

BRISTOL CITY SUPPORTERS SOCIETY LIMITED
SOCIETY INFORMATION
FOR THE PERIOD 1 NOVEMBER 2018 TO 31 OCTOBER 2019

BOARD MEMBERS:

S M Rogers
M Hendy
M E Day
J D Nicholls
M J Adams
J Darch
T Hamlin
J Watts
K Watts
J Thomas

SECRETARY: T Hamlin

REGISTERED OFFICE:

Ashton Gate Stadium
Ashton Gate
Bristol
BS32EJ

REGISTERED NUMBER: 30009R

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:

Dick Maule FCA
3 Penlee View Terrace
Penzance
TR18 4HZ

**BRISTOL CITY SUPPORTERS SOCIETY LIMITED
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD 1 NOVEMBER 2018 TO 31 OCTOBER 2019**

Business Review

This report briefly summarises the activities for the Club & Trust.

The Supporters Club & Trust is the main recognised supporter group involved in all aspects of interest for supporters alongside specific groups for seniors and disabled supporters. We actively use our website, social media, internet forums and online survey tools. www.otib.co.uk has 17,000+ members (5,500 have posted 10 or more times and 197 OTIB Supporters who pay £5 annually to help fund the site). In addition, our own CRM based membership database has over 9,000 names on it. We continue to meet regularly with Bristol City Football Club and Ashton Gate Limited officials, Avon & Somerset police representatives, the Supporter Liaison Officer and other community groups.

An event with Brian Tinnion to relive and mark the 25th anniversary of the famous FA Cup win against Liverpool in 1994 was held on Thursday 24th January 2019 in the Sports Bar. The evening raised over £850 for Bristol City Community Trust (now the Robins Foundation).

We won our legal claim against the West Midlands Police on behalf of fans who in our view were wrongly subjected to a section 35 dispersal notice before the away game at Birmingham City on 12 September 2015. Almost four years to the day and on the eve of court action, 10 Bristol City fans were vindicated. West Midlands Police climbed down and offered to settle the matter out of court. Whilst we will not now have our day in court to seek a ruling, we believe this is a moral victory and sends a clear message to police forces up and down the country: do not misuse these dispersal powers! We expect to reclaim all of our legal costs of £5,327.

Fans up and down the country also donated to a fund, which in the event of it not being required for this case would be donated to the Football Supporters Association (FSA) to be held for any future case in which the FSA is assisting fans of any club caught up in a similar situation or that require legal representation. £1,600 has now be handed over.

September 2019 marked 70 years since the formation of the Supporters Club back in 1949, so to celebrate we had a special birthday cake made and invited our president, Marina Dolman, a long to the Supporters Bar to cut it.

We continued our season card purchase scheme, which we had launched a year earlier in response to the introduction of what we saw as an unfair price model, particularly for families with children. For a second season, we purchased 2 x adult and 6 x under 19 tickets in the Lower Lansdown stand. These were booked and used for every home game last season. That's 119 young people who might otherwise not have seen City play live last season, many doing so for the first time.

We ran the voting process and paid for the end of season player and supporter awards as usual, presented by Marina Dolman. The winners for the 2018/19 season being Adam Webster (POY), Josh Brownhill (YPOY) and Andi Weimann's hat-trick at Bramall Lane (Champagne Moment). Famaara Diedhiou won the golden boot, scoring 13 goals.

The Atyeo statue hosts 442 name plaques on the plinth. Of the 42 final spaces available, 7 remain unfilled.

The Supporters Bar refurbishment is complete. 'Honours boards' listing the Hall of Fame, Top Goal Scorers and Player/ Young Player of the Year awards down the years are now being updated. Using a simple seat booking method, the bar has been used for beam backs for sold out away games and is now

open to all fans at half-time and after the game. Commission earned from bar takings this season up to 31 October 2019 is £870.04 (last season in total £3991.98). This is an extremely popular, City-themed bar, which we are always talking with the football club about expanding.

We lost one of our members, our club secretary, a true red and a huge presence in the Supporters Bar, when Martin "Beezer" Bees sadly died in August this year. His funeral, attended by 200+, most in City shirts, was typical of the man; poignant and humorous. I am delighted that Terry Hamlin, a long-time supporter and regular attendee at meetings, has agreed to step into Beezer's big shoes and become Secretary.

We are indebted to James Nicholls and James Thomas for picking up the day to day accounts management and Mike Adams as Membership Secretary. Katrina Watts, Jon Watts and Marie Day work tirelessly in many aspects, but particularly running the Supporters Bar. Organisations like this cannot possibly exist without people like this giving their time so generously.

