



Dons Trust Board

Minutes for DTB Meeting – Tuesday 14 June 2016, 7.30pm

Cherry Red Records Stadium President's Lounge

Members

Matt Breach (MB)
Mark Davis (MD)
Jane Lonsdale (JL)
Nigel Higgs (NH)
Tom Adam (TA)
Colin Dipple (CD)
David Growns (DG)
Roger Evans (RE)

Invited

Mick Buckley (MBu) (part)
Rob McGlinchey (Secretariat)
Michael Hayes (MH) (Secretariat)
Rob Crane (RC) (Secretariat)

Apologies

Apologies were received from Erik Samuelson, Sean McLaughlin and David Reeves. Mark Davis chaired the meeting as Matthew Breach was running late and only joined 20 minutes into the meeting.

DTB Discussion: FCB Papers & Current Issues

Mark Davis led a discussion on the FCB report and his notes from the FCB meeting to agree the key points to put to Mick Buckley on his arrival.

[This section has been redacted]

Matthew Breach joined the meeting.

FCB Update

Mick Buckley Joined The Meeting

MD informed MBu that the DTB wants to thank volunteers and the merchandise team as well as anybody that is associated with supporting the playoffs, ticket support, etc. for their support and efforts over the playoff period. The question of how to reward volunteers arose and MD noted that the consensus is that they be given a commemorative photo. MBu likes that idea and added that ES could do a letter thanking them and inviting them to an open training day for the photo to be taken. JL noted that putting that letter on the website made more sense so no volunteer is missed out with the letter.

Action: MBu to work with ES on a solution to rewarding volunteers.

New stadium

[This section has been redacted]

MD said it would be helpful for ES to produce a monthly report on the conditions precedent to the sale of Kingsmeadow. MD proposes drawing up a template and sending it to ES. MBu to report that back to ES. *[This section has been redacted]*

Budget

MD posed a question to MBu regarding the budget, with the latest version showing a small surplus. Will that surplus remain? MBu said ES is still evaluating whether it includes a sufficient budget for the team the management are looking to develop. There are also additional items that are yet to go in the budget, i.e. including the acquisition of a CRM and the decision to stop charging Academy players fees. MBu added that the budget will likely have a loss by the time it is finalised. RE asked whether the proposed budget assumes the club won't get money from selling players and therefore increasing the budget? MB pointed out that in terms of money from transfers, the club has the authority to spend half of it without coming back to the DTB. RE asked whether the money from Chelsea is being ring-fenced for the new stadium? MBu responded that ES sees this money as benefiting the stadium only.

MD added that the latest budget paper was not received until shortly before the meeting so not all DTB members could read it in advance. MBu said a more up-to-date budget will be ready next week incorporating further changes such as pitch maintenance, academy and CRM. MD asked that DTB members provide questions surrounding the budget prior to next month's meeting to enable sign-off there. JL reminded all present that papers from the FCB should be sent to the DTB five business days in advance if we are to be able to make meaningful decisions.

Action: MBu to feedback to ES to provide updated budget ASAP. MBu to discuss CRM with DG.

EFL Trophy

MBu summed up the recent Football League's annual meeting in Portugal, noting that ES voted against the EFL Trophy changes. *[This section has been redacted]*

Given a number of clubs' opposition to the changes to the EFL Trophy, MD noted that the DTB would like to be involved in communication in opposition to the new format. DG and MB asked whether the club has to participate in the competition and what the consequences of not participating would be? NH warned that although he has sympathy with the campaign against these changes, how effective will it be? RE warned against the potential of sanctions for the club for pulling out although concurred that there isn't much appetite for fans to attend EFL Trophy games. MBu noted that the initiative from the League, 'The Whole Game' doesn't yet propose B teams or U21s but that could eventually happen. JL advised that the DT register with 'Against League 3' as they are already working against such a proposal should it come to fruition. MB and DG agreed, with DG adding that it should be the DT, not club, that registers with 'Against League 3.' The DT can then instruct the club when we more information has been gathered.

[This section has been redacted]

MBu & RE Left The Meeting

Co-Option Of DTB Member For Youth

MD reported that the vacancy for a DTB co-opted member has had a great response and the next step will be phone interviews of applicants. MD clarified that the role of the co-opted DTB member will be focused on Youth although the age of the applicant of being younger than 40 is not a prerequisite. Some of the applicants also are not suitable for the role but may be suitable to assist with other activities of the DTB, added MD. *[This section has been redacted]* TA added that DTB members must be independent when interviewing applicants. JL stressed that the DTB is always independent when interviewing applicants, as is any professional body. MD added that all applicants will be judged independently against the candidate criteria.

ToR Progress

MB updated the DTB that a volunteer is working on a graphic design for the kiosk based on crowd pictures of Wembley. The working group will be meeting next week. JL added that Webjam can be used for any discussions/surveys as part of working groups.

RM and CD updated the DTB on the Membership Working Paper. RM noted that more than 300 new DT members have signed up during and after the playoff success. This has created significant work for John Stembridge (JS), the Membership Secretary, who requires support in sending out documentation and signing new members up. The credit card system also needs overhauling. One way of supporting John would be to advertise for an assistant membership secretary. MD and JL recommended that JS be invited to the August DTB meeting to exchange ideas of providing better support to the Membership Secretary. MD noted thanks to JS for his continued hard work as Membership Secretary.

JL updated the DTB on the drive for greater content to be on Webjam. RC has already been writing content strategy for Webjam but further input is required from the DTB.

SGM Planning

MB noted that he will construct an agenda with RM for the SGM. There will likely be nothing to vote on. Discussions around the stadium will likely dominate Q&A from members. NH added her would like to do a segment on London Living Wage and get feedback from members. It was also recommended that the campaign for safe standing be invited to the SGM and could potentially bring along their roadshow.

DT Fundraising strategy

TA updated the DTB on the DT fundraising strategy. He is working with ES as there are a series of phases to the strategy. Both are proposing to get a small team together and identify the various alternatives. TA has identified four phases to get a small team together. The crowdfunding platforms are another technique being proposed.

JL updated the DTB on developments surrounding the We are Wimbledon Fund.

Next meeting: Wednesday 13 July, 2016.

DTB Member Activity Since Board Meeting On May 12, 2016

Matthew Breach

General: Manned DT kiosk and contributed to programme for last 2 home games. Undertook several interviews around the play-off final with various different media groups. Responded to members' enquiries on a range of Trust and Club topics.

Co-Option of Board Member: Worked through first sift of all candidates to recommend down-selection for telephone interview.

Consultation: Prepared brief for and held first session of the Consultation/Survey Working Group.

Mark Davis

Represented the DTB at the June FCB meeting in the absence of Matt Breach.

Sifting and interviewing applicants for co-option to the DTB

Jane Lonsdale:

The Trust Webjam project plan meeting on 26 May, contacting members to moderate site, be part of first 100 trial users, liaising with designer and build team and event coordinator re proposed launch.

Haydon Page Undertaking feedback from Junior dons on the Haydon page at game vs Newport 7 May and sat 14th Play off home league.
vs Accrington..

Ladies and Girls DT rep attendance (with Mark Davis and David Grows) at Ladies and Girls end of season event on Friday May 20th.

Member Enquiries: Responding to member enquiries on: Co-option of Board member to engage with 16-35 year olds; tickets for play off and final games; The Trust Webjam; Junior dons memberships; WAWF; Bring the Dons Home.

WAWF: dealing with enquiries and new sign ups for period following news article.

No other member activities were submitted to the DT Secretary