoke strongly in favour of the name CTWD. The accompanying chant isn't negative and it was here long before this and will be long after.

C. Jackson also felt the name CTWD isn't abusive to anyone.

J. Gibson suggested City Will We Die (Supporters' Trust) following the merger.



A show of hands from the floor showed all in attendance are in favour of the name CTWD.

Future Functions

M. Gretton asked if CTWD should have social functions and have local branches, feeling perhaps what too many meetings would put people off and the occasional gathering before games would be better.

K. Lynn felt the Tigers Lair event was really successful.

G. Bielby feels the aim should be to try and be more inclusive and build member numbers.

A. Smith thought it a great opportunity to work with the City Of Culture 2017 team. Suggested CTWD bus trips to games.

A. Sykes pointed out that so many people around the world want to be involved and should be able to.

M. Lammiman added that affiliations in other countries can be picked up later as an idea and shouldn't be difficult to manage.

C. Smith wants CTWD to offer more than a rubber band and a plastic card.

C. Cooper feels CTWD needs to build on the success to get everyone involved.

P. Johnson wants to think of ways we can include overseas fans without them having to be involved in local events.

8. Concluding Remarks

M. Gretton closed the meeting promising that the elected committee would manage the next steps for CTWD. There are lots of ideas to take away and work with but initially the committee will meet as a whole and decide how often to meet and what work the sub groups will do.

M. Gretton asked that everyone stay involved and please keep sending us ideas.

Meeting closed.



Addendum: List of attendees

Philip Bate
Matthew Smith
Alison Barlow-Fletcher
Mark Bush
Steve Lee
Jon Stone
Sharon Atkinson
Pete Lowden
Dan Rutter
Mark Burnett
Jim Milner
Ryan Kerr
Trevor Richardson
Mike Lammiman
Chris Whiting
James Richardson
Steve Benwell
Jan Holmes
Trevor Holmes
Frank Beill
J. Gibson
A. Tichias
R. Wilks

Dee Kristiansen
David Metcalf
Chris Braithwaite
Graham Wilkinson
Nick Taylor
Jamie Waltham
Paul Norfolk
Andrew Flockton
Craig Bell
Sean M Cavany
Alan Taylor
Jordan Tyson
Amie Atkinson
Sam Hawcroft
Julia Archer
Julie Gibson
Kerry Lynn
Angie Sykes
Samuel Oldroyd
Joseph Oldroyd
Michael Starkey
Frankie Starkey
Tom Collins

Bethanie Butcher
Chris Jackson
Phil Ascough
Steve Bradley
Ben Brown
Lynda Burnett
Ashley Kates
David Martin
Graham Cannon
Angie Smith
Mark Gretton
Mike Scott
Alan Hemingway
Rob Harmer
Ian Waterson
Rick Skelton
Gavin Borthwick
Chris Cooper
Andy Mills
Chris Smith
Roger Saunders
Geoff Bielby
Peter Johnson
Charlotte Ball