

# TEMPLE FORTUNE FOOTBALL CLUB

XX

MINUTES of the 16th Annual General Meeting held on Monday 1st June 1992

The Meeting was attended by N.Kyte (Chairman), Mrs L.Kyte (General Secretary), P.Kyte (Treasurer), S.Feiger (Team Secretary), B.Silver (Assistant Team Secretary), D.Caro, A.Espinoza, P.Friend. MEETING BEGAN 8.45PM.

## 1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from J.Davidoff and N.Waitsman.

## 2. Minutes of the previous Meeting and matters arising.

a) B.Silver referred to item 3(b) of the Management Committee Meeting minutes (21.7.91) and said that it was indicative of S.Feiger's "big talk" that he did not make P.Kyte substitute in the first match as intended. As for the comment relating to P.Kyte as being a "dip shit with a bald head", B.Silver did not take issue with this particular sentiment.

b) P.Kyte said that the term "dip shit" was incorrect. The word "dip" was totally inaccurate but he accepted "shit". He also mentioned that S.Feiger's reference to selecting him as substitute was also inaccurate since he did actually play!

## 3. The Officers' Reports.

a) The Chairman. The Chairman said that the 1991-92 season was a great disappointment and ended with the team being relegated from Division Two. He said that the Management Committee had made the correct decision to fold one team and enter the remaining side into Division 2 rather than Division 1. He listed 14 good quality players who had left the Club at the end of the previous season if not before then. They were Bourne, Cannon (later to return), Ezekiel, A.Gold, P.Gold, Hay, Macchia, Munns, Newman, Powell, Shone, Stock, Stone and Zucker. All of them were First Team potential and the Club were unable to replace even a quarter of them. R.Cannon, S.Feiger and C.Granger were good quality players who did sign up for the 1991-92 season, but we lost Granger after two games through a long-term injury which did nothing to help strengthen the team. Other new players were Banin, Bell, J.Butters, Gilbert, Hyams and Nitka but with the greatest of respect they could only be put into the mediocre category. So all in all, we lost too many good quality players and replaced some of them with mainly average quality players, hence the team's struggle during the '91-92 season. The Chairman said that seven players formed the reliable backbone of the team, all of them playing 20 games or more out of the maximum of 26 fixtures. They were Caro, Davidoff, Feiger, Gold, Kyte, Sharabani and Silver. He then spoke briefly about discipline which wasn't too bad. The main offender was N.Conway with 1 sending off and four bookings, but apart from him, our disciplinary record for 1991-92 was satisfactory. He said that Conway had been dealt with harshly by the MSFL Committee for apparently reaching 6 disciplinary points which was questionable due to Conway's successful appeal to the London F.A. (made, incidentally, on his behalf by the Chairman). A letter of complaint had been sent to the MSFL who intend to haul Conway up before them if he is sent off just once next season. Since the disciplinary code system is not meant to be carried over to a new season, and in view of Conway's virtually successful appeal, the MSFL's decision is most unfair. The League's committee also fined the Club the maximum amount for postponing a league match despite a valid and detailed appeal being submitted, yet, at the very same meeting, they fined Scrabble, whose Secretary serves on the League committee, only a quarter of our fine for postponing a match on a Saturday night rather than a week before the scheduled match as Fortune had done. Again, the Chairman stated that this was totally unfair and an objection was lodged with the League. Another major hindrance during the season was the closure of the dressing rooms at Bethune Park which caused much inconvenience for half of the season. A letter was sent to Barnet Leisure Services complaining about the lack of facilities, and they replied offering the Club a 25% discount for the 1992-93 season which was good news. Their contracts dept. said that full repairs would be done during the summer and they invited the Club to take a look at the dressing rooms before the start of the season. However, the Chairman reported that the use of Bethune Park had been very good with Bar Kochba playing there 11 times and Temple Fortune 13 times. This totalled 24 Sundays out of a maximum of 29 which was excellent and the best for years. Regarding all-time appearances for current



