

Dons Trust Board

Meeting Summary of 12 October 2017

Cherry Red Records Stadium President's Lounge

Members

Matthew Breach (MB)

Mark Davis (MD)

Roger Evans (RE)

Colin Dipple (CD)

Tim Hillyer (TH)

Sean McLaughlin (SM)

Nigel Higgs (NH)

Charles Williams (CW)

Invited

Erik Samuelson (ES)

Andrew Williams (AW) [Consultant]

Tom Brown (TB) [Secretariat]

Andrew Howell (AH) [Secretariat]

Dan Norris (DN) [Lawyer, via telecom]

1. Apologies were received from Jane Lonsdale and David Grown
2. Stadium Update - Galliard

Developments regarding the stadium were discussed, with ES, AW and, later, DN (via telephone) on hand to field a number of questions from the DTB. The update was discussed at length by the DTB with members taking the opportunity to utilise the attendance of ES, AW and DN by asking questions regarding the increasing complexities of the negotiations and clarify a number of the issues flowing from that conversation with Galliards.

Action: ES is to attend meeting with Galliard Homes and LBM on Monday to address and discuss the issues. ES will report back to DTB members.

3. Stadium Update - Chelsea

The current position regarding the Chelsea – Kingsmeadow deal was discussed. Maintaining good communications with Chelsea CEO Bruce Buck was viewed as important, so a meeting with him by way of an update was considered beneficial. It was agreed that this should take place after the meeting with Galliard Homes and LBM.

Action: ES to arrange a meeting with Bruce Buck preferably by the end of next week (end of week commencing 16 October 2017).

Before the Board moved onto the other matters on the agenda, it was noted that the remaining time available would not be adequate to do several subjects justice. MB explained that an extra meeting to address outstanding topics will be scheduled for 30 October as it is clear that with stadium discussions continuing to require significant debate, more face to face time is needed to cover other important issues.

4. FCB update on Volunteer Liaison Officer and football

An individual has potentially been identified for the VLO position. It was agreed that if necessary the club should be willing to employ somebody in the absence of a volunteer being found.

Regarding football, a list of questions was put to ES regarding the team's current form that were answered in turn. To summarise, there are clear and obvious concerns regarding the team's under performance. ES confirmed that the annual objective given to NA is to finish at least four places above the club's financial standing in the league; this is currently undefinable until the first League 1 financial report is issued by the EFL, but in any event would result in a minimum position of 20th (and safety). The FCB remain very supportive of NA, and are confident that the current results can be turned around. There is a belief that NA is the best person to correct the current problems with results, with the FCB's opinion being that neither the team nor the performances are as poor as the run of results would suggest, however much they are below expectations. The Dons Trust Board acknowledged this position.

5. Milton Keynes

The response to the EFL request for our observations was discussed. A response to the EFL has been drafted much along the same lines as the response initially provided to Sean Harvey prior to the match on 22 September 2017. An extension to the response, which was initially due by 10 October, has been granted as advice is being sought on how best to respond to the EFL.

Actions: ES to provide the final response to the DTB.

6. Match day problems

SM enquired into the position regarding recent issues during various matches, including coin throwing by MK fans during our recent game.

Action: Continue to monitor behaviour generally, however with matters being one person's word against another's, no specific action was noted as being required.

7. Data Protection (GDPR)

Mike Berry is to attend the Board Meeting in December to provide a presentation regarding the upcoming change in legislation, which will be implemented on 25 May 2018.

Action: TB to note for December's agenda.

8. Sponsorship issues

Time is needed to discuss this agenda topic. As such:

Action: The discussion is to be put back until 30 October 2017.

9. COO Status update

SM explained that, from a long list of candidates, 8 will be seen for the position. The candidates are from various backgrounds, not all of which are in sport.

Action: Candidates to be interviewed in the coming week.

10. AOB

AOB requiring action:

TB reminded Board members that DTB agenda is now posted to the DT board's specific Webjam site and encouraged people to add comments or items for the future months where necessary.

Action: All DTB members to consider the agenda posted to Webjam before DTB meetings and add comment if necessary.

NH discussed the CRM and questioned whether this could be called something that's a little punchier.

Action: CW tasked with renaming CRM to something that describes its function rather than its technological name.

<Meeting Closed at 10:15>