

Dons Trust Board Meeting



Thursday 9 September 2013

The Cherry Red Records Stadium

Back Bar



MINUTES Redacted Version

Members:

Matthew Breach (MB)
David Grows (DG)
Mick Buckley (MBu)
Sean McLaughlin (SM)
Tom Adam (TA)
Iain McNay (IM)
Zoe Linkson (ZL)

Invited:

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

Apologies:

Nicole Hammond (NHa)
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 Nicole Hammond (NHa), Kris Stewart (KS), Ivor Heller (IH), David Charles (DC), David Reeves (DR) and Eric Page (EP).	
2.0	Draft Minutes to DTB Meetings on 7 August	
2.1	The minutes to the August meeting were agreed. Any further requests for changes to be submitted by 11 September. Various items would have to be redacted due to commercial nature. MB suggested that some sections may need to be reviewed. DH agreed to revise accordingly in consultation with MB.	DH/MB

3.0	Football Club Board Update	
	<p><u>YDP Update</u></p> <p>3.1 ES put forward a proposal to increase the YDP Budget by £15k to enable extra funds to be targeted at new trialists. After some discussion on the options, including the possibility of sponsorship and use of WaW funds, it was agreed to support the increase in the budget.</p> <p>3.2 <i>This section has been redacted from the published minutes.</i> <i>This section has been redacted from the published minutes.</i></p> <p><u>Commercial Report</u></p> <p>The Commercial Report was noted. IMc enquired when the next review of Kingsmeadow Live would be taking place. ES explained this would be covered in the next Quarterly report.</p> <p>3.3 SMc enquired about bar sales and sponsorship. It was noted that bar sales appeared to have improved following the new match procedures introduced. Sponsorships for the season had virtually sold out. IH was commended on his performance and MBu also commended him for our improved presence in Wimbledon Town Centre (eg Centre Court advert).</p> <p><u>Football Club Report (other items)</u></p> <p>ES advised that DC had arranged for some of the key trouble makers to meet one evening in the forthcoming week at the club to discuss an alternative approach to previous behaviour issues.</p> <p>3.4 ES explained that current cashflows showed that balances would be extended a further 2 months beyond originally anticipated (after taking account of planning costs). This was partly helped by better cup receipts than last season due to local ties though it was explained an FA Cup run later this year would be beneficial.</p> <p>3.5 A more detailed financial update would be presented for the next quarterly report. It was noted in the meantime that the shortfall in sponsorship income would now be less than expected following the SkyBet deal with the FL.</p> <p>The excellent start to the season of Neal Ardley's first team was noted (3rd at the time of the meeting).</p> <p><u>New Stadium Update</u></p> <p>3.6 ES updated everyone on the latest position following a meeting between Merton Council, the club, Galliard and its advisers on 3 September.</p> <p>ES explained that the Council was now seeking a submission from the club</p>	<p>ES</p> <p>ES/NHi</p>

3.7	to be received by 13 September which showed evidence of the club working together with Galliard along with information on the suitability of the proposals, the design (including issues on flooding and transport) and the funding arrangements.	
3.8	ES said that much of the work had been done already so it was a case of bringing the various information together by the given date. This would then be submitted by the Council to the appointed Inspector regarding use of the site. It was explained that the appointed person would be carrying out his assessment over the coming months with a possible public hearing during w/c 6/12 and a report by February / March 2014.	ES
3.9	It was noted that one counter submission for the Greyhound Stadium site had been made for continued use of the site as a revamped Greyhound stadium and further submissions might also be made.	
3.10	After some discussion on the timetable, the process and the funding assumptions it was agreed to delegate the preparation of the document to ES and for him to keep MB informed and draw in support as necessary.	
3.11	It was noted that alongside this further work would to be bought together by the media working group, being led by DG and David Lloyd - operating alongside the Galliard PR team (Indigo). ES would look to call this into operation after 13/9.	
3.12		
3.13		
3.14		ES
3.15		ES/DG
4.0	Dons Trust Broad items	
	<u>Strategy Working Groups</u>	

4.1	<p>The proposed arrangements for the Media Working Group were noted. It was agreed that the chairpersons for the other groups would decide as appropriate on the continued membership of those groups.</p> <p><u>DT Special General Meeting (16 September)</u></p>	
4.2	<p>DH noted that papers for these had gone out by post or email although there had been some difficulty with emails to some members thought to be caused by the Titan server. The only resolution items were tidying up aspects related to the changes for a future Community Share issue. The other main item aside from the stadium update was the discussion on DTB membership and the election rules for 2013 which he would be co-ordinating.</p> <p><u>Independent Strategic Review of DTB / AFCW Governance & Organisation</u></p>	DH
4.3	<p>MB explained that the consultants had now made arrangements to meet with all DTB and FCB members and were on course to facilitate the away day at the CRR Stadium on 22 September.</p> <p><u>Other Items</u></p>	MB
4.4	<p>A discussion took place on the quality of the Titan server and the option of going with a different provider given the ongoing difficulties. DG agreed to take up with DC and Chris Mappley.</p>	DG
4.5	<p>The issues with regard to Direct Debits for DT renewals were noted although this was understood to have now been resolved.</p>	
4.5	<p>MB agreed to co-ordinate a schedule for the DT Stand on matchdays.</p>	MB
4.6	<p>DH mentioned that he would confirm with DR and EP regarding their availability to attend future DTB meetings and would seek additional support to the Secretariat as necessary.</p>	DH
4.7	<p>MB said that the FL Chairman (Greg Clarke) had been invited to the Accrington game on 12 October.</p>	
4.8	<p>IMc noted that he was unable to attend the Brentford match as he was picking up an award for Cherry Red Records – presented to him by a fellow AFCW fan (J Willgoose Esq)!</p>	
5.0	Next Meeting – 10 October 2013	
5.1	<p>The meeting closed at 22.10. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 10 October 2013.</p>	

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