

Dons Trust Board Meeting



Thursday 7 August 2013

The Cherry Red Records Stadium

President's Lounge



MINUTES – redacted version

Members:

Matthew Breach (MB)
David Grows (DG)
Mick Buckley (MBu)
Nicole Hammond (NH)
Tom Adam (TA)
Iain McNay (IM)
Zoe Linkson (ZL)

Invited:

Erik Samuelson (ES)
Nigel Higgs (NH)
David Hall (DH) – Secretariat

Apologies:

Sean McLaughlin (SM)
Kris Stewart (KS)
Ivor Heller (IH)
David Charles (DC)
David Reeves (DR) - Secretariat
Eric Page (EP) – Secretariat

Ref	Item	Action
	The meeting began at 19:30. Matt Breach (MB) chaired the meeting.	
1.0	Apologies for absence	
1.1	Apologies were received from Sean McLaughlin (SM), Kris Stewart (KS), Ivor Heller (IH), David Charles (DC), David Reeves (DR) and Eric Page (EP).	
2.0	Draft Minutes to DTB Meetings on 17 June and 11 July	
2.1	Various changes were submitted and agreed for the 17 June and 11 July meetings. It was agreed that the 11 July minutes would not be published due primarily to their commercial nature. A summary had already been included on the website.	

3.0	Football Club Board Update	
	<p><u>12 Month Draft Accounts for 2012/13</u></p> <p>3.1 ES took the Board through the draft figures which showed a small profit of around £18k for the year despite coming so close to relegation. It was noted that unexpectedly high crowds towards the end of the year had improved our position. The commercial out-turn was also better than budgeted. One area of concern was the FLi income. It was commented that this may be worse this year because of the FL putting highlights on YouTube.</p> <p>3.2 NHa enquired about programme sales. ES said that some programme sellers had notably higher sales so some training was being arranged.</p> <p>3.3 TA asked about the costs towards the new stadium and it was explained this was around £60k to date. It was agreed that as extra provisions were needed for the coming year these would need to be kept separately under review. ES explained that ideally these costs would ultimately be capitalised.</p> <p>3.4 IMc commented that we probably have the best accounts in League 2 and ES and the team should be congratulated for all their hard work in keeping the finances under control during a difficult season.</p> <p><u>Incident at Millwall match</u></p> <p>3.5 ES explained that there had been an incident involving several fans at the League Cup match against Millwall after some flares had been set off in the Wimbledon end and Millwall stewards had intervened. It was understood the incident involved 4 Wimbledon fans, 2 Crystal Place fans and 1 Charlton fan who were arrested. The Wimbledon fans had been identified and DC was writing to them to notify them they are banned. CCTV footage was being requested from Millwall / the Met Police.</p> <p>3.6 ZL said some action needs to be taken for certain fans who ruin the atmosphere for other fans. ES said that DC is working closely with the local police and the board is keen to bring in someone independent to assist in talking to fans who were causing concern. Clear decisive action would need to be taken and it was agreed that DTB members as well as club staff should also take responsibility to monitor poor behaviour, particularly at this important time for the club. A general discussion ensued on standards of stewardship at away grounds but it was agreed that we need to be firmer, where possible, in managing our own fans.</p> <p><u>New Stadium Update</u></p> <p>3.7 ES updated the DTB on latest developments regarding discussions on the stadium in Wimbledon and communications with developers and planning arrangements.</p>	<p>ES/IH</p> <p>ES</p> <p>ES</p> <p>ES</p> <p>DTB</p>

3.8	<i>This item has been redacted from the published minutes.</i>	
3.9	<i>This item has been redacted from the published minutes</i>	
3.10	There followed a discussion on the options around the size of the stadium and AFC Wimbledon's stated requirements (including seat sizes) and how the stadium might compare with others in London and beyond and the football requirements at the different levels including in the Premiership and the proportion of corporate seating to be included.	
3.11	<i>This item has been redacted from the published minutes</i>	
3.12	<i>This item has been redacted from the published minutes</i>	
3.13	<i>This item has been redacted from the published minutes</i>	
3.14	It was agreed that MBu would seek to prepare a brief setting out some broad criteria that we would be looking for in seeking a partner organisation for Naming Rights.	MBu
	<u>Potential Match against Milton Keynes in Johnston Paints Trophy (JPT)</u>	
3.15	ES explained that there was a relatively high probability that we might draw Milton Keynes in the JPT. It was agreed that we would adopt the same strategy as previously if drawn at home.	ES
4.0	Dons Trust Broad items	
	<u>DT Special General Meeting (16 September)</u>	
4.1	DH explained the further resolutions which were being drawn up to tidy up the Constitution following the May SGM vote on the Community Share changes. These had followed discussions DH had had with Ray Downham and previous feedback from the Supporters Direct lawyers (DWF).	DH
4.2	DH also explained that he had received a proposal via Geoff Seel who had been working with Dave Boyle around the separate election for the ninth Board member. After some discussion it was agreed that rather than proceed with the proposals put forward it would be useful to have a wider debate at the SGM in order to help inform the Election Rules which would need to be agreed at the October DTB.	DH
4.3	DH also agreed to liaise with Geoff Seel and Dave Boyle about the general	

	arrangements for the electoral process this year.	DH
	<u>Independent Strategic Review of DTB / AFCW Governance & Organisation</u>	
4.4	MB explained that the consultants working on this had now been engaged and DTB and FCB members should expect to hear from them shortly for individual 1:1s ahead of the away day scheduled for 22 September.	MB
	<u>Other Items</u>	
4.5	MB agreed to co-ordinate a schedule for the DT Stand on matchdays.	MB
4.6	DR was co-ordinating DT articles for forthcoming matchday programmes.	DR
4.7	ES explained the line being taken on no alcohol being brought to the ground or car park on matchdays. The DTB agreed to continue to support this initiative.	
4.8	MB said he had written to Football League Chairman, Greg Clarke regarding his comments about fan owned clubs recently reported in the press and would distribute.	MB
4.9	It was noted that KS was unwell and had prevented him attending the meeting. The DTB wished to convey to Kris its best wishes for a speedy recovery.	
5.0	Next Meeting – 9 September 2013	
5.1	The meeting closed at 22.30. The next meeting will be held on Monday 9 September 2013.	