Fortune players, the Chairman listed the following figures - Cannon 41, Conway 55, Gold 61, Sharabani 64, Butters N. 79, Silver 83, Waitsman 83, Friend 86, Feiger 113, Espinoza 135, Nitka 144, Davidoff 181, Fess 181 and Kyte P. 333. He said that there were 22 members of 'The 100 Club', 2 members of 'The 200 Club' and one member of 'The 300 Club', namely P.Kyte. The Chairman concluded his report by thanking the various Management Committee officers for their invaluable help and support.

b) The General Secretary. The General Secretary said that overall things had run fairly smoothly but there were some late payers of the membership fee. Of these, N.Butters did not pay his fee for months and had to pay the agreed surcharge of £5 in addition to his fee. There were too many dozy players who did not know the arrangements for matches and phoned her late in the week. She suggested that S.Feiger should have collected the weekly match subs better by perhaps keeping a book and recording non-payers. The Gen.Sec. said that the Club had 13 full members (with three paying reduced fees), 6 casual members and 4 honorary members. There were 22 registered players and 1 transferred player. She added that there were 7 cautions compared to 7 from two teams during the previous season. The players booked were N.Conway (4), D.Caro, S.Feiger and D.Sharabani once each. We had 1 sending off (Conway) compared to the same number during the previous season (D.Sharabani). Regarding league fines, the Club collected a total of £38 in fines compared to just £15 during the previous season from two teams. We received 8 fines compared to 11 in 1990-91, and we had 2 successful appeals compared to 5 during the previous season. She made the point that £25 of this season's total of £38 was for postponing two matches without permission, which meant that £13 was imposed for matchday admin, rule breaches from 22 league and cup matches. The Gen.Sec. had a list of the Club's major correspondence and picked out the complaints to the League regarding a lost appeal against a maximum fine and complaints about Bethune Park's lack of dressing rooms as two such examples.

S.Feiger (Team Secretary) did not agree with the General Secretary's criticism about collecting the weekly match subs. He said that he did not agree to be a banker when elected to do the job of Team Secretary and said that collecting subs was not his responsibility.

P.Kyte suggested that S.Feiger had mispronounced the word 'banker' since the term which he had in mind seemed more appropriate.

c) The Team Secretary. The Team Secretary said that he reported the team's season in the May issue of the news-sheet but basically, he said that he knew the team would struggle with few new quality players being signed at the start. Having said that, he was disappointed with the lack of availability which cost the team dearly at the beginning of the season. We didn't gain a league point until November which was equally disappointing. The team did better during the second half of the season and we really weren't as bad as some of the results suggested. The Team Sec. said that the side had some very good games which we should have won, but on too many occasions the team lacked better players and often had to field weakened elevens which wasn't ideal. When able to field a good side, the team did fairly well but this happened too infrequently. We had three or four poor players from the start and the fitness of several individuals was also poor. He said that in general, players worked very hard and the spirit was good. Most of the team would agree to having had an average season in terms of performances if truthful. All too few shone out and did consistently well. The team's relegation to Division 3 will be an opportunity to find their feet amongst lesser opposition and the 1992-93 season should be vastly better. We were basically short of players during 1991-92 and we suffered accordingly. We need eight or nine regulars but looking at it objectively, we were very unfortunate to lose so many good players, including J.Fess and C.Granger so soon into the season. The team lacked strength in depth but it is hoped that we will attract some new players for next season. Most of the team gave 100% but were short on ability. The Team Secretary added that he was pleased that D.Caro had won the Player of the Year award which was very well deserved, and he finished by thanking N.Waitsman and B.Silver for their help during a difficult season. There's always been a friendly attitude at this Club and he complimented the Club as a whole by saying that he had more fun this season on and off the field than in any other season for any other club, and that included his successful years with Marshside and Marlborough Olympic.



