**Report of the Trustees and**

**Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August  2017**

**for**

**Swindon Town Community Mutual Limited**



**Swindon Town Community Mutual Limited**

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**Swindon Town Community Mutual Limited**

Society Information for the year ended 31 August 2017

**TRUSTEES:** S Mytton

A Jones

J Ward

J Phipps

R Angus

A Pollock

M McQueen

G Callard

**SECRETARY:** C Ponting

**REGISTERED OFFICE:** 42 Elmina Road

Swindon

Wiltshire

SN1 2BG

**REGISTERED NUMBER:** 29254R (England and Wales)

**INDEPENDENT ASSESSOR:** L Morgan

**Swindon Town Community Mutual Limited**

Report of the Board of Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2017

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the company for the year to 31 August 2017.

**PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY**

The principal activity of the company in the period under review was to:

1. Strengthen the bonds between the Club and the community which it serves and to represent the interests of the community in the running of the club.
2. Benefit present and future members of the community served the by Club by promoting, encouraging and furthering the game of football as a recreational facility, sporting activity and focus for community involvement.
3. Provide and maintain facilities for the enjoyment of professional football.
4. Promote coaching schemes to develop the football skills of young people and to widen interest in football regardless of the sec or ethnic origin of those involved.
5. To further the development of the game of football nationally and internationally and the upholding of its rules.
6. To encourage and promote the principle of supporter representation on the board of the club and ultimately to be the vehicle for democratic elections to the board of the Club.

**TRUSTEES**

The trustees during the period under review were:

A Jones

J Ward

S Mytton

M Welsh (Resigned April 2017)

S Cowley (Stood down in March 2017 at AGM)

B Hodder (Resigned January 2017)

M Davies (Stood down in March 2017 at AGM)

J Phipps

S Morshead (Stood down in March 2017 at AGM)

G Callard

R Ladwa (Resigned August 2017)

R Angus (Appointed in March 2017)

A Pollock (Appointed in March 2017)

M McQueen (Appointed in July 2017)

The beneficial interests of the directors holding office on 31 August 2017 in the issued share capital of the company were as follows:

31.8.17

**Ordinary £1 shares**

J Ward 1

A Jones 1

R Angus 1

M McQueen 1

S Mytton 1

J Phipps 1

A Pollock 1

G Callard 1

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Friendly and Industrial and Provident Society law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the society and or the surplus or deficit of the society for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| - | select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently; | |
| - | make judgments 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 trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the society 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 society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**Swindon Town Community Mutual Limited**

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2017

**AUDITOR/INDEPENDENT ASSESSOR**

Mr. Lionel Morgan was proposed to act as the Auditor/Independent Assessor in accordance with the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014.s385 of the Companies Act 1985.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies.

**ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:**

...............................................................................

C Ponting - Secretary

Date:   .............................................

**Swindon Town Community Mutual Limited**

Report of the Board of Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2017

Chairman’s Report and Review of the period.

A year ago we stood in this room and asked whether supporters would be willing to part with their hard earned cash in order to help TrustSTFC purchase the County Ground. The overwhelming response on the night was “Yes” and following that meeting, a subsequent Swindon Advertiser poll also reported that 86 per cent of supporters were in favour of the idea, with 55 per cent ‘fully behind’ the idea and 31 per cent suggesting the idea was ‘good – but needs some work’.

This set the challenge for the Trust over the year ahead. Our team of volunteers prepared themselves to put in the work and find a way in which supporters could purchase the stadium, and more importantly then take the necessary steps to improve the facility for the entire community.

During the last AGM we also examined the five key challenges that Swindon Town faced, and looked at how both club and supporters could play their part towards a brighter future. We asked people to suspend emotions, and analyse the issues at hand.

The challenges we listed were in relation to transparency around club finances, the atmosphere around the stadium, the lack of connection between club and supporters, the current ownership of the club, and the state of the County Ground itself.

“Let’s Work Together” was the rallying cry for fans, club, media and council - and although some good work followed, there is still so much more that could be done in this area.

After that March AGM we went on to hold a Fans Meeting towards the end of May. This was at the MECA in Swindon and attracted a good crowd, plus lots of further media attention.

We again discussed “Let’s Work Together” and the five challenges around the club. The annual accounts had been released, we praised the efforts of the Great Western Reds to get some atmosphere going, we hoped a new manager would bring about a more engaged club and community, and we also discussed how as a Trust, we were preparing for an uncertain future by looking at the fortunes of other clubs who had become fan-owned during bad times.

