

# EVERTON FAN ADVISORY BOARD

## Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 19 March 2024  
**Time:** 6pm  
**Location:** Online (via Teams)

<b>Attendees:</b>	<b>Position/Role:</b>
Dave Kelly (DK)	Chair – Fan elected
Tony Sampson (TS)	Vice-Chair – International Supporters’ Club Network
Julie Clarke (JC)	Secretary – Fan elected
Andy Vernon (AV)	Member – Everton Fans’ Forum (EFF)
Julie Makin (JM)	Member – Everton Women Supporters’ Club (EWSC)
Ken Sweeney (KS)	Member – Everton Supporters’ Club Committee (SCC)
Paul McMonnies (PM)	Member – Football Supporters’ Association (FSA)
Paul Rigby (PR)	Member – Fan elected
<b>Apologies for absence:</b>	
Richie Gillham (RG)	Member – Everton Heritage Society (EHS)
Scott McAllister (SM)	Member – Fan elected

Item:	Discussion:	Action
<b>1</b>	<p><b>Chair’s introduction</b>            DK announced that Keith Done (elected EDSA representative) had stepped down from the FAB, for personal reasons and that he would like to thank him, on behalf of the FAB, for having committed to it under difficult circumstances in the past year. Keith’s deputy, Amy Wilson, is likely to be in place at our next meeting, representing EDSA.</p>	
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Minutes of the last meeting</b>            A vote was held to accept the minutes as accurate.            Proposed by KS, seconded by JM and voted as accepted. PM will post the minutes to the FAB website.</p>	PM
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Declaration of AOB</b>            None declared.</p>	
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Matters arising from minutes of the last meeting</b>            RG to provide details of requests he’d had from supporters in the Caribbean and New Zealand to TS. Closed.             JC to follow up on Club’s offer to assist with away travel for women’s game travel.            Closed.</p>	
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Chair’s Update</b>            DK said he would like to place on record the work done by JC and TS in preparing an Impact Statement, which was presented to the Club and the Premier League (PL), with</p>	

	<p>a request that it be used in the upcoming PL Commission hearing of the 2<sup>nd</sup> charged laid against the Club under PSR rules.</p> <p>He reported that he had been invited to a meeting at Wembley next week, along with FAB Chairs from other PL clubs. He confirmed that JC would be attending with him.</p> <p>He thanked PM for putting together the FAB's first public podcast and looked forward to more in the future, asking the FAB to identify prospective guests.</p>	All
6	<p><b>Reserved group updates</b></p> <p><b>EFF:</b> AV reported that the EFF had met on 6 March and had discussed ticketing, the season ticket waiting list and charges laid against the Club under the PL PSR rules. He had also been asked about ticketing problems, where fans were delayed entering the Etihad stadium for the Manchester City game. One of the reasons put forward was that some fans had not downloaded tickets onto their phone prior to the game and instead attempted to download in the queue, which caused delays. The EFF asked for better communications from the Club prior to the game, urging fans to download their tickets well in advance. The subject of merchandising was discussed and the EFF noted their dissatisfaction that the new 'Shamrock' shirt, publicised by, and celebrating Seamus Coleman's long association with the Club is not available in Ireland. Fans had expressed their disappointment in this and the EFF said that the supplier, Fanatics, was failing fans in Ireland.</p> <p><b>SCC:</b> KS reported that subjects discussed at the last SCC included the transition from Goodison Park (GP) to Bramley-Moore Dock (BMD). The Club are expecting a very high take-up of season ticket renewals for the final season at GP. The SCC are concerned at the lateness of the release of away tickets, which causes a lot of problems for travelling supporter clubs. A lack of communication means that travel club organisers are unable to give enough notice to those hoping to attend, who may need to make arrangements for time off work, There have also been issues with fans being told they do not have enough credits, forcing their supporter clubs to have to prove that they have attended. Another problem is late changes to fixtures. JC asked what the current rules were around notice periods for changes. The Club asks fans not to book travel if a game is more than six weeks' away, but the SCC believes this will change to five weeks.</p> <p><b>EWSC:</b> JM reported that the EWSC are in the process of arranging the election to vote in a representative to sit on the FAB.</p> <p><b>EHS:</b> Since RG had sent apologies, his report was read out by JC. The George farmer rededication will be held at Anfield cemetery on 23 March at 11:45, with an open invitation. Parking is available at the park end stand car park and there will be a buffet available afterwards, at St Luke's with the 'Mighty George Farmer Group' singing their old and new songs. At the last EHS meeting, there was a discussion about the third kit marketing and the last season at Goodison branding. A podcast about the link to the third kit is planned and the Society is in the process of writing a book about Goodison history. They will be holding a Kitaid session for boxing up during the 12 October international weekend, at St Luke's, and have asked for volunteers to help.</p> <p><b>ISCN:</b> TS reported that, following requests from international supporter groups for regular meetings, there will be three international fan engagement sessions on Wednesday 27 March, across the three time zones of Asia Pacific (including Australia and New Zealand), Europe and the Americas. All FAB members are invited and the times will be confirmed in the next couple of days.</p>	