) The Assistant Team Secretary. The Assistant Team Secretary complained that he was totally unprepared to give a report but would say a few words nevertheless. He made a few phone calls when necessary and found his position rather easy and would be delighted to do it again next season. He missed a few games early on and was pleased that he couldn't be blamed for the early bad losses. For various reasons the team got off to a poor start and pre-season training needs to be improved. He felt that the pressure was off the team during the second half of the season once relegation looked likely and we seemed to play much better, hence some improved results. At the end of the day we seem to have an older rather than younger team and badly need a few youngsters next season. There wasn't the same enthusiasm from the older players than the younger ones, but the attitude of most players was generally terrific. The Assistant Team Sec. went on to say that some of the best games were those we lost such as the 4-3 and 5-3 defeats against North West and Marshside respectively. He enjoyed the team spirit and generally the atmosphere and morale has been excellent throughout his three years with the Club. At last we are better off without the old "them and us" situation which dogged the First and Second Teams for so long. He added that the Club's good management has been very important and if we can keep a good set-up in the lower divisions, then this would be preferable to a lesser one in the Premier Division.

A.Espinoza asked B.Silver (Assistant Team Secretary) whether or not S.Feiger had involved him in team selection matters. B.Silver replied that Steve did not. Steve generally had little choice when selecting his eleven due to having a small squad and more often than not the team virtually picked itself. He added that his role was mainly admin.

S.Feiger said that he spoke to N.Waitsman nearly every week and usually followed his advice when he was on the sidelines watching himself. P.Kyte suggested that surely S.Feiger meant that Nick was watching the game rather than himself! S.Feiger's response was generally rather unflattering.

A.Espinoza asked S.Feiger how J.Davidoff had done as captain. S.Feiger replied that he had been too quiet on the whole but felt that he'd cope better than N.Conway who was his main choice due to Nigel's poor disciplinary record which he thought would let him down.

#### 4. The Treasurer's Report and Club Accounts.

The Treasurer reported that the Club followed on from the previous season's profit with another one after three poor financial seasons prior to the 1990-91 season. Having lost one team in July, we were not to know what sort of impact the drastic change was to have on the accounts when, although the expenditure was likely to drop, obviously the income would be reduced considerably too. So overall, the Treasurer was very pleased to have completed the 1991-92 season with a profit of around £60 or so. The Chairman did well to bring in £225 from Bar Kochba for hiring our pitch for ten weeks at Bethune Park and we've already received the same amount from them for next season's hire. The Treasurer thanked the Chairman for getting this money in so quickly. He continued by saying that he hoped to improve weekly match subs collecting to increase the Club's income next season. He was concerned about training costs which amounted to 37% of the total expenditure in 1990-91, a horrendously high percentage. He decided to book the gym this season in installments rather than having to lay out the whole amount for a full season's hire. This tactic reduced the training cost to only 16% of this season's expenditure, since it made sense to cancel the training arrangement before December once the general trend of attendance was known. Otherwise, the Club would have paid over £700 for a season's hire of the gym at Mill Hill School which would have resulted in an enormous loss for the Club. The Treasurer said that the A.G.M. expenses were too high and represented an 18% increase on last season. He proposed having index-linking on A.G.M. expenses of 5% on the previous season's amount, with a limit of £7.71 next season! The Treasurer continued after the howls of protest had died down by saying that despite two financially successful seasons, the Club's surplus had reduced. He did not want to pay out for training next season since training has been something of a flop for too long now. If we do have proper training next season, then he felt that players should contribute separately towards the high cost. He intended to reduce the annual membership fee for next season and tightly control training costs if necessary. He hoped to achieve a projected profit of around £200 by the end of the 1992-93 season. He added that we should consider fund raising and we could do well to intro-



duce a weekly match subs book system for better collecting, as previously mentioned by the General Secretary in her report. The Treasurer expected that expenditure will be curbed next season. One cut-back could be made on stationery and postage, for which he felt the cost was too high this season. Regarding the Club's accounts, there was £450 in the National Savings Bank, (up to 14th July 1991 but not including interest gained to date), £221.47 in the Britannia Building Society, £170.76 in the Girobank current account and nothing in the Girobank deposit account. He finished his report by stating that in May he received a letter from the Britannia Building Society informing us that we could move funds to a higher-interest account, and he intended to look into the possibilities of doing this and also to reassess the Girobank current account situation. The Treasurer finished his Budget to delirious boos from the House after four hours and thirty-seven minutes!

