DONS TRUST BOARD

Meeting Minutes — Wednesday 13th May 2026

Plough Lane, Wimbledon | Meeting commenced: 6.05pm

Publication Note
These minutes have been prepared for publication to Dons Trust members. Certain content has been redacted where the board has determined it is not appropriate for public disclosure at this time. Redacted items are noted where they occur. All substantive decisions, votes, and agreed actions are included in full.

ATTENDANCE

In Attendance	Apologies	Also in Attendance
Angus Fox (Chair)	Graeme Price (Vice Chair)	George Jones — Secretary (online)
Chris Atkinson	David Rey	Reece Wheeler-Kelly — Assistant Secretary
Martin Drake		Michele Little — Treasurer
Alex Folkes		James Woodroof — AFCW Managing Director
Hannah Kitcher		Luke Stevens — AFCW Head of Ticketing
James Longhurst		
James Ledward		

1 Introduction, Apologies, Protocols and Directors' Interests

DISCUSSION

The meeting opened at 6.05pm. Angus Fox (Chair) welcomed all present, including James Woodroof (AFCW Managing Director) and Luke Stevens (AFCW Head of Ticketing), both invited to attend for relevant agenda items.

Apologies were received from Graeme Price (Vice Chair) and David Rey, both unable to attend due to a rearranged investor meeting.

The board congratulated the Men's and Women's first teams on securing their league status for the coming season, and recognised the excellent seasons delivered by the Boys' Academy and Girls' sections.

Alex Folkes declared a previously flagged interest in relation to Item 2 (Men's Season Ticket Discussion).

2 Men's Season Ticket Discussion

DISCUSSION

Angus Fox reintroduced two linked topics: the removal of West Stand Central concession season tickets, and the position on unwaged season tickets. Angus acknowledged the West Stand Central decision had effectively been made but stressed the importance of better processes going forward.

James Woodroof confirmed the Men's season ticket structure had been approved by both boards some months earlier, and that no discounts are currently available on new season tickets. The board discussed which board should be responsible for decisions such as removing concessions in West Stand Premium, and the adequacy of the process that led to it. There was agreement the process had not worked as it should.

The discussion turned to unwaged season tickets. James Woodroof noted the club is relatively unusual in offering these, with a couple of hundred in issue, and flagged concern about potential exploitation.

James Woodroof and Luke Stevens left the meeting at 6.45pm.

DECISIONS

- New concessions to go on sale for West Stand Premium, including on a match-by-match basis.
- Unwaged season ticket offering to revert to last season's policy.
- Season ticket pricing process to be reviewed ahead of next year's sale.

CONCERNS RAISED

- The process that led to the removal of concessions in West Stand Premium was not fit for purpose and must be reviewed.
- Removing concession options increases costs for match-by-match supporters and reduces accessibility for new fans.

Note: Redactions have been applied to this item in accordance with the board's publication policy.

3 Approval of Minutes

DISCUSSION

The board reviewed the April board meeting minutes.

DECISION

April board meeting minutes approved, subject to further redactions being applied before publication.

4 DTB Actions List

DISCUSSION

The board reviewed its outstanding actions. Work with the Independent Football Regulator (IFR) is ongoing; both boards are ensuring relevant staff prioritise this as required.

Angus Fox is seeking a meeting with the DTB's IFR case worker to discuss how DTB members will be categorised under the new Owners, Directors and Senior Executives (ODSE) regime. The meeting was due in late May, after which the DTB will need to form a view on the implications.

The board discussed managing the member newsletter more effectively, given delays with recent editions and a lack of clear ownership. Angus also noted the longer-term aim to integrate the Dons Trust website with the club website. James Longhurst confirmed this is likely to progress once a new Membership Manager is in post, with lessons to be learned from the experience with the previous postholder.

ACTION ITEMS

- **Angus Fox:** Meet with Marc Jones (Club) to begin discussions on integrating the DT website with the club website.
- **Angus Fox:** Attend IFR case worker meeting (late May) and report back to the board on ODSE categorisation implications.

Note: Redactions have been applied to this item in accordance with the board's publication policy.

5 Ratification of Email Decisions

DISCUSSION

No email decisions had been made since the previous meeting requiring ratification.

6 Club Board Meeting Summary and Questions

DISCUSSION

Angus Fox updated the board on the April PLC Board meeting and invited questions and comments to take to the May PLC Board meeting, scheduled for the following week. Chris Atkinson had circulated operational questions in advance for passing to relevant club staff.

Angus Fox and Martin Drake offered to participate in a forthcoming deep-dive review of IT costs.