The remainder of the fans meeting related to the County Ground, and the methods supporters would be able to use to group together and purchase the stadium; crowdfunding, community shares, commemorative paving, grants and loans.

What followed that May meeting was another ten months of behind the scenes conversations, emails, documentation, research, preparation and discussions, both internally and with many third parties. This has taken up a tremendous amount of board member’s personal time and I’d like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in the Trust over the past year for the massive commitment they have given to the County Ground campaign.

I would also like to thank each and every supporter who has contributed toward the Red Army Fund throughout this period and in the past. We have had a lot of professional advice and services, which comes at a significant cost, and every penny we’ve raised was needed to keep things on-track.

During the year we completed a lengthy application process for 'Bright Ideas' funding, which we narrowly missed out on – a good learning curve nonetheless, and that avenue may bring funds in the future. On a more positive note, we were supported by local company Nationwide, who have been fantastic to us and we've also had some further generous pledges from individuals.

In June 2016 we wrote to the Council and formally offered £1.1m for the stadium. This was followed by a further 14 months of meetings with Council leader David Renard, Councillor Garry Perkins and Rob Richards, Head of Property Assets for Swindon Borough Council. These discussions helped us understand the process and shape a very detailed proposal that could be considered by the wider council and other relevant stakeholders. Our second offer was submitted to the Council in August 2017 and following further discussions, a third offer was tabled in January 2018.

In September we held a private meeting with local Councillors. Every Councillor was personally invited and we had a decent turnout on the night. We gave them an overview of the Trust and what we had achieved in the past, and also brought them up to speed with the County Ground proposal. It’s important that we get their backing and overall, the attendees were supportive of our efforts to bring fans together, not only for the stadium but for the benefit of the wider Swindon community.

As many of you know, there is a covenant on the County Ground area and positive and constructive conversations have taken place with representatives of the Goddard Estate.

We also confirmed a £1 million matched funding arrangement to significantly boost any fundraising drive, which was an amazing achievement given the complexity of the discussions involved.

We met with many crowdfunding companies and decided to work with Crowdfunder.co.uk who seem a perfect match for what we need. Crucially, their platform allows supporters to pledge money toward the campaign, and that money only then comes out of their account if the total is reached – which was key for us. The Crowdfunder support structure is also really impressive, and gives us the confidence to believe that we can hit any financial target that we set for ourselves.

Crowdfunding usually comes with rewards for donations, so we looked into commemorative paving and also worked with Guardian cartoonist David Squires to create a great momento for Town fans.

The club announced their own plans to investigate development of the County Ground. This came as a surprise to us at the time, but didn’t change anything as far as we are concerned, and we continued full steam ahead with our campaign. We were later to discover that they have put their own offer in for the stadium and therefore we are in competition. More on that later!

On the pitch, the 2016/17 season ended in misery with the team relegated to League Two. It was such a dismal year, and supporters were understandably very disappointed. This of course brought about change and David Flitcroft came in to build a new Swindon Town FC for the 2017/18 season.

With so many players arriving at the club, it was always going to be a difficult and unpredictable season, however things got more complicated with the sudden departure of Flircroft with just 11 games to go in the season. We must look forwards, and at the time of writing we still have a great chance of a play-off position and as we know, anything can happen from thereon.

Our board members all felt it was important to show our combined support for the Club, so we personally contributed toward the sponsorship of two players, Chris Hussey and Harry Smith. It didn’t quite work out for either player this season, but that happens sometimes.

Finally, back to the County Ground campaign, where do things currently stand and what next?

Although frustrating and time consuming, we have been respectful to the Council process and the alternative offer made by Swindon Town Football Club.

As yet we have been unable to engage with Lee Power on the stadium situation, but our door remains wide open and we would welcome the chance to find a common way forwards that benefits the club in every possible way.

We have always maintained a positive and constructive approach to the future of our club, and retain a consistent ‘owner neutral’ attitude. None of us know who will own the club ten years from now, and there are many bad stories around the world of football regarding stadiums (Coventry, Northampton, Oxford, Darlington to name a few). Just this month, non-league Dulwich Hamlet have been banned from playing at their own ground by the property company that owns the land.

We want the County Ground to become fan-owned and secured for future generations, regardless of who owns the club at any point in time, and as a Trust, we would always be willing to work with any club owner, especially if significant investment is forthcoming.

Last year we talked a lot about the “Let’s Work Together” initiative - where Club, Fans, Media and Council all push in the same direction - and in our view, that approach still applies and supporters owning the stadium would be a win-win for everyone.

