

Dons Trust Board (DTB)

Minutes of meeting at Plough Lane at 6.00pm on 11 October 2023

DTB members

Michele Little (Chair)
Graeme Price (Vice Chair)
James Macdonald
Richard Shepherd
Kevin Rye
Ed Leek
Chris Philips
Angus Fox
Anuk Teasdale

In attendance

Martin Newton (Secretary)

1. Introduction

Michele welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies from Mark Lewis.

2. Minutes

(a) The minutes of the September meetings were unanimously approved, subject to some further summary to the 26 September 2023 public version.

(b) On actions, the following was noted: -

Strategic Objectives – The next joint boards away day was discussed.

Project to locate and record previous DT policies and decisions – Graeme confirmed he had discussed the work with Charlie Alpera and had thanked him for his work to date. Noted that reviewing the document was in progress.

3. Ratification of Email Decisions

The following urgent decisions taken under the Board's approved rules for email voting outside of meetings were endorsed. Noted that the majority of these related to decisions taken informally at the September meeting, which were then approved under email voting when the Board returned to the minimum number of 8 members following the 'casual vacancy' appointment of Ed Leek:-

- Bank transfer of £67k to repay DT bondholder
- Approval of August DTB minutes

- SGM date be agreed as Wednesday 1 November, subject to room availability at the club
- Appointment of Mark as MS&E theme group chair, with James remaining a member of that group
- Consideration to be given to combining C&M and Oversight theme groups with Michele becoming chair
- That Richard replaces James on the Nominations Committee
- Appointment to DTB of Anuk Teasdale and Angus Fox as co-optees
- Appointment of James to PLCB to replace Kris Stewart

4. **Strategic Direction**

To be covered in item 5.

5. **Board Theme Groups**

To avoid duplication, actions under this item will not be added to the 'Outstanding Actions' paper – item 2(b) going forward

Oversight

Business for SGM on 1 November noted.

Discussion then took place on probboards, in relation to future arrangements for member engagement, and what other clubs provide.

Kevin reported that the debt consultation survey would be circulated to members next week, running for 4-6 weeks. Discussion took place on complications to the process for selling below 75% of equity, the possibility of bond holders converting bonds to equity, and the requirement for members to have clear information to understand the situation better and to decide their personal feelings around debt and what their own 'red lines' might be. Graeme suggested that an update on how the survey was going could be made at the SGM.

Michele raised the transfer policy and noted that a club statement on this would be appropriate.

On the December AGM the Secretary undertook to confirm the provisional timetable for a meeting on Monday 18.

Richard referred to the risk register and proposed that this be forwarded to Board members every month and discussed quarterly.

Community

Kevin updated the Board on some recent discussions, including discussions with WoWSA and feedback from them with progress on

encouraging women to attend games, arrangements for social events and creation of social networks around football.

Board adjourned at 7.30pm and reconvened at 7.45pm

C&M

On volunteers, a discussion was had about a club and DT wide survey of volunteers. Richard confirmed that he had completed a volunteer handbook refresh in line with the FSA template.

MS&E

James reported that the 16-24 group had met and noted that the South London Press column for them would hopefully be published this week.

Noted that the DT rota needed to be updated.

On elections, noted that one person from the ESG would be at the kiosk between now and the election. Any questions about the election would be directed to the ESG attendee. Kevin to draft a statement for Chris to read out at matches.

Richard said that the next Meet the DTB in November would be Kevin and Mark dealing with the subject of comms.

On membership, noted that an update on renewal numbers was required at the next meeting.

James left the meeting at 8.23pm

6. D&I

A joint club and DT survey on D&I data is being discussed now that all fan and member data is now on the same ticketing system.

7. AOB

Kevin confirmed that the comms manager advert had gone out and that he would be speaking further with one person.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm