

# EVERTON FAN ADVISORY BOARD

## Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 11 April 2023  
**Time:** 6pm  
**Location:** Online (via Zoom)

<b>Attendees:</b>	<b>Position/Role:</b>
Jazz Bal (JB)	Chair – Fan elected
Julie Clarke (JC)	Secretary – Fan elected
Julie Makin (JM)	Member – Everton Women Supporters’ Club (EWSC)
Richie Gillham (RG)	Member – Everton Heritage Society (EHS)
Tony Sampson (TS)	Member – Everton Fans’ Forum (EFF)
Helge Grunnevag (HG)	Member – International Supporters’ Club Network (ISCN)
Ken Sweeney (KS)	Member – Everton Supporters’ Club Committee (SCC)

**Apologies for absence:**

Dave Kelly (DK)	Vice-Chair – Fan elected
Tony Whittaker (TW)	Member – Fan elected
Keith Done (KD)	Member – Everton Disabled Supporters’ Association (EDSA)

Item:	Discussion:	Action
1	<b>Chair’s introduction</b> JB welcomed the FAB members to the meeting	
2	<b>Minutes of the last meeting</b> A vote was held to accept the minutes as accurate. Proposed by JM, seconded by KS and voted as accepted.	
3	<b>Declaration of AOB</b> Items to be discussed which are <i>not</i> included in the agenda. RG, DK and JC all declared for items to be discussed in item 9	
4	<b>Matters arising from minutes of the last meeting</b> <u>Directly-elected Members Visiting Reserve Groups:</u> DK attended a meeting of the EHS and this now completed the series of visits by all directly-elected members. Closed  <u>ISCN Difficulties Holding Meetings to Discuss Boundaries:</u> JB informed all that he had proposed a plan for HG, detailing one way to carry out the required engagement. HG Reported that he had spoken to TS and Justin Bradstreet, of the J-PAC supporters’ region, based in Australia by phone, with a view to holding a meeting and will come back with an agreed date. Ongoing  <u>EFC Mobile App Not Including Everton Women Players Within Favourite Player Section:</u>	HG

	<p>JM has still not heard anything back from the club, in response to concerns raised over the App not featuring a player from the women’s team; adding that it will be unlikely for the change to be made prior to next season. Ongoing</p> <p><u>Away Travel to Everton Women’s Matches:</u> Alan McTavish has not responded to the EWSC on an undertaking to run a pilot scheme to help travelling fans to women’s games. JB said he had briefly spoken to him at Walton Hall Park and he said that he was hopeful that it will take place this season. Ongoing</p> <p><u>Provision of a Budget for FAB Activities:</u> JC is drafting the amended proposal and will present it to the FAB at the next meeting, in readiness for the final FAB/Club meeting of the season, in May. Ongoing</p> <p><u>AOB at FAB/Club Meetings:</u> EFC Shareholder Association meetings was raised, discussed and captured within the committee summary of the FAB/EFC meeting. Closed</p> <p><u>Terms of Reference – Invitation for Comments:</u> JB received comments and requested amendments by e-mail and the matter will be discussed in item 5. Closed</p> <p><u>NSNOW Meeting:</u> The protest meeting arranged by NSNOW, previously schedule for 25 March has been rearranged for 13 April. Due to the change, JB can no longer attend. DK is due to attend as a representative of the Shareholders’ Association and will also represent the FAB, if other members are unable to attend. JM and RG will check their availability and will attend if they are able to. Ongoing</p> <p><u>FAB Communications Sub-committee Meeting Postponement:</u> TS reported that the meeting, due to be held on 30 March, had to be postponed, due to the re-arranged FAB/Club meeting on 31 March and lack of availability of participants for two consecutive evenings. He will arrange an alternative date and will liaise with committee members. Ongoing</p> <p><u>FAB Recruitment:</u> A sub-committee was formed and held an initial meeting. Closed.</p> <p><u>Joint FAB/Club meeting:</u> JB reported that he had spoken to the club, following requests made at the last FAB meeting. A proposed start time change, from 4pm until 5pm was made. He also made clear that the FAB expected the attendance of an Executive Director. Closed.</p>	<p>JM</p> <p>JM</p> <p>JC</p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p>DK/JM/RG</p> <p>TS</p>
5	<p><b>Chair’s Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JB shared the comments made about the Terms of Reference. The FAB discussed and agreed the amendments to be made. JB will make the required changes and share the final copy, with the FAB, for the 2023-24 season.</li> <li>• JB informed FAB members that he had met with his Leeds and Brighton counterparts; and updated the FAB on those discussions.</li> <li>• JB updated the FAB about the training that the Football Supporters’ Association (FSA). He had currently attended 1 (of 4) of the training sessions and feels there will be benefit in attending the remainder. JB also updated the FAB that the FSA Annual General Meeting is scheduled on 24 Jun in Manchester; and he will be attending.</li> </ul>	<p>JB</p> <p>JB</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JB had undertaken to write a letter to EFC CEO and read out his draft, which included disappointment about the FAB/Club's meetings being re-arranged at short notice and the lack of presence from the EFC Board of Directors, pointing out that the FAB was not told until the March meeting was due to begin, at 5pm TS asked whether it had been acknowledged. JB confirmed it had not but that it was only e-mailed the day before and he said he would let the FAB know if he receives a response.</li> </ul>	JB
6	<p><b>Reserved group updates</b></p> <p><b>EFF:</b> TS reported from the last EFF meeting, where the PL Engagement Standard had been discussed. A short plan is being prepared by the Club. He had asked whether the Club would offer an opportunity for the fanbase to liaise on the matter and said that the Club thinks it would be a good idea and will revert. He had been asked by members of the EFF and the FAB to request feedback from the Club on the seat transition process, in readiness for the move to BMD. The Club are planning to carry out a series of surveys and will not bring out any more information until after that. JC asked for Club to give a timeframe for information to be given and asked how many surveys they planned and when they would be completed. She said that fans needed to have some assurance about 'like-for-like' seating and the ability to sit with family and friends. She asked that if the Club could not answer that, could it then be added to the agenda for next FAB/Club meeting.</p> <p><b>EHS:</b> RG reported that they had hosted an event in March to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Everton Ladies league championship win in the 1997/98 season and held a team reunion. It was a very successful night and the Club worked hard to make it happen. JM thanked RG and the EHS for all their hard work on the night. He confirmed that EHS are now affiliated FSA members. He thanked DK for attending the last EHS meeting. He has been working with the Club to set up a Podcast and a date will be confirmed shortly. The group has requested that the Club introduces Everton Cork AFC (1958) into their affiliate programme. The EHS has been working with a long-standing EFC season ticket holder, who has been in Moldova over the past year at a refugee camp set up for Ukrainian women and children, to send out some kit. A collection has been started.</p> <p><b>EWSC:</b> JM reported that the group had created a 'GoFundMe' page to buy an 'Everton Way' stone at the BMD stadium, which has successfully raised enough to purchase one. RG suggested there may be merit using GoFundMe to pay for women's game travel, which had been discussed at earlier meetings. JM said that they are doing so to pay for flags at the moment. JC said that the EWSC raising money by charitable methods, should it become necessary, to help facilitate much-needed travel to support our women's team, particularly for young girls, would shame our Club, considering what other clubs are doing to support their women's team followers and so she hoped the club would respond to our repeated requests sooner, rather than later. JC also asked about the rearrangement, if there is to be one, of the women's away game to Chelsea in May, which will clash with the Coronation. JM said that nothing had yet been arranged and that the EWSC were still waiting to hear about arrangements for the Arsenal game.</p> <p><b>EDSA:</b> KD had sent apologies and said, since there had not been a meeting of EDSA since the last FAB meeting, there was nothing to report.</p> <p><b>SCC:</b> KS reported that the SCC is now an associate member of the FSA and said other supporters' clubs have been encouraged to join. He reported that he had received a follow-up from Phil O'Rourke, about a letter sent to the Club asking for</p>	

	<p>help with the cost of the away game to Brighton. The Club said there will be a response shortly.</p> <p><b>ISCN:</b> HG Reported that he is due to have a meeting next week to discuss an issue that the ISCN may need help from the FAB with. He will consult with TS and JB.</p>	
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Elected member updates</b></p> <p>DK had sent apologies for his absence but had reported via JB that he had attended the EHS and his presentation had been well-received. He had also asked about who would attend the NSNOW meeting on 13 April (see item 4).</p> <p>JC reported that she had made some requested amendments to the FAB ring-fenced budget proposal and would present it at the next meeting, prior to the May FAB/Club meeting. She said that she still not had a response from Alan McTavish, after requesting (in JM's absence) help with women's game travel and would now pass on contact details to JM, for her to follow-up. She has been working with the EHS to try to arrange to have some kit sent to Ukrainian child refugees at a camp in Moldova, where a fellow season ticket holder works and has spoken to the children about Vitalii Mykolenko, who they know plays for Everton. She said she had heard back from Kevin Thelwell, after she had been prevented from putting questions to him at the FAB/Club meeting due to technical difficulties. She appreciated the fact that he had got back and had been able to send her questions in writing, which had now been answered.</p> <p>TW had sent apologies, due to illness, and had not been able to submit a written report.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Sub Committee Updates</b></p> <p><u>FAB Communications:</u> TS spoke about the negative responses on social media to the posting about the Club's lack of engagement at FAB meetings, in terms of commitment to presenting senior Board members and cancellations or postponements of meetings at very short notice. JC and RG agreed and thought it displayed a lack of respect for the FAB and a lack of understanding about what the wider fanbase rightly expect in terms of engagement between the FAB and the Club. TS will be calling a Communications meeting shortly.</p> <p><u>FAB Representation at Club Board Meetings:</u> JB said there was nothing further to report since this had been discussed at the previous FAB/EFC meeting on 31 March. Ongoing.</p> <p><u>FAB Recruitment:</u> JB said the subcommittee had met on 27 March and reviewed the UK Engage-verified process used last year. He then presented the process to be used for the 2023/24 season recruitment. This process was proposed by KS, seconded by RG and agreed by all FAB members in attendance. JB is to present the process to EFC.</p> <p><u>FAB Women's Game Working Group:</u> The subcommittee is awaiting feedback regarding the trial away travel and fixture announcements over the Coronation weekend. RG said that they are considering a separate Hall of Fame for the Everton Women's players.</p>	<p>TS</p> <p>JB</p>
<b>9</b>	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>DK had suggested to JB that there should be a wreath laid for the anniversary of the Hillsborough disaster, which would be marked at Goodison before the Fulham game</p>	

	<p>on 15 April. JB added that ideally, all member organisations of the FAB would be represented and agreed to propose this to the Club.</p> <p>RG said that the Club responses to e-mails and enquiries from the FAB are poor, often late and sometimes there is no response at all. He said they should be more timely and JB has agreed to take the matter to Club.</p>	<p>JB</p> <p>JB</p>
<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>Date/location of next meeting</b> The next virtual meeting was agreed to be Tuesday 9 May 2023, 6pm – 8pm</p>	