

Wimbledon Football Club Supporters' Society Limited
(The Dons Trust)

Record of Special General Meeting – 27 May 2004

Held at 7.30 at the Fans' Stadium – Kingsmeadow, Jack Goodchild Way, Kingston Road, Kingston-Upon-Thames. KT1 3PB.

1 Apologies for absence

1.1 Brian Goodwin (BG) and Marc Jones (MJ)

2 Opening address by chair of the Dons Trust Board

2.1 Tom Adam (TA) noted that over 30 per cent of DT members have agreed to receive future communications by email (saving costs for the Trust on postage).

2.2 TA welcomed Niall Couper (NC) to the Board, and thanked Roger Dennis (RD) for his time he had served on the Board as a co-opted member. NC is look after volunteers and DT membership.

2.3 TA congratulated AFC Wimbledon team and management for a successful season.

3 Quarterly report

3.1 TA introduced the main points within the latest Quarterly Report. He noted that Legal & Constitutional would form a separate Agenda item.

3.2 Fundraising.

Luke Mackenzie (LM) reported that several schemes were under way, and he believed that the DT was on course to hit its target for the year. NC spoke on the Dons Draw and noted the September 12 Celebrity Match at Kingsmeadow.

3.2 Communication

Chris Philips (CP) reported that the newsletter was due out soon, and that he hoped more people would sign up to receive email communications.

3.3 Finance.

Erik Samuelson (ES) explained that the recently issued Dons Trust Bond Scheme had raised £81,000 at an average interest rate of 1.8%. However, he added that to keep interest payments at the same level, the Dons Bond needed to raise £300,000 as the interest on the repayments of the Khosla loan will increase to base rate plus five per cent from September.

3.6 Community Events.

TA praised the success of the Family Fun Day.

4 Resolution on Dons Trust Aims

There was brief debate on the Resolution containing the proposed Aims for the Dons Trust, the first draft of which had been discussed at the SGM in May.

The Resolution was formally proposed to the meeting and passed by a show of hands. A copy of the resolution is attached to this report.

5 Legal and Constitutional

Roger Cassells (RC) reported on the legal & constitutional section of the quarterly report. He noted that as there allowance for by-elections in the Constitution NC would have to re-stand at next election. There was then a debate on the benefits of the single-transferable-vote voting system against first post-the-post systems. RC stated that the Board had not yet decided which system to use for future elections.

The purpose of the Conflict of Interest Policy and the Secretary's Report were explained and it was noted that the Conflict of Interest Policy will be posted on the DT website.

6. Finance Report – AFCW

ES explained that the results were better than expected, mainly due to extra bar and gate revenue. He explained that the programmes appear to make a loss, as SI advertisements are not included, if they were it would make a small profit.

In a response to a question ES explained that dealing with the reconciliation of the amount Kingstonian owed the club was not a top priority at the moment as the amount they owed us was similar to what we owed them. However, he stated that in future they would be billing Kingstonian on a monthly basis.

ES explained that those players who received less than £ 50 per week are deemed to be on expenses. All players above that are on a wage for Inland Revenue purposes. ES added that the club had eight contracted players last season.

7 Finance report –Dons Trust

Steve Elson (SE) explained the current cash balances looked healthy and he was hopeful that given all the fundraising ventures that the DT would be able to transfer funds across to AFCW.

One member expressed concern at the cost to the DT of the Ladies team. It was noted that support for the Ladies was one of the DT's Aims.

8 Question and Answer Session

Question: Are we investigating sponsorship for the stadium?

Ivor Heller (IH): Yes.

Question: What about AFC Wimbledon branding around the stadium?

Kris Stewart (KS): Not a top priority at this stage due to the cost involved.

Question: Where's the job description for the CEO?

Nigel Higgs (NH): Due to time constraint, it hasn't been formally approved by the DT Board yet but will be in the near future. NH added that the contract for KS runs out in June 2004, but as there is a three-month notice period. He is now in permanent employment until one side or the other gives notice.

Question: What is the position with the new managers contract?

KS: No confusion over the contract as it's registered with the FA and that protects AFCW.

Question: Junior Dons are not represented very much, will the DT be developing the Junior Dons and what they can do for AFCW? NH: Yes, we will be looking to expand the programme into the community. Also, it is hoped that with more Saturday games we will be able to get more continuity with the match day academy.

Question: Are there any plans for youth teams to have a girls' section.

NH: We have an arrangement in place with Merton Council to promote girls teams and intend to run a course at Raynes Park High.

Question: Will the bar be open during Euro 2004?

IH: Yes, with a BBQ for England games.

Question: What's the state of the Official Website?

LM: Should be ready soon.

Question: Can shareholders attend the AFCW PLC Ltd AGM meeting?

ES: Yes, any shareholder can and that includes DT members.

Question: Are we going to get more Saturday home fixtures? And what Cups are we going to be in?

KS: League decides fixtures, only 22 clubs in league. In deciding the fixture list they take account safety, policing and stewarding aspects of all games. The cup competitions we will be entering are FA Cup, Trophy or Vase, London Senior Cup and the Surrey Senior Cup.

9 Any other Business

Charlie Talbot reported on the through the pre-season friendly matches and added that if anyone had ideas on how to improve the programme they should contact him.

Meeting closed 10:30pm

RESOLUTION
Passed at SGM 27th May 2004
Dons Trust Aims

The Society agrees to adopt the following Aims, and the Board of the Society are required to develop policies designed to achieve such Aims. Furthermore, a report on the progress of the Society in achieving the Aims will be provided at each Annual General Meeting.

Control - To retain overall control of AFCW plc within the Dons Trust through retaining 75% or more of the voting power.

Financial prudence - To ensure the DT and club's business is operated in a financially prudent way such as to balance development risks with sound financial management.

Ambition for club - To get AFC Wimbledon promoted as high up the pyramid as possible with an aim of achieving league status in 10 years, i.e. for season 2013-2014.

Ladies Football - To be seen as one of the leading proponents of ladies football and to achieve promotion to the national league within 2 years.

Youth & Community football – To operate a community football scheme consisting of organised coaching and activities for young people in the target area and to achieve the FA Charter standard for the youth aspects of the DT/Club within two years.

Location - To retain the club's base as close as possible to the geographical roots of the club [recognising that the roots are Wimbledon and the base is wider than the stadium].

Stadium - To provide and invest in a modern stadium and facilities suitable for the club's league status.

DT Membership / support - To ensure that the club is safeguarded by maintaining and promoting strong DT membership, while also nurturing and increasing the AFCW fan base and to encourage active involvement of members in running the DT / club.

Communication, consultation and openness - To reflect the views of members and fans in the development and delivery of the strategy and to communicate progress on a regular basis.

Working with the local community - To engage, consult with and reflect the needs of the local community (including via local authorities) in the development and use of facilities and to contribute to local community activities.

Wider ambassadorial role - To promote and encourage local community and fan ownership of football clubs.

Equality and diversity - To ensure DT and club is run on sound ethical principles, encouraging equality and diversity.

Reputation - To promote and protect the positive public image and reputation of the Dons Trust, club and its fan base.
