

Dons Trust Board Meeting

Tuesday 9 June 2014

The Cherry Red Records Stadium

President's Lounge



MINUTES PART 2

Members:

Matthew Breach (MB)
David Grows (DG)
Kris Stewart (KS)
Sean McLaughlin (SM)
Mark Davis (MD)
Jane Lonsdale (JL)
Iain McNay (IM)

Invited:

Erik Samuelson (ES)
David Hall (DH) – Dons Trust Secretary

Apologies:

Zoe Linkson (ZL)
Moorad Choudhry (MC)

Nigel Higgs (NH)
Ivor Heller (IH)
David Charles (DC)
Mick Buckley (MBu)
David Reeves (DR) - Secretariat

Ref	Item	Action
4.0	13 May Minutes (part 2 – DTB only)	
4.1	The second part of the minutes were agreed subject to some minor amendments from JL.	
4.2	It was agreed that we would seek to draft the minutes to Part 2 meetings to enable these to also be published.	DH
5.0	Organisation and Structure (DTB only - continuation from Part 1)	
	<u>Long term Organisational Model</u>	
5.6	Further to the earlier discussion with ES concerning prospective short term organisational changes MB said he had separately had some discussion with MC about the longer term structure and would be circulating some proposals in the coming weeks. KS enquired what we meant by short term and long term. MB	

	suggested that short term represented around 3 years for the transition to the new stadium.	
5.7	A further discussion took place regarding the prospective short term changes. KS said that it was important to support ES but challenge any issues where the DTB had concerns about the changes and the process.	
5.8	It was noted that the next FCB would be on 2 July by which time ES proposals may have been circulated. MB indicated that he couldn't attend on 2 July. DG would attend. Any others from the DTB who wished to attend this should notify DG. It was agreed that anyone else wishing to attend FCB meetings in future (generally Wednesday mornings) should contact MB / DG.	ALL
	<u>Ticket Pricing Consultation</u>	
5.9	MD updated the DTB members on his proposed approach to the ticket pricing consultation following the discussion at the SGM. A number of people were recommended to MD as potential DT members interested in joining the Working Group.	
5.10	MD set out a detailed timetable leading up to the SGM in September and AGM in December. MD agreed to send to DH. The Working Group would put together background data, scenarios / stories, survey questions, engagement strategy and voting methodology. This would then be tested with the DTB and supporters through different routes including on matchdays as appropriate.	MD MD
6.0	Dons Trust position on key campaigning issues (DTB Only)	
6.1	MB introduced this item. He said that there had been a number of different issues recently where he said it had been important for the DT to take a position and the DTB should, perhaps take a more proactive role to ensure a more level playing field for supporters' owned clubs. Potential topics would included Financial Fair Play, B teams, agent fees, Fit & proper owners, Club licensing, SD Cup, etc.	
6.2	After a brief discussion it was agreed that these issues are all important but given the up and coming Community Club Conference and Supporters Summit it might be useful to consider with Supporters Direct and discuss after the conferences had taken place. IM asked about the German ownership model as this had been successful. JL said that this appeared to be on the Summit agenda and attendees could feedback from that.	MB / DG / JL
7.0	Response to Shadow Sports Minister Survey (DTB Only)	
7.1	DH briefly introduced this. He had been contacted via SD in connection with a survey of football supporter trusts being conducted by the Shadow Sports Minister. DH had drafted a response circulated with the papers. A meeting had also been arranged for 2 July with interested Supporter Trusts.	ALL
7.2	It was agreed that any comments on the draft response should be sent to DH by 11 June and he would respond accordingly. He would also attend the meeting on 2 July.	DH

8.0	ESG Report (DTB Only)	
8.1	DH briefly introduced the ESG paper. He noted that Dave Boyle had decided to stand down after three years as Chair. Geoff Seel was also standing down. Dave Boyle had used the opportunity to provide some further reflections on the role of the DT as part of the club.	
8.2	There was a discussion on Dave Boyle's report and how it should be communicated to the membership. It was agreed that MB would write a brief summary addressing the key points in Dave Boyle's main report. SM said that it would be necessary to review the further reflections before publishing this part. KS indicated that there are some important points included in the further reflections which need to be more fully discussed at the DTB.	MB
8.3	DH said that the practical issue of running this year's elections would still need to be considered. Dave Boyle had said in his report that the process is time consuming. DH said that from his observations he would concur with that and it would be necessary to bring in additional volunteers to help with the 2014 elections. DH said he would contact the other members of the ESG to kick start the process for this year and consider options for bringing in other assistance.	DH
8.4	A brief discussion ensued on the option of conducting elections on a more infrequent basis, for example every 2 years. DH said that this would require constitutional changes and would need to be first agreed at a SGM and this would be difficult to do for September.	
8.5	In the meantime the DTB formally wished to thank Dave Boyle and Geoff Seel on their hard work on the ESG over the years.	
9.0	Community Owned Club Conference / Supporters Summit (DTB Only)	
9.1	DH said that there were several events taking place at Wembley on 25/26 July to which the DTB were invited.	
9.2	The Community Owned Club Conference on 25 July and was open specially to community owned clubs but was free for invitees. DH said he planned to attend. MB and KS said that they would also attend. The event would culminate in the AGMs for the FSF and SD at the end of the day. DH said he would confirm attendance with SD. DH said that DT membership of SD was due shortly. He agreed to liaise with SM re payment and check the position on the FSF.	DH / SM
9.3	The Supporters Summit was taking place on 26 July. It was subject to a registration fee but open to all fans. MB, DG and JL said they had already registered and would be attending.	
10.0	DTB Joiners Pack (DTB Only)	
10.1	MB said that this was a good idea but needed someone to lead. It was agreed that it would be useful to ask MC, as a new DTB member, to put some ideas together on what the Joiner Pack should cover. MB would liaise with MC.	MB / MC

11.0	<u>Constitution Update (DTB Only)</u>	
11.1	DH said that the Community Share rule changes agreed at the May 2013 and September 2013 had now been approved by the FCA and been given to David Reeves to put on the website.	
11.2	However DH indicated that the overall rules were looking rather dated and it would still be useful to proceed with a fundamental review. He had had some volunteers come forward to assist on a Working Party. He noted that he had also been in touch with Jacqui Forster at SD who had offered some comments and agreed to send him the recently amended Model Rules.	
11.3	It was noted that a change to our constitution would need to get a high level of member support. However as a starting point it was agreed that it would be best for the Constitution Working Party to work from the new Model Rules and amend these as necessary. DH agreed to progress this.	DH
12.0	<u>Any Other Business (DTB Only)</u>	
	<u>Developing proposals for DT matchday representatives</u>	
12.1	MB indicated that following the member motion being carried at the SGM someone would need to lead on developing these proposals. KS agreed to liaise with IH.	KS
	<u>Invitation to be co-opted into Merton Scrutiny group</u>	
12.2	DH said that he had now received more information from Merton on the role. It was agreed that DH should put himself forward as the DT representative to Merton.	DH
	<u>Dons Trust Stall and DT page for Matchday Programme</u>	
12.3	MB agreed to co-ordinate both the DT Stall and the page in the Matchday programme.	MB
	<u>Collaborate IT Tool</u>	
12.4	JL said that she and DG had had a further demonstration of the Collaborate product and felt it would be a very useful tool for liaising with our membership. The software manufacturer was keen to work with the DT and AFCW to promote the product and had offered to provide it at no cost. It was agreed that the DT should proceed with this with JL / DG continuing to lead.	JL / DG
13.0	<u>Date of next meeting</u>	
13.1	This was confirmed as 9 July. The meeting ended at 22.37.	