

# ONWARDS & UPWARDS Let's Work Together

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)**

WEDNESDAY 23 MARCH 2022





7:00pm	Introduction and Apologies	(Cliff Ponting)
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**7:05pm** Trust Board Elections and Re-Elections (Cliff Ponting)

**7:15pm** Accounts for 2020/21 (Alan Jones)

**7:15pm** Independent Assessor Vote (Cliff Ponting)

**7:20pm** Chairman report and General Updates (Steve Mytton)

**7:25pm** STFC Official Supporters Club (Hannah Clinch)

**7:40pm** Goals for the year ahead (James Spencer/Steve Mytton)

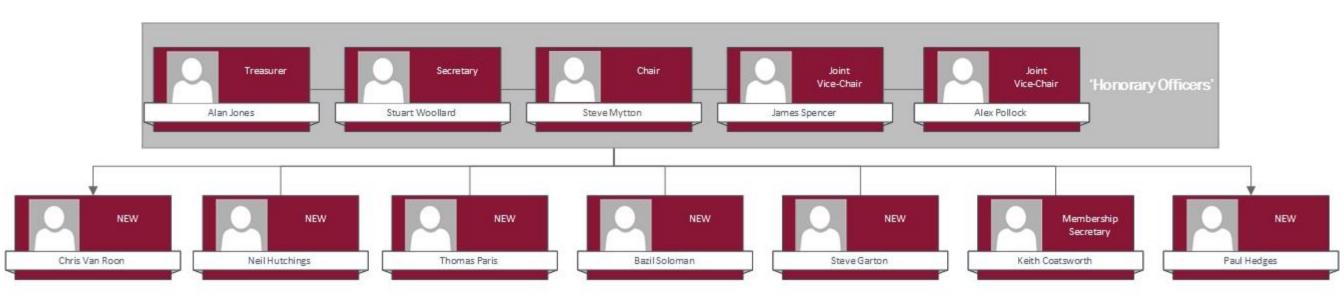
8:00pm County Ground Update (Rob Angus/Steve Mytton)

8:20pm Public Q&A (All)

8:30pm Thank You's and Informal Q&A (All)

**9:00pm** Event Close

## **TRUST STFC BOARD – 2022/2023**



TrustSTFC Board Officers







TrustSTFC Honorary President



TrustSTFC Representatives on The County Ground Stadium Custodians Ltd - 2022/2023









In the year up to 31st August 2021:

Swindon Town Community Mutual Ltd (TrustSTFC) made a surplus of £34,163, and finished the year with a bank balance of £88,496.

Copies of the Trust's Accounts for 2020/21 are available on the Trust website for members to review.

www.truststfc.tv/annual-accounts







#### **Independent Assessor Resolution:**

- The Trust's draft accounts had been audited by Lionel Morgan and accepted as a true record of the Trust's financial activities.
- The Trust can "disapply" the need for a full audit of it's accounts and use the services of a suitably
  qualified Independent Assessor to review the Annual Accounts.
- In order to continue to use the process of an Independent Assessor rather than a full audit a resolution must be passed at the AGM to enable this process.
- That TrustSTFC appoint a suitably qualified Auditor/Independent Assessor in accordance with the Cooperative and Community Benefits Society Act 2014 s.385 of the Companies Act 1985.

#### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

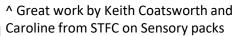


- February 2021 "On the Brink" and Open Letter
- March Axis response to Open Letter
- **April** FA Charges and response, comms ceased, #FanPower, membership growth and more legal proceedings, Clem Morfuni attends Trust Board meeting to answer questions
- May More legals, #NoMoney campaign, Lots of media, EFL meeting
- June Fan Led Review with Tracy Crouch MP and her panel
- **July** Yet more legals with Trust providing supporting statements
- 21st July 2021 Victory in court, everything changes overnight
- August Trust and Club sign Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- **September** First ever Advisory Board is held with Club, Trust and Supporters Club representatives
- September Next Generation of Town fans campaign starts with Club and Community Foundation
- September Board agree to sponsor Swindon Town Women
- **November** County Ground presentation to Swindon Borough Councillors
- December Fan engagement email address launched, supported by the Trust
- 9th December 2021 The County Ground Stadium Custodians Ltd is incorporated
- January 2022 Supporting comments submitted to Fan Engagement Index
- **January** Board extends sponsorship of STFC Women with quarterly support
- January County Ground commercial revaluation exercise completes, funded by TrustSTFC
- February Oakwood Corporate Services engaged for company secretarial duties on TCGSTC Ltd
- **February** Announcement of March AGM along with new and improved Board elections process
- February Autism Packs funded by TrustSTFC and FSA



#### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**





< Great work again by Keith on scarf design and thanks also to various board members for giving up matchday time to hand them out



^ Thanks to anonymous member who donated a shirt – Baillie from STFC arranged for the players to sign it and we gave to local Charity BEST for fundraising



Thanks to members who donated scarves for local children



'Raise your scarf' at the Oldham match, it's a start but we can do better!

























#### **OFFICIAL SUPPORTERS CLUB COMMITTEE**



Hannah Clinch
Acting Chair /Events



**Chris Kyle**Secretary / Membership



**Tim Keen** Treasurer



**Anthony Reeves**Social Media



Mark Thatcher Website



**Stephen Richmond**Merchandise

#### MISSION AND VISION



Our mission is to provide both direct and indirect benefits to members and the football club's wider fan base, making supporting STFC as enjoyable as possible. We will do this by putting the fans at the centre of our decision-making process.

Our vision is a positive and engaging atmosphere for all STFC supporters, resulting in:

- an increasingly engaged fan base
- a positive match-day atmosphere
- increasing Club membership volumes



## WHAT HAVE WE DONE THIS YEAR? (SEPT-NOV)





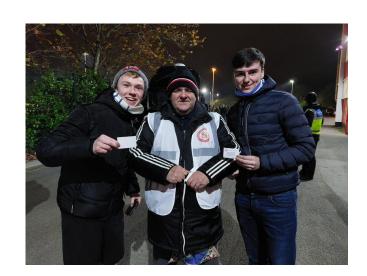














## WHAT HAVE WE DONE THIS YEAR? (DEC-MAR)































#### **BECOMING AN OSC MEMBER**

- Becoming an OSC member costs just £5 per season
- More members results in a more widely represented fanbase
- Benefits include:
  - 5% discount in the club shop (non-sale items)
  - Discounted away travel through SAS travel
  - Free entry into members hospitality draw
  - Free entry into Christmas hamper draw
  - Member exclusives for live events (e.g. discounts, priority booking, freebies)
- Sign up online (stfc-osc.com) or visit our table in the Legends Lounge on a matchday



#### LET US KNOW WHAT YOU WANT TO SEE



admin@stfc-osc.com



Swindon Town Supporters Club



@STFCSupClub



STFC OSC



STFC OSC, PO Box 4217, Swindon, SN2 9LH







#### **REALISE OUR VISION WITH 12 GOALS FOR 2022**

- 1. Communicate with our members better than ever before through media, website articles and newsletters
- 2. Find new ways to attract and reward our 'Trust Legends' membership
- 3. Be even more family and inclusion focused, working with STFC and the Foundation on Schools/Youth tickets
- 4. Support the NextGen of Swindon Town fans with new ideas and initiatives
- 5. Help to generate a full stadium of passionate fans, by supporting fan engagement initiatives
- 6. Get more people and companies interested in STFC and Swindon Town Women FC
- 7. Continue participation and engagement with the club via the Fan Advisory Board
- 8. Work on new income streams that help ensure strong club finances & hopefully success on the pitch!
- 9. Complete the County Ground purchase and provide insight and ideas for a future stadium vision
- 10. New website and consolidate TrustSTFC.TV, RAF, LearnAboutSTFC and County Ground shares in one place
- 11. Run a successful national and international 'County Ground' shares membership campaign
- 12. Ensure we continue to celebrate our fantastic club history

