

By the time you read this, your Supporters Trust will have held the first of its scheduled open forums. An update will appear in the next programme, but it is worth pointing out that the forum marked yet another stage where your Supporters Trust have delivered on the promises made at the 2007 AGM. Yes, we are only four months into the year, but that is a testament to the hard work put in by your committee.

In addition to the forum (watch out for the next one in December) AFCBST have issued the first of the newsletters, and have held all monthly committee meetings on the dates given. Your Supporters Trust also published its first ever Business Plan (to widespread indifference it has to be said!) and have already begun to meet some of the targets set out in our Business Plan.

In addition to this, the Supporters Trust meet regularly with Directors Jeff Mostyn and Steve Sly, and use the opportunity to put forward questions asked by supporters. Typically these questions come from supporters from the Bournemouth 'message boards' over the internet (it's a modern thing apparently), but that should not stop any of you from getting a question put to the Board. We endeavour to get an answer to every question whether its sent electronically or via a more traditional postal service. Details how to contact us are below.

We have also taken steps to make your Supporters Trust financially self-sufficient. The introduction of an annual membership fee was an unfortunate but necessary first step. It is right that we have a membership as committed to the Trust as the committee is to representing your interests. Initial take up has been encouraging, and at last we are able to generate funds for things such as our newsletter. However, will still be using every opportunity to remind you how to join!

We are also trying to raise funds for investment back into the football club (which is why we're all here after all!). Our Corporate Sponsorship costs just £50 for twelve months, and for your £50 your company or service can advertise on our website for 12 months, and your company details will be included in our regular newsletter to our members. Currently we have four such sponsors, and this is an area we will be focussing on over the coming months.

Perhaps the most important thing to remember is that even though the football club went through a change in ownership last summer, the Supporters Trust has two Directors on the Board. The working relationship is as good as its ever been, and this means that your Trust have a significant opportunity to have our voice heard, and to play an important role in delivering success to AFC Bournemouth.

Although we are only a couple of months into the season, I would like to acknowledge the support and hard work put in by each and every one of the committee. Without their efforts, none of the above achievements would have been possible.

You can contact us either by letter at:
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Visit our website for further information at: www.afcbst.org