ACTION ITEMS

- **Chris Atkinson:** Pass operational questions to relevant club staff for responses.
- **Angus Fox / Martin Drake:** Participate in the deep-dive review of IT costs.

7 SGM Planning

DISCUSSION

George Jones (Secretary) provided a brief update on planning for the Special General Meeting (SGM).

DECISION

SGM calendar to be confirmed at the July DTB meeting, once the Men's first team fixture list is confirmed.

Note: Redactions have been applied to this item in accordance with the board's publication policy.

8 Dons Trust Finance, Debt and Equity Update

DISCUSSION

Michele Little (Treasurer) updated the board on the Dons Trust's overall financial position and walked through the DT management accounts for March, circulated to board members the previous day.

Michele also provided an update on the reopening of the Plough Lane Bond scheme, including how communications should be targeted to members who had expressed interest in a recent survey.

Michele confirmed the DT budget would be presented to the Club Board the following week, after which it would come to the DTB for approval. The budget must be submitted to the EFL before the end of June.

Michele Little left the meeting at 8.00pm.

DECISIONS

- DT software costs to be reviewed.
- Smart Survey subscription to be cancelled.
- A short-notice DTB meeting to be convened if necessary to approve the budget within the EFL deadline.

ACTION ITEMS

- **Michele Little:** Present DT budget to Club Board; bring to DTB for approval after Club Board sign-off.
- **Secretariat:** Arrange a short-notice DTB meeting if needed to approve the budget before the end of June EFL deadline.

Note: Redactions have been applied to this item in accordance with the board's publication policy.

9 Women's Team

DISCUSSION

Due to a conflict of interest, this item was minuted by the Assistant Secretary separately; those notes are held on file.

In summary, the board held a substantive discussion on the Women's team, covering future budgets, funding arrangements, sponsorship, reporting structures, recruitment matters, and the wider challenges the team currently faces.

> *Note: Redactions have been applied to this item in accordance with the board's publication policy.*

10 Elections

DISCUSSION

James Ledward introduced the papers he had circulated ahead of the meeting. Discussion focused particularly on the approach to uncontested elections, with two options considered: (1) a full election process regardless of whether the election is contested, or (2) a simple confirmation vote at the AGM to ratify the candidate in the event of no contest.

The board also discussed the ESG Chair role. This position will be appointed by the board and approved by members, with the appointed Chair able to recruit ESG members independently.

DECISIONS

- For uncontested elections, the board will proceed with a simple AGM confirmation vote rather than a full election process.
- ESG Chair to be appointed by the DTB and approved by members; the Chair may recruit ESG members independently.
- Job description for the ESG Chair approved.
- Job description for the Independent Scrutineer approved.
- Terms of Reference for the ESG approved.
- Football Supporters' Association (FSA) to be approached to appoint a fresh Independent Scrutineer.

11 Restricted Actions (RA) Review

DISCUSSION

Reece Wheeler-Kelly (Assistant Secretary) presented analysis of the most recent Restricted Actions (RA) process. Reece urged all board members to review the data and highlighted its importance in shaping future RA approaches.

A notable finding: new season ticket members — those who joined the Dons Trust through purchasing a season ticket — achieved a voter turnout of 51%, which the board considered a significant achievement. Other member groups recorded approximately 66% turnout.

The board also discussed approaches to re-engaging members whose email addresses had bounced during the RA process.

ACTION ITEMS

- **All board members:** Review the RA turnout data circulated by Reece Wheeler-Kelly.
- **Secretariat:** Explore options for contacting members whose emails bounced during the RA process.

CONCERNS RAISED

The board noted the importance of improving re-engagement strategies for members who did not receive RA communications due to bounced emails.

Note: Redactions have been applied to this item in accordance with the board's publication policy.

12 DTB Standing Orders and Ways of Working

DISCUSSION

James Ledward introduced the paper he had circulated on DTB Standing Orders and Ways of Working. The board reviewed the proposed amendments.

DECISIONS

- Proposed changes to DTB Standing Orders and Ways of Working agreed.
- Revised document to be circulated to all board members by email for ratification.
- Once ratified, updated document to be published on the website.

13 Discord Update

DISCUSSION

Reece Wheeler-Kelly reminded the board that the Dons Trust Discord server is due to close at the end of May. Reece outlined the closure process and confirmed the platform will remain live in read-only/archive mode — consistent with the approach taken with the legacy ProBoards forum.

DECISION

A public communications calendar to be developed to support planned, consistent member engagement going forward.

