

# **Dons Trust Board (DTB)**

Minutes of virtual board meeting held at 6.30pm on 16 March, 2022

## **DTB members**

Kris Stewart

Xavier Wiggins (chair – item 1, 3)

Hannah Kitcher

Charlie Talbot (chair – other items)

Luke Mackenzie

Graham Stacey

Niall Couper

Michele Little

Freddy Flaxman

## **In attendance**

Martin Newton (Secretary)

Matt Stockbridge (Comms)

### 1. **Apologies**

None

### **Order of Business**

Item 3 was taken first with David Grows present.

### 3. **Ladies**

The Board discussed the cost of staging the women's team games at Plough Lane, taking account of the need to attract a new audience, and the lower net cost of games held at Carshalton.

*David Grows left the meeting at 6.53pm.*

After discussion it was unanimously agreed that further clarification was required on some matters with a final decision to be made following a report back to the next Board.

### 2. **Mick Buckley**

Noted that Mick Buckley was currently unwell with covid and item 2 would be deferred

### 4. **Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously agreed.

## 5. **Updates**

(a) The 1-1 updates covering finance, diagnostics, ticketing, staff/volunteers, stadium issues, and players matters were noted.

(b) The report to the next PLC Board was considered and it was agreed that questions to be raised at that meeting should be on matchday revenues, players contracts including any relegation clauses, and the football panel.

## 6. **Priorities**

Priorities were discussed, including recruitment of a permanent replacement for the CEO (or to another similar but not identical role), membership and integration for season tickets (although it was noted that integration appeared unlikely for next season), and a replacement for the current membership secretary. It was agreed that it would be useful for some comms on the integration issue

It was also agreed that a public facing document should be drafted for publication to go out in Mick Buckley's name.

## 7. **Roles and Responsibilities**

On roles/responsibilities it was noted that Graham would format information that had been forwarded for approval and then website publication.

## 8. **Finance Update**

The Board noted that PLB2 was now over 3m. It was also reported that Cherry Red Records had offered to provide interim funding which would enable the MSP loan to be cleared. The Board heard that the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor fit out for education may total more than 750k, but these works may not be vital at this stage. The course offered was currently at level 2, and feedback from recent open day events was that a level 3 qualification would attract more students.

It was further noted that the Club was producing draft budgets for L1 and L2 for next season.

## 9. **Directors Box**

Freddy Flaxman raised the matter of setting aside Directors Box tickets for DT members by way of a draw. It was agreed by 8 votes to 1 that this idea would be worth investigating for next season (Freddy was in favour of the initiative for the current season as well).

The Board also discussed the hospitality offer.

## 10. **SGM**

It was unanimously agreed that the next SGM should take place on Wednesday 25 May in hybrid form.

#### 11. **Continental Cup Final**

The successful event was noted and thanks recorded to all involved in its organisation.

#### 12. **AOB**

- a) It was noted that the report on the ticketing review should be published shortly.
- b) On the memorial garden, it was noted that the assumption was that 10k would be spent with option 3 unanimously agreed.
- c) The comms calendar was noted.
- d) It was unanimously agreed that the CEO page in the programme for the remaining games could be Mick Buckley for 3 matches, with the penultimate programme being from the co-chairs.
- e) On football, the current results and performances were discussed. The Board agreed to continue to monitor this situation.

Meeting closed at 9.40pm