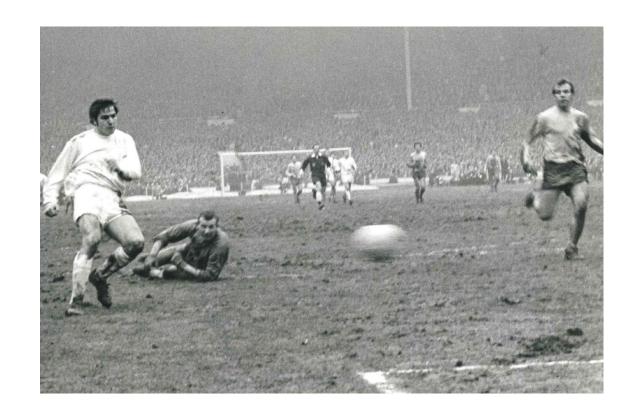








What else can we do?





Let's work together and have our own collection of statues!

We're proposing Don then John ...with more to come in future

Don's statue base will also include recognition of the whole team's achievement in 1969 John's will celebrate his record-breaking dedication to Swindon Town FC

#### **CELEBRATING HISTORY**





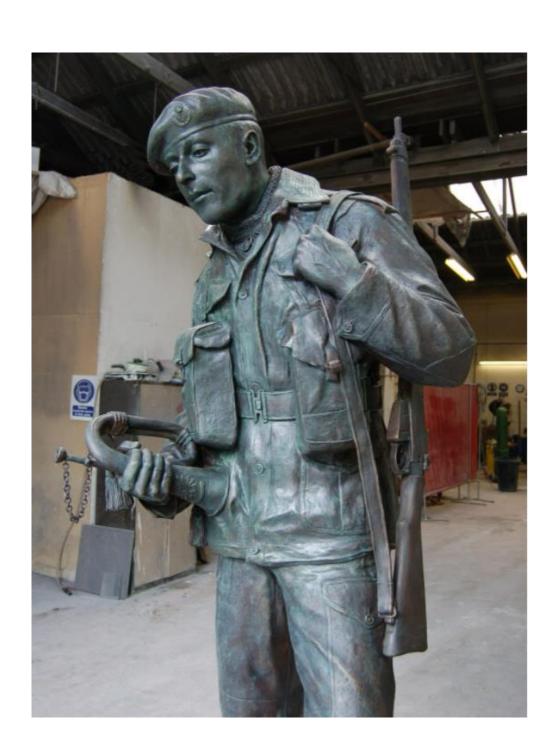




Introducing Alan Beattie Herriot – <a href="www.alanherriot.co.uk">www.alanherriot.co.uk</a>
Initial discussions started in October 2015







Various Military Statues









Various Boxing Statues



Robert Louis Stevenson as a boy, commissioned by the Colinton Community Conservation Trust

#### **EARLY STATUE PLANNING**

#### **Initial Artist's Brief**

- Sculpt a 115% statue, cast in bronze of one of Swindon Town FCs' greatest players, Don Rogers
- The statue to be mounted on a suitable plinth with appropriate inscriptions celebrating the historic Swindon Town team who defeated Arsenal 3-1 at Wembley in 1969 (bronze plaque, sand blasted & hand cut lettering)
- Statue to be elevated using stone base plinth or solid cut rock (Granite) or a brick construction.
- A preferred design might be something in stainless steel, seen as being more contemporary. Whichever is finally decided upon, an adequate amount should be allotted to this.

