

# Dons Trust Board Meeting

Thursday 3 April 2014

The Cherry Red Records Stadium

President's Lounge



## MINUTES – PART 1 – redacted version

### Members:

Matthew Breach (MB)  
David Grows (DG)  
Zoe Linkson (ZL)  
Kris Stewart (KS)  
Sean McLaughlin (SM)  
Mark Davis (MD)  
Jane Lonsdale (JL)  
Iain McNay (IM)  
Moorad Choudhry (MC)

### Invited:

Erik Samuelson (ES)  
David Hall (DH) – Dons Trust Secretary  
David Reeves (DR) – Secretariat  
Michael Hayes (Secretariat)

### Apologies:

Ivor Heller (IH)  
Nigel Higgs (NH)  
David Charles (DC)  
Mick Buckley (MBu)

Ref	Item	Action
	The meeting began at 19:30.	
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Apologies for absence</b>	
1.1	Apologies were received from Ivor Heller (IH) Nigel Higgs (NH) David Charles (DC) and Mick Buckley (MBu)	
<b>2.0</b>	<b>March (6 March) and March Special (22 March) Minutes</b>	
2.1	(3.9 – 6 March) The first sentence should be deleted.	
2.2	(3.10 (2) – 6 March) The name of the DTB board member who abstained should be added (JL)	<b>DH</b>
2.3	(3.11 – 6 March) This should be redacted.	
2.4	(7.1 – 6 March) MB to revise this section to include identifying skills gaps.	<b>MB</b>
2.5	(1.13 – 22 March) The format is that used by the new economics foundation (nef)	

<p>2.6</p> <p>2.7</p> <p>2.8</p> <p>2.9</p>	<p>(1.11 – 22 March) The names of those voting in favour should be inserted.</p> <p>Minutes to be finalized within the week.</p> <p>In future, a separate action list is to be circulated within 2 days of meetings.</p> <p>In future, Actions completed should be deleted but outstanding Actions should be carried forward.</p>	
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Football Club Board Items</b>	
<p>3.1</p> <p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p>	<p><u>EPPP Status update</u></p> <p>ES reported that the Academy team is working hard and feeling confident ahead of the re-audit on 24-27 April. The FL have visited and are pleased with what they have seen. They have made some suggestions, including that we should point out where we get things right and where we are well on the way. Generally, the Academy is encouraged to blow its own trumpet. ES will be among those interviewed. IM asked that ES be as involved as possible overall without usurping NH/NA. The DTB board recorded that they are pleased with the positivity of NH and the FCB team and wish them all the best.</p> <p>JL said that she has offered to review the paperwork.</p> <p><u>New Stadium update</u></p> <p>ES reported that the Inspector’s report re Merton site policies is expected in late April. Little is going on at present so fortnightly progress meetings have been suspended, but the planning application is virtually ready, scheduled to be submitted in July. ES has requested that time be spent with the architects to understand the next steps, and a report will come to the FCB within a week, but we could anticipate that if the planning application is approved, with a following wind construction may start in March 2015 with the stadium becoming ready for the 2017/2018 season. Once the planning application has been lodged there will be a consultation process, with public meetings in Arthur Road and one other location.</p> <p><u>Stadium financing</u></p> <p><i>[This item has been redacted from the published minutes.]</i> The potential sources of finance would include naming rights, sale of KM, borrowing (including potentially from Merton) and a share issue, but a share issue would strategically come later, when it would be targeted to fill any gap. <i>[This item has been redacted from the published minutes..</i> The AFCW name and story may be a strong factor in securing naming rights. <i>[This item has been redacted from the published minutes]</i> We cannot properly explore these options until planning has been granted. <i>[This item has been redacted from the published minutes]</i>. In the meantime, we shall need to spend more money on the planning application. ES to prepare a summary of the possible sources and figures for the next Finance Working Group meeting.</p>	<p><b>JL/NHi</b></p> <p><b>ES</b></p>

<p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p> <p>3.6</p> <p>3.7</p> <p>3.8</p>	<p><u>KM development</u></p> <p><i>This item to be redacted from published minutes</i></p> <p><u>AFCW Foundation update</u></p> <p>ES reported that the Foundation launch on 27 March was a success. Kay Skelton has accepted the role of Executive Director, Alun Armstrong and Sophie Hosking are patrons.</p> <p>ZL asked that the minutes should record thanks to all concerned for the successful Foundation launch.</p> <p><u>Bury Incident</u></p> <p>ES reported that the police have made more arrests. The total number of fans arrested is now 6 of which 4 are from AFC Wimbledon.</p> <p><u>Chris Atkinson</u></p> <p>It was noted that Chris has resigned from his role as Club Office Administrator. The DTB recorded their thanks for his service to the club.</p> <p><u>Other topics from the FCB report</u></p> <p><i>This item has been redacted from the published minutes.</i>  <i>This item has been redacted from the published minutes.</i></p> <p>ES reported more detail on the Jake Nicholson situation. During the week before the Cheltenham game, ES was on holiday and DC was ill. He was told by ES to go home but had returned by the day of the game, but was still unwell. As soon as the error was discovered, it was reported to the FA. ES referred to precedents where similar procedural issues were involved, in two of which the decisions were not announced until the end of the season, presumably waiting to see whether any relegation/promotions turned on it. We should assume however that we are likely to lose 3 points. A discussion took place on the resulting internal implications and ES sought the DTB's views on the issue. MB said this would be discussed during the DTB only part of the meeting.</p> <p><u>AOB (Round the Table)</u></p> <p>JL raised a question about the club's Child Protection Officer. ES responded that while all staff who need one have a CRB (now called Disclosure and Barring) clearance, it appears that only the Academy has had a CPO. Now that the Academy CPO has resigned, this issue is being addressed.</p> <p>ES reported that the first draft of the 2014/2015 budget will be ready for the next DTB board.</p> <p>JL asked for clarification of the Street League issues. ES explained that government funding has been reduced so that it is now only available for 16 to 18</p>	<p><b>DH</b></p>
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	<p>year olds (previously 16 to 25). Due to the fact that the lower age group are meant to be in full time education or equivalent already there are issues about identifying candidate young people. Furthermore, because of the lifestyles of the lower age group, it is likely to be more difficult to engage with them compared with the 16 to 25 group. Discussions with Street League are ongoing, and NH has made a counterproposal.</p> <p>(ES departed) – meeting resumed at 21:00 [See Part 2 Minutes].</p>	
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