We would never stand in the way of any major investment and in many ways we see ourselves as an independent extension of the club - all the proceeds from our work have always been either directly or indirectly invested back into Swindon Town FC, and that will always be the case.

If the fans can own, look after and improve the stadium, that leaves the club to focus and invest in the thing that matters, getting us back up the leagues.

We’ve already had some very exciting conversations about ready-to-go stadium development possibilities, including a fully funded and brand new £15million Town End that would benefit everyone, football fan or not. We want the Club on-side with us on that.

If we fully embrace the “working together” concept, community ownership of the stadium would attract national publicity and prove to be a catalyst for improvements to the whole Town – however with local elections looming it's looking likely that this will now run with Swindon Borough Council until the middle of the year at least, so patience is the key for us all.

This year marks a significant milestone in the history of Swindon Town, as it is 125 years since the County Ground opened. Hopefully the next milestone will see supporters take ownership and work towards improving our stadium and football club.

Thanks for reading, and for your continued support.

Steve Mytton

Chairman, TrustSTFC

**Report of the Independent Assessor to the Shareholders of Swindon Town Community Mutual Limited**

I have audited the financial statements of Swindon Town Community Mutual Limited for the period ended 31 August 2017 on pages six to eleven.

This report is made solely to the society’s members, as a body, in accordance with the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014. The audit work has been undertaken so that I might state to the company's members those matters which I am required to state to them in an auditors' 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 audit work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

**Respective responsibilities of Trustees and auditors**

The Trustees responsibilities for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) are set out on page two.

My responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

I report to you my opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014. I also report to you whether in my opinion the information given in the Report of the Directors is consistent with the financial statements.

In addition, I have reported to you if, in my opinion, the society has not kept proper accounting records, if I have not received all the information and explanations required for the audit, or if information specified by law regarding directors' remuneration and other transactions is not disclosed.

I have read the Report of the Trustees and considered the implications for the report if I become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

**Basis of audit opinion**

I conducted the audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

I planned and performed the audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which I considered necessary in order to provide me with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming my opinion I also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

**Opinion**

In my opinion:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| - | the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally  Accepted Accounting Practice of the society’s affairs as at 31 August 2017 and of its income for the  period then ended; |
| - | the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Co-operative and Community  Benefit Societies Act 2014 |
|  |  |

Lionel Morgan

31 Farrfield

Upper Stratton

Swindon

Wiltshire

SN2 7QJ Signed: ……………………………..

**Swindon Town Community Mutual Limited**

**Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 August 2017**

**Year ended Year Ended**

**31.8.17 31.8.16**

Notes £ £ £ £

**NET INCOME** 18,186 14,156

Administrative expenses (11,110) (2,946)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |

7,076 11,210

Other operating income - -

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

2 7,076 11,210

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Interest receivable and similar income | - | | | - | | | | | |
|  | - | | | |  |  | - | | | |
| 7,076 |  | | | | | 11,210 |
|  |  | | | | |  |

**Swindon Town Community Mutual Limited**

**Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2017**

**2017 2016**

Notes £ £ £ £

**FIXED ASSETS**

Tangible assets 4 - -

Investments 5 110 110

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

110 110

**CURRENT ASSETS**

Stocks - -

Debtors 6 - -

Cash at bank 18,826 11,770

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

18,826 11,770

**CREDITORS**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Amounts falling due within one year | 7 | 3,060 | | | 3,276 | | |
|  |  | |  |

**NET CURRENT ASSETS** 15,766 **8**,494

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

**TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT**

**LIABILITIES** 15,876 8,604

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

**CREDITORS**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Amounts falling due after more than one year | 7 | - | - |

15,876 8,604

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

**CAPITAL AND RESERVES**

Called up share capital 8 388 192

Retained surplus 9 15,488 8,412

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

**SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS** 15,876 8,604

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

# ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

............................................................................... ...............................................................................

S Mytton - Chairman A Jones - Treasurer

...............................................................................

C Ponting - Secretary

**Swindon Town Community Mutual Limited**

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2017

1. **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

**Income**

Income represents the donations, subscriptions and other fundraising events during the period appropriage.

Lifetime memberships are taken to income and expenditure account over a period of twenty five years.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life or, if held under a finance lese, over the lease term, whichever is the shorter. .

Office equpiment - 25% on reducing balance

Fixtures and fittings - 25% on reducing balance

Property improvements - 25% on reducing balance

**Stocks**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

**Deferred tax**

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date.

2. **NET INCOME**

The net income is stated after charging:

**Year Ended Year Ended**

**31.8.17 31.8.16**

£ £

Depreciation - owned assets -

Auditors' remuneration 0 0

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

Directors' emoluments and other benefits etc - -

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

3. **TAXATION**

The society is exempt from corporation tax.