#### **Other Notes**

- Statue to be illuminated at night, so ground lighting must also be budgeted for along with finishing landscape work around the statue.
- Labour costs for grounds preparation work can be obstructive or restrictive and the use of skilled volunteers from our fan base may help to keep costs down and serve to involve you as the fans directly.
- Decommissioning / re-siting costs may need to be considered if the original placement site changes



### **ARTIST'S IMPRESSION & SINGLE STATUE COSTS**



Statue Costs	Casting into bronze (Edinburgh Foundry)	Armature	Delivery and Installation	Artist Fee	Total (excl. VAT)
100% (1850mm high)	£22,500	£1,000	TBC	£18,500	£42,000
115% (2070mm high)	£30,000	£2,250	TBC	£20,000	£52,250
125% (2250mm high)	£40,000	£3,500	TBC	£28,000	£71,500
150% (2750mm high)	£60,000	£5,000	TBC	£39,000	£104,000

#### WHEN AND WHAT NEXT?

#### When would the statue be ready?

- It would reasonable to expect a finished statue by March 2023 if commissioned by mid-April 2022.
- Based on current membership support through monthly donations and if the membership agrees we could commission the Don Rogers statue immediately and commission the John Trollope statue in December 2022.

#### The Process starts with an Initial Membership Consultation / Survey (check your inbox later)

- Are you supportive of statues at the County Ground?
- Are you supportive of the proposed approach? Don, then John, ...then more in the future?
- Are you supportive of us placing an initial order for the Don Rogers / 1969 commemorative statue?
- What pose would be best? With the Trophy or in action?
- Can you help with the eventual siting of the statue? skilled labour for base, lighting etc
- Where do you think the statue(s) should be sited?
- Any other comments?

#### **AFTER COMMISSIONING**

#### Once the order is placed, the Artist's method is as follows:

- Alan would produce a third life size maquette in clay. Any minor changes can be made at this stage.
- Once approved the maquette can be cast into cold cast bronze (GRP) and referred to when scaling up.
- The maquette can also be used in promotional publicity and visuals to assist with planning applications.
- Throughout the modelling of the full-scale sculpture, we can view progress before final sign-off of the clay model.
- From this point on the foundry take over.
- Alan has a working association with Powderhall Foundry in Edinburgh that has spanned the last twenty-five years.
- The foundry assumes responsibility for the sculpture until it is safely installed on site.
- A skilled team would accompany the statue and coordinate all work.
- In the rare event of something going wrong, all appropriate insurances are held by the foundry



#### OTHER BENEFITS AND QUICK SUMMARY

#### Additional commercial benefits to Swindon Town Football Club

- Limited editions of the maquette can be manufactured at various scales by 3D scanning and 3D printing.
- Cold cast, pewter or hot bronze versions varying in price, can be offered.
- A range of marketable items can be produced e.g., fridge magnets, keyrings, small bas-relief panels, t-shirts etc.

#### **Quick Summary**

- The statue consultation survey will hit your email inbox today
- Please consider supporting this idea, any additional suggestions or feedback also appreciated
- If we go ahead, further consultations will follow around design and placement
- This is something for all supporters, we want everyone to feel involved and part of this exciting project





#### A seven-year project so far but we are now closer than ever before! Here's a quick recap on recent events regarding the County Ground acquisition:

Initial valuation of £2.2m agreed by SBC and Joint Venture confirmed at press conference in March 2019

Off-the-field issues and change of ownership at Swindon Town Football Club

Due to time passing and other land sales in the region, an updated valuation

was required to ensure best value for the local taxpayers.

## SWINDON TOWN JOINT VENTURE THE COUNTY GROUND STADIUM CUSTODIANS LTD

#### INTRODUCING THE JOINT VENTURE

#### 2022 Timeline

- Swindon Borough Council Cabinet met on Wednesday 16th March 2022 and approved £2.3m sale
- Swindon Borough Council Scrutiny meeting approved on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March
- Six-week moratorium period, as part of the Asset of Community Value process
- Sale to complete later in 2022, when new website will be launched for supporter shares

#### **Banking**

• The County Ground Stadium Custodians Ltd account has now been opened at Metro Bank in Swindon

