

SCUNTHORPE UNITED SUPPORTERS SOCIETY LIMITED

Registered Society Number: 31581R

THE IRON TRUST

Notice of the Annual General Meeting

To be held on Thursday 28 February 2013
Commencing at 7pm

To be held in the Executive Lounge, SUFC, Jack Brownsword Way,
Scunthorpe. DN15 8TD

Trust interim board members

Max Bell
David Beverley
Tony Gosling (Chair)
Richard Harmer
Eleanor Imre
John Needham (Secretary)
Chris Pocklington
Mark Stockdale (Treasurer)
Luke Thornhill (Media/IT Secretary)

1. Apologies
2. To adopt Standing Orders for the meeting
3. To receive and consider the report of Trust activities
4. To receive and consider the report of the Treasurer
5. Membership
6. Board Election results – to confirm the nominations received: -
Max Bell, David Beverley, Tony Gosling, Richard Harmer, Eleanor Imre,
John Needham, Mark Stockdale and Luke Thornhill.
7. Chairman's verbal report on aims for the forthcoming year
8. To receive and confirm the Election policy
9. To receive and confirm the Board membership and conduct policy
10. Questions to the Board

The business meeting will be followed at approximately 7-45pm by a question and answer session with Mr Dennis Hobson, recently appointed Director of SUFC. There will then be "an evening with Lee Turnbull". The evening will also include an auction of a number of items of Iron memorabilia.



Scunthorpe United Supporters Society– The Iron Trust

Report for 2012

Formation of the Trust

During autumn 2011 a number of fans decided to investigate setting up a Supporters Trust at Scunthorpe United. An open meeting, attended by around 50 fans, was held at Glanford Park in December 2011 and it was decided to go ahead and set up the Iron Trust. Following advice and support from the Supporters Direct organisation the Trust was formally registered with the Financial Services Authority on 4 April 2012.

An interim board was set up with the aim of establishing the trust, arranging launch events, and beginning to develop a working relationship with the board of SUFC. Membership was opened in July with the Trust represented at the Cliff Byrne benefit game. On 22 September the Trust then held “an evening with Alex Calvo Garcia” which included the British premiere of a documentary about Alex’s time at Scunthorpe, culminating in the Wembley play-off win in 1999. The evening was successful in aiding recruitment to the Trust and raising money through an auction of memorabilia.

The Trust interim board consisted of Tony Gosling (Chair), Luke Thornhill Media/PR Secretary), John Needham (Secretary), Alan Brook (Assistant Secretary), Eleanor Imre (Assistant Secretary), David Beverley, Ed Heywood, Jeff Pugh, Chris Pocklington and Mark Stockdale (Treasurer). Some other fans had expressed an interest, but for various reasons were unable to attend meetings or become involved. The interim board had a policy of inviting anyone who wished to come to meetings to join in.

Relationship with SUFC

The interim board met with the Chairman and General Manager of SUFC in August 2012. Trust board members explained the aim and role of the Trust. The response from the club was encouraging and supportive. It was agreed that the trust could use club facilities for meetings and that there would be regular meetings between the Trust and the SUFC board. The first of those meetings took place in November. Again it was useful in establishing a working relationship between the Trust and the full board of SUFC. It was encouraging to see Steve Wharton, Chairman of SUFC, urging fans to support the Trust and stressing the importance of fans having “as close a relationship as possible with the Board of Directors”. He also made clear his

belief that “the club belongs to the fans, the directors are merely custodians”. The Trust certainly agrees with that sentiment.

The Trust made an initial share purchase of £100 and our share holding now stands at £500 with a further £500 applied for and expected to be ratified by the SUFC Board in late January 2013. The reason that more shares could not be bought was that SUFC had reached their limit of available shares for the year and had to wait for their AGM in December before releasing more. It is anticipated that the substantive Trust board will wish to increase the shareholding significantly after the Trust AGM in February 2013. Trust representatives attended the AGM of SUFC in December 2012.

The interim board

The interim board has been very conscious that it is only an interim board. It has concerned itself with the setting up of the Trust, trying to maximise membership and establish a working relationship with the board and management of SUFC. The interim board has developed a provisional business plan, but sees the further development of the Trust and increased share purchases as a job for the substantive board. This will be particularly important in the light of the departure of the current Chairman of SUFC in the summer.

The election process for the substantive board commenced in November 2011 with nominations to the board having to be submitted by 10 December. The full board has to have a minimum of six members and may have up to a maximum of nine members. Eight nominations were received and under the Trust rules those nominated have to be individually ratified at the Trust AGM. Those nominated were Tony Gosling, John Needham, Luke Thornhill, Mark Stockdale, Eleanor Imre, David Beverley, Richard Harmer and Max Bell. Since nominations closed this group has continued as the interim board. Some members of the interim board have attended training sessions with Supporters Direct and it is envisaged that substantive board members will attend further training in 2013. The trust is affiliated to Supporters Direct and the Football Supporters Federation.

Corporate partnerships and membership

A number of local businesses have been invited to take up corporate partnership with the Trust and the following have done so: Iron-Bru; Pocklingtons Bakery; Godsons Builders; Powells Packaging and Footballscores.com. The Trust thanks them for their support and donations. The Trust has also received support from SUFC in the form of memorabilia and prize draw donations, provision of the executive suite and ticketing for the launch evening. The Trust has also started to make early links with the Trusts at Doncaster Rovers and Grimsby Town.

Membership of the Trust opened in July 2012. By 22 September there were 130 members and by the end of December membership had increased to

224. Former players Cliff Byrne, Alex Calvo Garcia, Steve Cammack and Lee Turnbull have become honorary members of the Trust. An e-newsletter is sent to members for whom we have an email address before each home game and copies of the newsletter are available for the 20 or so non-email members to collect from Trust corner, although take-up has been slow. Members have engaged in debate about the Trust using the Facebook and Twitter accounts set up by the Trust. The Trust website has also been used to keep members informed.

Iron Trust Statement of Income & Expenditure for period ended 31 December 2012

Income

Subscriptions	2092.00		
Less Google Comm.	<u>26.02</u>	2065.98	
Corporate memberships		534.73	
Donations		351.80	
Sales/fund raising		807.99	
Commission		1.09	
Bank Interest		<u>0.17</u>	
			3761.76

Expenses

SUFC Shares purchased		500.00	
Travelling (A.C.G.)		141.35	
Purchases:			
Keyrings	231.30		
Wristbands	95.41		
Member cards	49.20		
Banner	51.80		
Frames	110.00		
Flag	<u>70.80</u>	608.51	
Package & Postage		114.46	
Stationary		5.85	
Room Hire		<u>10.00</u>	
			<u>1380.17</u>
Cash at Bank			<u>2381.59</u>