



CHELSEA SUPPORTERS' TRUST NEWSLETTER – December 2020

Chairman's Introduction

Welcome to the final CST Newsletter of 2020, as a traumatic year for all of us comes to an end. Football pales into insignificance when you consider the challenges faced by so many in terms of health, livelihood and wellbeing, but most people agree that the return of supporters in grounds is one more step towards the return of normality that we all crave.

Following the elections referred to below, the CST board elected me Chairman for another year and I look forward to working on your behalf for another year and, hopefully, meeting many of you at face-to-faces meetings and at matches.

We hope you and your family continue to stay safe.

Cliff Auger
Chair, Chelsea Supporters' Trust

CST Annual General Meeting - Motions and New Board

All motions submitted to the October AGM were passed with significant majorities as the link here shows.

<https://chelseasupporterstrust.com/14882-2020-cst-elections/>

Thanks to everyone who Zoomed into the AGM, obviously we would prefer a face-to-face meeting with our members but under the circumstances we felt the meeting ran well with some interesting and informative dialogue taking place.

The nine elected members forming the new board were elected by affirmative ballot, more detail; is given in the above link. The job of the CST board is to devise and implement plans to ensure the motions passed at the AGM are more than just words on a page. Profiles of your elected board members are given here :-

<https://chelseasupporterstrust.com/chelsea-supporters-trust/cst-board-2020-21/>

Ticketing under Attendance Restrictions

There has been much controversy about Chelsea's chosen policy in terms of ticket allocation and pricing in the extraordinary circumstances in which we find ourselves. The CST put out a statement expressing disappointment in the policy and asking for ongoing dialogue on the issue, below.

<https://chelseasupporterstrust.com/14959-cst-statement-return-of-supporters/>

This statement was picked up by a number of national media organisations including BBC Online and undoubtedly caught a mood. The tweet we put out on the coverage received a staggering level of interest - over 315,500

impressions and 30,500+ engagements (and the feedback we received for our stance has been overwhelmingly positive. We hope that the club will recognise this and engage in constructive dialogue regarding allocation policy and pricing structure for future restricted-attendance games

Return of Supporters - The Leeds United Game

The 2,000 lucky supporters who went to the Leeds game clearly enjoyed themselves. The feedback we have received is that there were some issues beforehand involving tickets and, particularly, the health declaration form. It was also unclear how supporters with issues should contact the club. These issues have been fed back to the club. The game itself went smoothly, the club organised entry and departure well and social distancing, and the wearing of masks was widely respected.

Big Sleep Out

The Big Sleep Out held at Stamford Bridge in late 2019 was a tremendous success, raising much-needed funds local homeless charities. A second event is being held on Saturday 27th March 2021, by necessity a virtual one. More information here :-

<https://chelseasupporterstrust.com/14864-sleep-out-to-help-out-the-big-stamford-bridge-virtual-sleep-out-2021/>

#BoycottPPV

The national campaign against the ludicrous £14.99 Pay-Per-View pricing, led by the Football Supporters Association and endorsed by supporters groups at all 20 PL clubs including the CST, was a great success, the PL and clubs climbing down. Our position was unequivocal, and evidently shared by many supporters tired of being exploited by the unholy triumvirate of the PL, clubs and the TV companies.

<https://chelseasupporterstrust.com/14888-ppv-a-statement-from-cst/>

Thank you so much to all who participated in #boycottPPV and instead donated their money to our friends at Hammersmith & Fulham Foodbank. They could not give a figure in terms of exact money raised but it ran into thousands.

Project Big Picture

The latest manifestation of a European Super League, 'Project Big Picture', reared its ugly head again recently. The CST, working with supporter groups at the other 'Big Six' clubs, took a common stance against the concept. This statement here gives more detail.

<https://chelseasupporterstrust.com/14692-statement-project-big-picture/>

Chelsea Podcast

CST vice-chair Dom Rosso was on the Chelsea Podcast with hosts Andy Saunders and Ceri Levy recently, talking about our work. You can listen here.

<https://play.acast.com/s/thechels/fromwrentorenes>

Thank you for your continued support and please, Stay Safe

If you have comments or questions on any of the above, or any other CST activity, please let us know:

enquiries@chelseasupporterstrust.com

Finally – festive best wishes to all our members, their families and friends. Here’s to a more normal, happy, healthy and successful 2021 for us all.

We’ll be back in the New Year with the latest news

*from the **Chelsea Supporters Trust – Making Your Voice Heard.***