As the Treasurer completed his report, the Team Secretary, S.Feiger, said that he thought he was a cunt! He could not believe that he had disputed the A.G.M. expenses increase which amounted to £1.06, particularly if the Club's making over £40 on interest from the various accounts! S.Feiger went on to say "Crap, tripe and bollocks" to summarise his feelings about certain aspects of the Treasurer's report.

The Treasurer replied to S.Feiger's pleasant outburst by stating that it was a question of fractal geometry, the opposite of euclidean geometry. He added that he had read it in 'Womans Own' and it sounds good. It took the Chairman several minutes just to spell "fractal geometry" and "euclidean geometry" before the Treasurer's next words of wisdom suggested that "it was definitely a case of infinite divisions and infinite scales." With S.Feiger completely gobsmacked by the intellect of it all, the only brainy response which he could muster was: "Lynne, do you realise that you're the first Committee member with tits?" After the laughter had died down, the Chairman, who had since forgotten his intended question to the Treasurer thanks to Mr. Feiger's amazing observation, said that he would raise the item of news-sheet and stationery under 'Any Other Business'. Thankfully, that ended item 4 on the Agenda!

#### 5. The Election of Officers for 1992-93.

The Chairman suggested that with no new nominations and no standing downs, the elections could be done automatically en block. However, A.Espinoza, a veteran of Club procedure and Annual General Meetings, wanted the Chairman to run through each one in turn. Therefore, Mr E., the following officers decided to stand for re-election to the Management Committee of the Temple Fortune Football Club and were re-elected automatically: N.Kyte (Chairman), Mrs L.Kyte (General Secretary), P.Kyte (Treasurer) - catcalls and booing noted - S.Feiger (Team Secretary), N.Waitsman (Joint Team Secretary) and B.Silver (Assistant Team Secretary). Happy, Mr E.?

#### 6. Proposed amendments to the Rules and Regulations.

There were none.

#### 7. Review of the Membership and Subscription fees for 1992-93.

After much discussion, the Treasurer proposed to decrease the annual membership fee for the 1992-93 season to £30 with an early payment reduction to be discussed. S.Feiger said that £30 was too high since the Club could afford to lower the membership fee. He added that eight players would definitely pay full fees next season. Peter's PROPOSAL of £30 was seconded by B.Silver and CARRIED unanimously. The Treasurer then proposed to offer an early payment reduction of £26 if paid before 31st July. Again after a brief discussion, this PROPOSAL was seconded by A.Espinoza but DEFEATED (For 2, Against 4, Abstentions 1). A further PROPOSAL was put forward by S.Feiger to offer an early payment reduction of £25 if paid before 31st July. This was seconded by D.Caro and CARRIED (For 4, Against 2, Abstentions 1). The Treasurer then proposed to increase the Casual Membership fee from £5 to £8. His PROPOSAL was seconded by S.Feiger and CARRIED (For 4, Against 0, Abstentions 3). He then said that the late-payers surcharge would be retained. (Only N.Butters paid the surcharge for late payment of his casual membership fee halfway through the season.)



. Presentation of Club Awards 1991-92.

The Chairman read out the following award winners for the 1991-92 season:

Player of the Year - Danny Caro. Ballot results - Caro 66pts, Davidoff 30pts, Feiger 25pts, Cannon and Silver 15pts each, Conway and Sharabani 13pts each, and J. Butters 3pts. Ten members took part in the ballot out of 15 members eligible.  
Clubman of the Year - Jonathan Davidoff. Ballot results (excluding Committee members) - Davidoff 31pts, Caro 15pts and Friend 10pts. Committee members 82pts.  
Leading Goalscorers Award - Steven Feiger. Leading scorers - Feiger 18 goals from 25 games, Gold 9 goals from 20 games, Fess 6 goals from 5 games.

The Chairman's Merit Award - Steven Feiger.

The 100 Club Commemorative Award - Steven Feiger.

The 300 Club Commemorative Award - Peter Kyte.

The Chairman presented trophies to all award winners except J. Davidoff who could not attend the Meeting.