**Swindon Town Community Mutual Limited**

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued for the year ended 31 August 2017

4. **TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

Swindon Town Community Mutual has no tangible fixed assets.

£

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

5. **FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

Unlisted

investments

£

**COST**

At 31 August 2017 11,418

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

**NET BOOK VALUE**

At 31 August 2016 110

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

At 31 August 2017 110

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

The investment is in Swindon Town Football Club.

The shares have been revalued due to the revaluation of shares from 50p per share, to 1p announced at the

Swindon Town AGM on 25th October 2008.

An additional 11,000 shares were purchased in June 2010.

Another revaluation took place at the Swindon Town FC AGM in July 2012, after the club passed a resolution to

sub-divide each existing share of £1 into one new-ordinary share of 1p and one deferred share of 99p

(sub-division). With the new deferred shares having no voting rights, and no new share certificate issued, the

deferred shared will be, for practical purposes, valueless, so have been written down in the accounts.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 6. | **DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR** |

**2017 2016**

£ £

Other debtors - -

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 7. | **CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR** |

**2017 2016**

£ £

Accruals and deferred income (Workings see note 10) 3,060 3,276

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

£10,500 of long term creditor receipts converted into STFC shares in June 2010.

8. **CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL**

Authorised:

Number: Class: Nominal **2017 2016**

value: £ £

5,000 Ordinary £1 5,000 5,000

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

Allotted, issued and fully paid:

Number: Class: Nominal **2017 2016** value: £ £

388 Ordinary £1 388 192

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

The shares of the Trust have the nominal value of £1 each and may not be transferred or withdrawn. No member may hold more than one share individually or jointly. The Called Up Share Capital was increased from 1,000 to 5,000 in agreement of the Trust board.

If a member ceases to be a member, the share registered in the name of that member is cancelled and the amount subscribed for the share become the property of the Trust. Shares do not carry any right to interest, dividend or bonus.

The members have the rights and powers available to them under the law relating to Industrial and Provident Societies and are to decide in particular the issues specifically reserved to them by the Trust’s rules.

9. **RETAINED SURPLUS**

Retained

Surplus

£

**At 31 August 2016** 8,412

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Net surplus/(deficit) for the period | 7,076 | | |
|  |  | |

**At 31 August 2017** 15,488

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

10. **LIFE MEMBERS**

As at 31st August 2017, there were 57 life members, of which 2 are children, which were part of the family deal, and

there was also a Supporters Direct Corporate membership, so there were 54 paid life members, with receipts spread over

25 years.

2003 19 life members joined ( 15 years used @ £4) £40 x 19 = £ 760

2004 3 life members joined ( 14 years used @ £4) £44 x 3 = £ 132

2005 2 life members joined ( 13 years used @ £4) £48 x 2 = £ 96

2006 5 life members joined ( 12 years used @ £4) £52 x 5 = £ 260

2007 10 life members joined ( 11 years used @ £4) £56 x 10 = £ 560

2012 1 life member joined ( 6 years used @ £4) £76 x 1 = £ 76

2013 6 life members joined ( 5 years used @ £4) £80 x 6 = £ 480

2014 2 life members joined ( 4 years used @ £4) £84 x 2 = £ 168

2015 6 life members joined ( 3 years used @ £4) £88 x 6 = £ 528

Total creditors to be b/f £3,060

**Swindon Town Community Mutual Limited**

**Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 31 August 2017**

**Year Ended Year Ended**

**31.8.17 31.8.16**

£ £ £ £

**Turnover**

Subscriptions received 367 1,140

Fund raising income - -

Donations received 17,819 13,016

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 18,186 |  |  | 14,156 |

**Other income**

Sundry receipts - -

Deposit account interest - -

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | - | | |  |  | - | | |
|  |  | | | |  |

18,186 14,156

**Expenditure**

Donations 2,550 168

Printing, post, stationery and other admin 79 367

Survey costs - 195

Sundry expenses 3,672 780

RAF costs 4,648 1,275

Membership Fees 160 160

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 11,109 | | |  |  | 2,945 | | |
|  |  | | | |  |

7,077 11,211

**Finance costs**

Bank charges 1 1

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

7,076 11,210

**Depreciation**

Improvements to property - -

Plant and machinery - -

Fixtures and fittings - -

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | - | | | |  |  | - | |
| 7,076 | |  | | | | 11,210 | |
|  | |  | | | |  | |
|  |  | | | | |  | |