# Wimbledon Football Club Supporters Society Limited

Draft Minutes of the Special General Meeting held on 23 April 2009 at The Cherry Red Records Fans' Stadium - Kingsmeadow, Jack Goodchild Way, 422a Kingston Road, Kingston-upon-Thames, KT1 3PB

# 0. Introduction and Apologies for Absence

- 0.1 At 19:40pm the Chairman of the Trust Board, David Cox (DC), declared the meeting open. 100 members were counted present. As well as the members who attended the meeting in person, 73 members had submitted proxy forms.<sup>1</sup> Welcoming members, DC conveyed apologies from Ray Armfield, Richard Lonsdale, Sean McLaughlin, Iain McNay, Tony Shepherd and John Woodruff.
- 0.2 DC said hard to imagine better circumstances in which the Trust could be meeting. Noting that there would be many opportunities to thank the players and the football management team for their success in getting us into Conference National, he thought it would be good to have a vote of thanks for the three Directors of AFC Wimbledon Limited who had played such a major part in the club's success – Erik Samuelson, Ivor Heller and Nigel Higgs. This was carried by acclaim.

## 1. AGM Minutes

1.1 The draft minutes of the AGM held on 22 January 2009 were deferred until the September 2009 SGM.

# 2. The Strategy Review

- 2.1 The meeting had before it two papers a summary and a detailed paper on the strategy review.
- 2.2 It was agreed to work through the paper section by section voting on each part in turn.
- **2.3 Senior Football**. Carried. Of the 100 present, 97 for, 1 against [consolidation in Conference National being considered too negative an ambition] and 2 abstentions. Of the 73 proxies, 55 were in favour and all 18 that were cast at their proxy's discretion were also cast in favour.
- **2.4** Youth Football. Carried. Of the 100 present, 99 in favour, none against and one abstention. Of the 73 proxies, 55 were in favour and all 18 that were cast at their proxy's discretion were also cast in favour.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Chair had explained in his 7 April letter convening the meeting that he proposed to invoke Rule 46 and direct that a poll be taken on each section of each Resolution so that every member present in person or by proxy would have one vote. The results of each of these polls are recorded in the minutes – here I just note that, with 173 members participating, we had an overall turn out of 13% of the total senior membership of 1,341.

- **2.5 Community Football Scheme**. Carried unanimously with none against and no abstentions. It was agreed that the text should be revised to make explicit that Merton was central to the community: "Specifically, it should be looking beyond Merton to operate in areas such as Kingston etc".
- **2.6 Ladies and Girls Football**. Carried. Of the 100 present, 98 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention. Of the 73 proxies, 52 were in favour and 3 were against and all 18 that were cast at their proxy's discretion were cast in favour.
- **2.7 Governance**. A unanimous vote [resolution 2 on the meeting notice] to defer this section of the Strategy with a view to finalising the Trust's policy so that the topic can be decided by the members at the SGM on 24 September. The procedure would be for the Dons Trust Board to hold another discussion on the issue and to vote again on the two basic models of governance. The Board should then not only present the result of the vote and how each member voted but also set out the arguments made for and against each model. The Board would then invite the membership to have a free vote on the issue the Board as a whole would not make a majority recommendation on how the membership should vote.
- **2.8 Business and Development**. Carried. Of the 100 present, 97 in favour and 3 abstentions. Of the 73 proxies, 55 were in favour and all 18 that were cast at their proxy's discretion were also cast in favour.
- **2.9 Financing, People, Stadium, Community.** Meeting adjourned on a unanimous vote in accordance with Rule 49 of the Constitution.
- 2.10 The date of resumed meeting will be announced as soon as possible when the only business to be transacted is the business left unfinished on 23 April namely the four items at paragraph 2.9 above .

David Cox Chairman of the Board David Wilkinson Secretary of the Trust

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#### Draft summary Minutes of meeting held on 28 May 2009, in continuation of Special General Meeting held on 23 April 2009 at The Cherry Red Records Fans' Stadium - Kingsmeadow, Jack Goodchild Way, 422a Kingston Road, Kingston-upon-Thames, KT1 3PB

As recorded in the Minutes of the SGM held on 23 April (2.9, 2.10) discussion of four strategy proposals was deferred from that meeting. The only business conducted on 28 May was the consideration of these unfinished items.

# 1.0 Financing

1.1 The paper was accepted unanimously after a short discussion.

## 2.0 People

- 2.1 The paper was accepted unanimously after a short discussion.
- 3.0 Before discussion of the papers on Stadium and Community, the chairman said that the Board was making no recommendation on these two issues. Board members wanted to join the debate as individual Trust members, listen to what was said, and vote individually after hearing the discussion.

### 4.0 Stadium

4.1 After a lengthy discussion, the proposals were rejected by 140 votes to 62, with 25 abstentions (including proxies).

### 5.0 Community

5.1 After a lengthy discussion, the proposals were rejected by 131 votes to 71, with 25 abstentions (including proxies)