#### **Funding**

- We are working through final stages with Nigel Eady trust, who are committed to funding this purchase
- Two Eady Trustees will be appointed onto the board of The County Ground Stadium Custodians Ltd
- Should the Eady Trust funding not come through for whatever reason, Clem Morfuni will fund the entire purchase, covering both club and supporter costs and with payback via the annual rent and other payments
- Supporters will contribute to the upkeep of the stadium through an annual donation of circa £19.69 which will
  rise with inflation over time, we hope to attract many thousands of shareholders



#### **OPERATING MODEL**

The role is a minimum one year term and is elected annually. Responsibilities include maintaining progress against the business plan, publishing accounts and holding public reviews, along with comms to shareholders, community and media. Rob Angus Initial CGSC Stuart Woollard Clem Morfuni Rob Angus Steve Mytton TBC TBC STCM Secretary STFC Chairman STFC Chief Eady Trust STCM Chairman Eady Trust Executive STCM Representatives Two Shareholder representatives elected every March at

Swindon Town Community Mutual (STCM) AGM. Eady Trust representative included, as they are providing funding. STCM Representatives authorised to approve decisions up to £25k in value and decisions exceeding this are put to shareholder vote.



### STCM Shareholder Representatives

Can be any existing STCM shareholder, nominated and democratically elected by community shareholders.



## Swindon Town FC Representatives

STFC and STCM take it in turns to appoint the JV Chair.

Two representatives from Swindon Town FC (STFC) and one representative from the Eady Trust, who are providing funding.

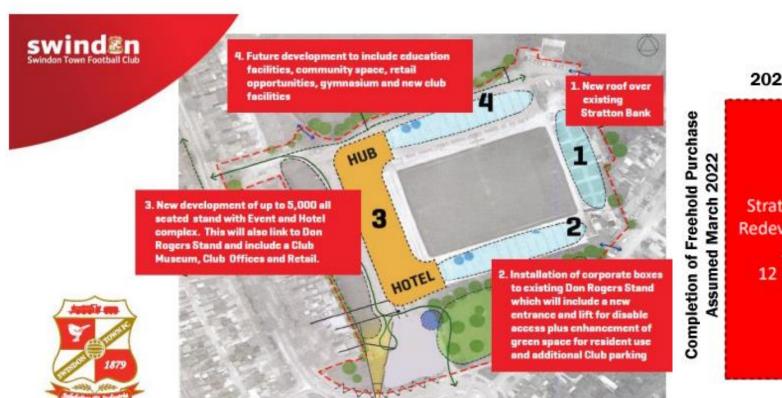


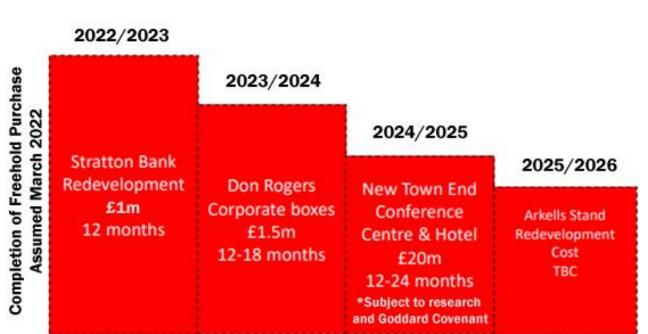
## Advisory Board

STFC initiated monthly meetings with representatives covering all supporter groups. This fully transparent meeting discusses club finances and issues in a collaborative manner and detailed minutes are published to all supporters. This forum also discusses ideas on County Ground improvements and encourages feedback and ideas from the STFC fanbase.

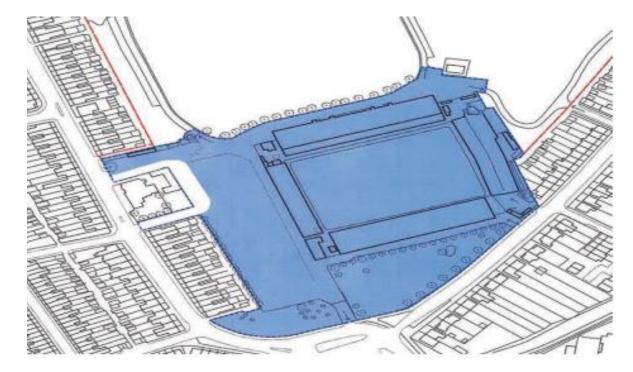


#### DRAFT COUNTY GROUND VISION EXAMPLE











#### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### Why is it a good idea for the JV to own the stadium?