Thanks to Jon Darch for project managing the launch of a new membership system, which produces electronic membership cards for members. This has cut down administrative work and ongoing costs to produce cards. Jon has also been busy with the national campaign for the introduction of safe standing or "seats incorporating barriers", to use the latest official term. This edges ever closer and we fully support the campaign to make this happen.

Looking forward

We will seek to ensure that football is accessible and enjoyable for all fans. We will campaign on initiatives that are important to fans like safe standing, the club's heritage and access to the players and decision makers. We will continue to raise money for various initiatives, and we will strive to be a professionally run organisation and solution focussed. Ultimately, we will do everything possible within the reach of a volunteer organisation to "make your voice heard".

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Stuart Rogers
Chair
7 April 2021

BRISTOL CITY SUPPORTERS SOCIETY LIMITED
SOCIETY BOARD MEMBERS REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD 1 NOVEMBER 2018 TO 31 OCTOBER 2019

The Society Board Members present their report with the financial statements of the society for the period 1 November 2018 to 31 October 2019.

INCORPORATION

The society was incorporated on 14 November 2005 and commenced trading on the same date.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Society is run on the following fundamental principles:

- Accountability through annual elections to the Society Board in line with Supporters Direct recommended practice.
- Democracy by fully involving members in key decisions of the Society and operating in an engaging manner.
- Inclusive by setting a membership fee which is affordable to all and open to all.
- Open by being transparent in all our activities.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

The principal activity of the Society in the period under review was as a Supporters Club & Trust for Bristol City Football Club. The Society was set up with the following principal aims:

- Represent the fans in dialogue with the club
- Raise significant funds to help bring success to the club
- Help the club position itself as a hub of the community
- Improve the supporter experience and encourage increased support for the club
- Position the fans as stakeholders in the club

The supporters club & trust's long-term aims are to build a large membership and sizeable financial stake in the club. Safeguarding the future of the club is our overarching objective.

SOCIETY BOARD

The members of the Society Board as shown below have held office during the whole of the period from 1 November 2018 to the date of this report.

S M Rogers - appointed 14 November 2005
M Hendy - appointed 14 November 2005
M E Day - appointed 14 November 2005
J D Nicholls - appointed 14 November 2005
M J Adams - appointed 14 November 2005
J Darch – appointed 31 July 2007
T Hamlin - appointed 5 July 2012
J Watts - appointed 5 July 2012
K Watts - appointed 5 July 2012
J Thomas – Appointed 30 October 2012

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD

The Society Board are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Board to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Board have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Board are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The Board are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Dick Maule FCA, will be proposed for re-election at the forthcoming AGM.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

T Hamlin - Secretary

29 April 2021

Bristol City Supporters Society Limited

Independent Accountant's Report under Section 85 of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014

I report to the members on the unaudited accounts for the year ended 31 October 2019 set out on pages 7 to 11.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICERS AND REPORTING ACCOUNTANT

The society's officers are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, and they consider that the society is entitled to opt out of an audit. It is my responsibility to carry out procedures designed to enable me to report my opinion.

This report is made to the society's members, as a body, in accordance with the terms of my engagement. My work has been undertaken so that I might compile the accounts that I have been engaged to compile, report to the society's members that I have done so, and state those matters that I have agreed to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the society and the society's members, as a body, for my work or for this report.

BASIS OF OPINION

My work was conducted in accordance with the Statement of Standards for Reporting Accountants, and so my procedures consisted of comparing the accounts with the accounting records kept by the society, and making such limited enquiries of the officers of the society as I considered necessary for the purposes of this report. These procedures provide the only assurance expressed in my opinion.

OPINION

In my opinion:

- (a) The accounts, including the revenue account and balance sheet, are in agreement with the accounting records kept by the society under s75 of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014;
- (b) Having regard only to, and on the basis of, the information contained in those accounting records the revenue account and balance sheet comply with the requirements of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014; and
- (c) For the preceding year of account, the financial criteria for the exercise of the power conferred by section 84 were met in relation to the year.

Dick Maule FCA
Chartered Accountant
3 Penlee View Terrace
Penzance TR18 4HZ
3 May 2021

Bristol City Supporters Society Limited

Statement of Financial Activities [including income and expenditure] for the year ended 31st. October 2019

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Restricted Funds 2019 £	Total 2019 £	Funds 2018 £
Income from					
Members subscriptions		10,392	3,756	14,148	14,010
Fundraising income		-	990	990	3,331
Merchandise income		-	-	-	-
Donations		-	1,546	1,546	2,880
Other income		3,989	-	3,989	3,572
Commissions received		-	-	-	-
Interest receivable		35	-	35	358
Total		<u>14,415</u>	<u>6,292</u>	<u>20,707</u>	<u>24,151</u>
Expenditure on:					
Activities		<u>10,454</u>	<u>2,046</u>	<u>12,500</u>	<u>17,312</u>
Total	[7]	<u>10,454</u>	<u>2,046</u>	<u>12,500</u>	<u>17,312</u>
Net income / [expenditure]		3,962	4,246	8,208	6,839
Total funds brought forward		<u>53,435</u>	<u>70,225</u>	<u>123,660</u>	<u>116,821</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u><u>57,397</u></u>	<u><u>74,471</u></u>	<u><u>131,868</u></u>	<u><u>123,660</u></u>

Bristol City Supporters Society Limited

Balance Sheet as at 31st October 2019

		2019		2018	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	(2)		17,511		19,454
Investments			<u>2,700</u>		<u>5,000</u>
			20,211		24,454
Current assets					
Debtors	(3)	1,319		1,677	
Bank		<u>111,922</u>		<u>99,210</u>	
		113,241		100,886	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within 12 months	(4)	<u>(1,069)</u>		<u>(1,161)</u>	
Net Current assets			<u>112,172</u>		<u>99,725</u>
			<u>132,383</u>		<u>124,179</u>
Share capital	(5)		<u>515</u>		<u>519</u>
Reserves					
General Reserve			74,471		53,435
Restricted Funds	(6)		<u>57,397</u>		<u>70,225</u>
			<u>131,868</u>		<u>123,660</u>
			<u>132,383</u>		<u>124,179</u>

These financial statements were approved by the management committee on 7.April.2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Stuart Rogers - Chair
.....

James Thomas - Treasurer
.....

Bristol City Supporters Society Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st October 2019.

(1) Principal Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, in accordance with applicable accounting standards, and the FRS 102-Section 1A Small Entities, and the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014.

Depreciation

Fixed assets are written off over the expected useful life of the asset on the straight line basis at the following rates:

Property, fixtures and equipment 10.00%

Value Added Tax

The accounts are expressed inclusive of V.A.T..

(2) Tangible Assets

	Property £	fixtures & equipment £	Total £
Cost:			
balance brought forward	13,279	13,401	26,680
addition in the period	-	1,529	1,529
	<u>13,279</u>	<u>14,930</u>	<u>28,209</u>
Depreciation			
balance brought forward	1,328	5,899	7,227
charge for the period	1,328	2,143	3,471
	<u>2,656</u>	<u>8,042</u>	<u>10,698</u>
Net book value at 31st October 2019	<u>10,623</u>	<u>6,888</u>	<u>17,511</u>
Net book value at 31st October 2018	<u>11,951</u>	<u>7,502</u>	<u>19,454</u>

Unlisted Investments

Cost:

balance brought forward	5,000
Impairment expenses	<u>(2,300)</u>
	<u>2,700</u>
Net book value at 31st October 2019	<u>2,700</u>
Net book value at 31st October 2018	<u>5,000</u>

Bristol City Supporters Society Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st October 2019.

	2019	2018
	£	£
(3) Debtors		
Sundry debtors and prepayments	<u>1,319</u>	<u>1,677</u>

(4) Creditors

Amounts falling due within 12 months		
Sundry creditors	<u>1,069</u>	<u>1,161</u>

(5) Share capital

Shares at start of year	519	359
Issued in year	-	160
Forfeited in year	<u>(4)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>515</u>	<u>519</u>

(6) Restricted Funds

	Balance at 1.11.2018	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 31.10. 2019
	£	£	£	£
Share Fund Reserve Account	40,727	3,756	-	44,483
OTIB	-	990	(990)	-
AG8	-	-	-	-
Atyeo Statue Reserve	28,551	800	-	29,351
Nick Randall/Kevin Brake memorial	42	-	-	42
Court fighting costs	-	136	(136)	-
Fans funding fans of the future	-	610	(610)	-
Surfer Flag Reserve	<u>905</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(310)</u>	<u>595</u>
	<u>70,225</u>	<u>6,292</u>	<u>(2,046)</u>	<u>74,471</u>

Bristol City Supporters Society Limited

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st October 2019.

	2019	2018
(7) Expenditure	£	£
Otib hosting costs	1,320	1,440
Legal and registrar fees	129	-
Subscriptions and affiliations	536	594
Telephone	184	143
Postage and Stationery	270	341
Donations	-	1,042
Professional fees	-	4,452
Accountancy	350	350
Bank charges	775	907
Premises & meeting expenses	-	48
Depreciation	3,471	3,458
Sundry Expenses	2,806	2,850
Gifts & donations	176	-
Computer and IT	182	134
Atyeo costs	-	1,553
Impairment expenses	2,300	-
	<u>12,500</u>	<u>17,312</u>