14 Secretariat Support

DISCUSSION

Reece Wheeler-Kelly left the room for this item.

George Jones (Secretary) informed the board that Reece Wheeler-Kelly is planning to step down from the role of Assistant Secretary in June. George recommended conducting a full review of secretariat support needs and how the function can be improved, before presenting recommendations to the board. The board agreed a board member should be included in that review.

The board agreed Reece should be thanked for his significant contributions and offered a place in the Board Room for an upcoming home match. George confirmed he will prepare the job advert for the vacancy.

The board expressed sincere thanks to Reece for his hard work and dedication.

Reece Wheeler-Kelly rejoined the meeting.

DECISIONS

- George Jones to conduct a review of secretariat support requirements and present a paper to the DTB at the June meeting covering structure and additional resource needs.
- A board member to be included in the secretariat review discussion.
- Reece Wheeler-Kelly to be thanked for his service and offered a place in the Board Room for an upcoming home match.
- George Jones to prepare the job advert for the Assistant Secretary vacancy.

ACTION ITEMS

- **George Jones:** Conduct secretariat review; present paper to June board meeting covering structure and support needs.
- **George Jones:** Prepare job advert for the Assistant Secretary vacancy.

15 Constitution Update

DISCUSSION

James Ledward updated the board on the Dons Trust constitution. The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) had responded to the previous submission with three minor change requests. In James' view, these changes can be implemented without a member vote, as they codify existing practice and do not represent substantive changes.

> **DECISIONS**
> - The three minor FCA-requested changes to the constitution to be implemented.
> - Board to approve the final resubmission to the FCA before it is submitted.

16 Any Other Business

> *Note: Redactions have been applied to this item in accordance with the board's publication policy.*

17 Closed Session

DISCUSSION

A closed session took place at the end of the meeting. The secretariat left the room at 9.20pm. No record of closed session discussions is included in these published minutes.

DECISIONS & ACTION ITEMS — SUMMARY

The following table provides a consolidated reference of all decisions and action items agreed at this meeting.

#	Item	Decision / Action	Owner
2	Season Tickets	New concessions to go on sale for West Stand Premium (incl. match-by-match). Season ticket pricing process to be reviewed for next year.	Board / Club
2	Season Tickets	Unwaged season tickets to revert to last season's offering and policy.	Club
3	Minutes	April minutes approved subject to further redactions.	Secretariat
4	Actions List	**ACTION** — Angus Fox to meet Marc Jones (Club) to begin DT/club website integration discussions.	Angus Fox
4	Actions List	**ACTION** — Angus Fox to attend IFR case worker meeting (late May) and report back on ODSE categorisation.	Angus Fox
6	Club Board	**ACTION** — Chris Atkinson to pass operational questions to relevant club staff.	Chris Atkinson
6	Club Board	**ACTION** — Angus Fox / Martin Drake to participate in deep-dive review of IT costs.	Angus Fox / Martin Drake
7	SGM Planning	SGM calendar to be confirmed at the July DTB meeting once Men's fixtures are confirmed.	Secretariat
8	DT Finance	DT software costs to be reviewed. Smart Survey subscription to be cancelled.	Michele Little
8	DT Finance	Short-notice DTB meeting to be arranged if needed to approve budget before EFL deadline.	Secretariat
8	DT Finance	**ACTION** — Michele Little to present DT budget to Club Board; bring to DTB for approval after Club Board sign-off.	Michele Little
10	Elections	Uncontested elections: simple AGM confirmation vote agreed (not full election process).	James Ledward
10	Elections	ESG Chair: appointed by DTB, approved by members; Chair may recruit ESG members independently. JD for ESG Chair, Independent Scrutineer JD, and ESG ToR all approved. FSA to be approached for new Independent Scrutineer.	James Ledward
11	RA Review	**ACTION** — All board members to review RA turnout data circulated by Reece Wheeler-Kelly.	All Board Members
11	RA Review	**ACTION** — Secretariat to explore options for re-contacting members with bounced emails.	Secretariat
12	Standing Orders	Proposed changes agreed; to be circulated by email for ratification, then published to members.	James Ledward
13	Discord	Public communications calendar to be developed for consistent member engagement.	Secretariat
14	Secretariat	George Jones to review secretariat support needs; present paper at June DTB meeting. Job advert for Asst. Secretary to be prepared.	George Jones

#	Item	Decision / Action	Owner
		Reece Wheeler-Kelly to receive Board Room invite for an upcoming home match.	
15	Constitution	Three minor FCA changes to be implemented. Board to approve final resubmission to the FCA before it is sent.	James Ledward