- Every penny of revenue will be invested back into the club and the stadium.
- Protects the County Ground issues at Coventry, Northampton, Oxford, Darlington and more.
- Every Town fan has the chance to own a share and a vote on future decisions.

#### I don't like football! Why don't the council just put it up for sale to the highest bidder?

- The Council would have the first option to buy it back.
- We are taxpayers ourselves and from the local community.
- We will match an appropriate independent valuation and work hard to improve the area for the good of the whole Town.
- The land has covenants on it that restrict its main use to sporting activities, so the football club is the only realistic purchaser.

#### If the JV owns the land, does it also own the Stadium (i.e., the stands / pitch etc) or just the land?

- On the existing lease terms, the property covers three parcels of land together with the buildings and structures, namely The County Ground Football Ground and the ticket and sales offices. Any stands and buildings that were constructed after 1988 would have required the Landlord's consent and usually this is documented by way of a licence to alter.
- This is not a public document (i.e., not registered at the Land Registry). The professional understanding and opinion always would be that any building or structure that is built on a Landlord's land would be retained by the Landlord.

#### Does it include the cricket ground and pavilion, and the extension too?

• As above, we would be buying the land and the stadium buildings, the adjacent land facing out onto the Magic Roundabout, and the car park. The Cricket Ground, Community Foundation and Athletics facilities are not included.



#### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### Why is there an annual fee for shareholders?

The two legal entities owning 'The County Ground Stadium Custodians Ltd' Joint Venture (JV) will be:

- SWINDON TOWN COMMUNITY MUTUAL LIMITED (STCM) fans group entity representing fans 50% stake
- SWINDON TOWN FOOTBALL COMPANY LIMITED (STFC) entity representing the football club, holding other 50% stake

Swindon Town Community Mutual Ltd is the TrustSTFC limited company vehicle.

Upon completion, a new TrustSTFC website will be launched offering two levels of membership:

**County Ground Share membership**, priced at £19.69 annually and collected as a single fee, once a year.

- £1 of this buys you a share in Swindon Town Community Mutual Ltd and therefore a share in the County Ground
- The remaining £18.69 is your donation toward stadium maintenance and improvements

Trust Legends membership, this covers all current members who contribute over £5 a month (however we hope to attract more).

- £1 of this buys you a share in Swindon Town Community Mutual Ltd and therefore a share in the County Ground
- £18.69 of your annual donation will go towards County Ground maintenance and improvements.
- The remainder will go toward other Trust activities and running costs, e.g., NextGen, Fan Engagement, Trust Legends rewards etc.

<u>All existing members</u> at the time of completion will become founding County Ground shareholders for the current financial year (this includes any 'Red' level members paying between £1 a month and £4 a month) and electronic shares will be dispatched annually.

If you were to cancel your membership of the Trust at any time, you would no longer own a share in the County Ground.

This approach ensures that for the many decades to come, we will have an active and engaged/voting ownership for the supporters' stake in the stadium. Future generations can also get involved and have their say in continued developments and improvements.

The annual fee will ensure that the County Ground stadium continues to prosper in future times, and we expect to continuously grow the membership through positive and collaborative campaigns with STFC and in doing so raise the profile of Swindon Town throughout the country.





## The County Ground Stadium Custodians Joint Venture is a fantastic supporter and community proposal.

#### This purchase will:

- Ensure the future legacy of the County Ground
- Unlock investment and development of the football stadium
- Enable investment and development of the area around the stadium, supporting rejuvenation of Swindon Town Centre















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Swindon Town Supporters' Trust