9. Any Other Business.

a) Special expenditure. Treasurer P. Kyte said that the Club should be self sufficient financially although he would welcome any fund raising scheme. He would be prepared to spend on special items such as the Silver Anniversary function or cups, etc, but does not want to waste money on general day-to-day running of the Club from the built-up funds. He added that it wasn't sensible to lower the membership fees too much nor too often, although the decision made during this Meeting was acceptable because of the envisaged savings from both the Bethune Park hire charge reduction and not having to pay out for training next season.

b) L.F.A. surcharge. The Chairman reported that the London Football Association were increasing their admin. charge for a caution by £1 to £6, and in line this should be reflected in the Club's surcharge on each caution. Therefore, the new total payable by a player for each caution next season will be £11 instead of £10.

c) Fund-raising quiz night. S. Feiger said that he would like to increase the Club's funds by organising a quiz night. The money raised could help finance the Club's 25th Anniversary celebrations for example. A. Espinoza said that it was a good idea but the event needs to be very well run, and organising it is the hardest thing. S. Feiger said that hiring a hall wouldn't be a problem. The Chairman suggested that possibly the Club need to have a Functions Secretary since it is intended to arrange some sort of event to celebrate Temple Fortune's Silver Anniversary next year. He added that the idea will be discussed at the next Management Committee Meeting.

d) News-sheet expenses. The Chairman took exception to criticism by the Treasurer during his report regarding the increase in costs on stationery and postage. He explained that much of the stationery expense had been on the news-sheet where £25 had been spent on laser proofs. To simplify production of the news-sheet, the format had been changed from an 8-page A5 issue to a double-sided A4 sheet folded into thirds. This saved paper, photo-copying and production time, and made each issue easier to produce. He continued to explain that since a considerable amount of information was being crammed into a smaller space, the need for improved quality was important otherwise the type would be too small and very hard to read. This could only be achieved by using laser proofs rather than the poor quality of photo-copying from a photo-copy, hence the £25 charge which was really very cheap for over 200 copies spanning ten separate monthly editions. To complete his point that the Treasurer had harshly knocked the stationery expense in particular, the Chairman said that the Club have not paid a penny for stationery for years. Printing letterheads, compliments slips, news-sheets and other literature would be a considerable annual expense for most clubs and organisations, but due to his contacts and design/typesetting/photocopying experience and access, the Club had saved hundreds of pounds. The increase in postage expenses had been caused by posting each issue of the news-sheet to members throughout the season. Ten monthly news-sheets sent to 20 members equalled quite a lot of stamps. He felt that the Club were offering the personal touch by posting each news-sheet and if anyone objected to this, then certainly they could be given out at matches which would save money. Nobody disagreed and everyone present at the Meeting did prefer to receive the news-sheet by post.

e) Club captain. A. Espinoza said that in the past, the Club captain was appointed at the A.G.M. and he wanted to know why this hadn't been done. The Chairman replied that the Club Captain is a Management Committee position and has been closed for



several years now. The last (and only) serving officer holding that capacity was Tony Stock who relinquished the position after one season in 1986 or 1987. The office was then closed. A.Espinoza then amended his question to the appointment of team captain and wanted to know how this will be decided. The Chairman said that, as in previous seasons, it would be left up to the Team Secretary to appoint the team captain and he was happy to let Steve do this once he knows who will be in his squad. Furthermore, he saw no reason why this format should be altered. S.Feiger said that it would be enough for him to captain the team as well as run it.

P.Friend added that it would be enough for him and enough for everyone else too!

f) Training. P.Kyte said that he felt that the Club shouldn't book another hall for midweek training next season. Training had been a terrible and expensive failure in recent years with very few players attending. He continued that as mentioned in his Treasurers report, the cost for training had been exceptionally high and it just wasn't worth rebooking something. S.Feiger suggested that midweek training sessions are held at a park whilst we have the benefit of light in the evenings, possibly until the third week in September.

g) Summer football sessions. Steve Feiger said that the summer sessions held on Sunday mornings should start on the last Sunday in July. It would be good if two friendlies could be arranged in August he thought. The Chairman requested that we move away from the usual venue at Edgwarebury Park where sometimes there is a struggle to find an area to play due to the popularity of several teams training there on Sunday mornings. P.Kyte suggested playing at Hendon Park (Queens Road entrance) which was a easily reachable venue and fairly near most players. This was agreed by all and the date for the sessions to begin was confirmed as July 26th.

h) Weekly match subs payment book. P.Kyte wanted to buy a "little red book" for subs collecting which received no objections.

i) Players. There was a general discussion about potential players for next season. A.Espinoza said that he's been with the Club for many years and he felt that Danny Caro has one of the best attitudes for a Fortune player that he's come across. D.Caro, having collected his Player of the Year award, said that he would like to continue with the Club, a view which was welcomed by all present.

P.Kyte, suitably pleased with Danny's intention, exclaimed about him: "You're a beautiful person..." and then B.Silver, suddenly aroused, added quickly: "...and I want to have your babies!"

D.Caro, no doubt protecting his rear end, said that he knew a few friends at M.A.L. who play five-a-side and will try to get them along to the pre-season sessions.

j) Complaint regarding a member's conduct. P.Kyte complained about the conduct of Geoff Gilbert who had walked off the pitch during the Minor Cup tie against Glen-thorne at the end of the season. He felt that Ginger's behaviour was appalling and he shouldn't play for the Club ever again, adding that his actions were inexcusable and badly let the team down. A.Espinoza said that Ginger had had a terrible game with everything going wrong for him. Several players including P.Kyte were slugging him off and he felt sorry for him under the circumstances. A.Espinoza could understand Ginger's attitude since, having tried hard with nothing going right, he had to endure a lot of stick. He shouldn't have walked off but it's appreciated how he felt. P.Kyte said that everyone has had bad games in the past but there was no excuse for walking off the pitch. Maybe he (Peter) shouldn't have shouted at him but it was out of sheer frustration. He still felt that Ginger's behaviour was unforgivable and he shouldn't play for Fortune again. S.Feiger said that he has known Ginger for years and he has never walked off before. He was facing severe provocation and the Club should take no action against him. That game was a one off and we could do with Ginger next season. The Chairman stated that he had spoken to Ginger who explained the strain he was under, yet he did want to rejoin as a casual member next season. He asked P.Kyte whether he still wanted the Club to ban him as a breach of rule 9a, but Peter decided to accept everyone's comments and will not oppose Ginger's intention of signing up again as a casual member.

Player of the Year format. S.Feiger said that he thought that we could bring in a better method of deciding the Player of the Year award. He suggested that after each match, there should be a general census of opinion between the players in the dressing room to decide the Man of the Match. Then the player collecting the most votes at the end of the season would win the award. A.Espinoza said: "That's the biggest load of bollocks I've ever heard!" D.Caro thought that the idea was worth voting on.



S.Feiger PROPOSED that after each match a Man of the Match shall be decided by the players and at the end of the season the player with the most nominations will win the Player of the Year award. Seconded by D.Caro. The motion was DEFEATED by a vote of F.2. A.3. abstentions 2. —

1) Clubman of the Year format. B.Silver could not see why members voted for committee members in deciding this season's Clubman of the Year when committee members were then excluded from winning the award. The Chairman explained that the ballot form and voting instructions were already rather complicated without adding another condition relating to committee members. B.Silver responded by saying that it should be made clear that committee members will be excluded, and also be actually named on the ballot sheet which was acknowledged by Nigel.

With nothing else to discuss, the Chairman suggested that the food which had been purchased at 'great expense' for the A.G.M. and which remained untouched at the close of the Meeting should be taken back to the supermarket by the Treasurer for a refund. This would then lower the Club's A.G.M. expenses to below 18% and therefore decrease the overall expenditure. His dig at the Treasurer for criticising the level of A.G.M. expenses was very well received!

B.Silver expressed a vote of thanks to Philip Friend for his hospitality.

The Chairman closed the Meeting on Tuesday 2nd June 1992 at precisely 12.01 am and ten seconds!