9, Daisy Farm Road,

Newthorpe,

Notts.

NG16 2AY

30th January 2018

Hello Christine,

 Following on from our e-mail correspondence earlier today I have attached, as promised, a letter which you can use on the official web site to update the members who may show the interest to look.

 Firstly, at long last, the sale of the club is, hopefully, starting to progress and we are hoping that the former British Rail agree to releasing the Club Trustees from any liability even after the sale has taken place. Yes, they want the Trustees to be responsible for their fees and charges and share in the property for ever. These are the sort of issues that have been a real stumbling block and arise frequently. This issue, alone, has already been going back and forth since well before Christmas! During which the Former British Railway offices basically closed down whilst their professional staff took a holiday.

We have had VAT issues, where the three parties involved all wanted to take a different approach. This could only be solved by H.M.R.C. making a formal directive. Luckily (for us) we had Andrew King (the club's accountant) on our side and after many frustrating months the issue was finally resolved, in the club's favour by the H.M.R.C. (Another extremely lengthy and no doubt costly exercise.)

Basically it is the 'Overage' or 'call back clause' entitling the former British Railways to 50% that has been the stumbling point. I don't know why, but surely, if other clubs have followed similar paths, these issues could not have been ironed out previously. Alas this is not so.

I have had arguments a plenty with Rushcliffe Council, who demand payment of their full value of rates as the club and top floor flat stand empty. Together with the utility basic charges has amounted to over £800 each month.

The VAT, and legal costs incurred by the former British Rail were all, directed at the club, (They wanted the club to pay it!), which, of course, we have strongly contested and refuse to agree to.

I have had to contend with fly-tippers, squatters, break in attempts, several ceiling collapses, water ingress, extreme mould and damp inside the building. All with absolutely no income. Having trespassers, the natural progression of nature, which promotes plant and tree growth. All of these issues, and may more all need to be addressed and, to date, with no offer of useable help.

To be quite honest, if it is sold soon, then all is good. If not then we have several problems to address, one of these being the lack of useable funds.

There have been hundreds of mail correspondence to various authorities all which have taken my time and at my expense. The phone calls made are countless but all need to be paid for. Visits to the bank, other Trustees, post office etc. all have had to be undertaken.

I could go on and on about the problems I (we) have encountered, but it will only sound like a moaning session.

I have put forward some suggestions and Ms McAvoy is looking into the possibility of releasing some of the club's financial holding earlier than the required 12 months (I envisage it being April at the very earliest before any money is transferred). which would take this to April / May 2019!

Officially, these monies, are retained by the L.M.R.C.A. for 12 months before anything can be decided as to what happens to it. According to Christine this is an L.M.R.C.A. ruling and is there, basically to protect the Trustees of the club from any possible future come back, allowing time to settle up with ALL members including the former British Rail members. (Those that survive.)

Rest assured that I (at least) am raising your concerns with the L.M.R.C.A. and I am assured that the topics raised will be discussed at area meetings, and no doubt, voted on. I really do hope that the final pay-out issue will be sorted and distributed, to the members, well in advance of the 2019 date. I would be prepared to see this through, myself, but obviously, under the supervision of the L.M.R.C.A. & club's accountant to ensure that payments are dealt with promptly & without any professional fees (Other than the accountant's.)

The club ceased trading at the beginning of November 2016 and so, now has been closed for 14 -15 months and I can see little or no resolution to a share payment this side of the summer of 2019, if things progress naturally, but we will see.

If anyone has any issues they wish to discuss, or topics you would like to raise then please contact me by leaving a note at the club as I still visit daily.

Alternatively contact Christine McAvoy on 0151 487 0402

 or write: - PO Box 228, Liverpool, L26 7ZN

Peter Cliff

Former club Sec Treas.