	<p><b>FSA:</b> PR reported that he is communicating with the FSA, regarding the Club’s appeal against the 10-point deduction and is asking for their support in highlighting the disproportionality of the sanction. He awaits a response. The FSA reports that Tottenham Hotspur fans are strident in their views on the impact on senior supporters, in light of Spurs’ plans to dispense with concessions in ticket prices. TS said that Everton are considering dispensing with the practice of giving free season tickets to seniors over the age of 90. JC asked how many such members there were and TS said he had been told there were over 100. DK said that, in the scheme of things, this was an extremely small sum to take such an unpopular decision about and that the FAB should oppose this, as there has been no consultation on the matter. JC said we should include the matter on the agenda with the season’s final Club meeting in May.</p> <p><b>EDSA:</b> No report this month, due to resignation.</p>	
7	<p><b>Elected member updates</b></p> <p><b>JC</b> said she had been busy working on the impact statement, intended to be presented to the Club and the PL prior to the second PSR hearing and would talk about this more when she reported on the Appeals working group item, but thanked TS for taking over the task when she went away on holiday. Due to her holiday, there was little else to report.</p> <p><b>PR</b> said he had been engaged with developing a reporting and performance structure and would discuss more in the business and technology subcommittee report.</p>	
8	<p><b>Sub Committee Updates</b></p> <p><u><i>FAB Communications Subcommittee:</i></u>  PM reported that there had been a positive response from fans to the work we are doing, including our drop-in sessions and the things we have done to highlight the issues presented by the PL Sanctions processes. FAB and fan representatives from visiting teams continue to be welcomed at the drop-in sessions before home games and PM has spoken to other FAB/fan groups, including Nottingham Forest, Brighton and West Ham. The first FAB podcast has been recorded and features an interview with Kieran Maguire and will be posted on the FAB YouTube channel. PM is currently working on graphics and music for future Podcasts, plus an audio version. He has spoken to the Club about advice on the use of a proposed logo. PM hopes to arrange a drop-in session prior to the women’s derby game with Liverpool FC at Goodison Park.</p> <p><u><i>FAB Women’s Game Subcommittee:</i></u>  JM reported that she had followed up on the Club’s offer to encourage travel to away games for the women’s team. She had spoken to the Club, with a view to their organising a coach and had spoken to JM, who is now in contact with the Club to make arrangements for the Brighton game.</p> <p><u><i>Business and Technology Subcommittee:</i></u>  PR reported that he had been working on a balanced score card, with a view to developing a reporting structure on the performance of the Club. He has made the document available to other FAB members online but will continue to develop it.</p> <p><u><i>Working Group: PL PSR sanctions, responses and appeals:</i></u>  JC reported that she had drafted an Impact Statement, to be presented to the Club and the PL prior to the second PSR hearing and had then passed the draft to TS, while she was away on holiday, who had expanded on it and worked hard with other FAB members to build on it. The Comms Team then worked on a strategy to distribute and publicise the document, keeping fans updated on the work we were doing to highlight the predicament the FAB feels the PL are unfairly placing the Club in.</p>	<p>PM</p> <p>JM</p> <p>PR</p>

9	<p><b>Recruitment to the FAB for next season</b></p> <p>JC said that the recruitment process needs to start shortly and explained that the places available for election (given the staggered appointment system adopted in 2022/23) would be 1 x open election, with a 3-year tenure, for a position which must be held by a shareholder and 1 x open election, with a 1-year tenure, for a position which must be held by an FSA member. She had spoken to former Chair, Jazz Bal, who had run both the 2022 and 2023 elections, as well as being a founder member of the Everton Stakeholder Steering Group (ESSG) prior to that and he was providing assistance to help in this year's election. Dates needed to be agreed and she would report back at the next meeting. She reminded members of representative groups that they needed to ensure processes were in hand to elect a member to represent those groups on the FAB. She asked FAB members who were not planning to re-stand if they would like to volunteer to be on the recruitment working group.</p>	JC
10	<p><b>Discussion on the Proposed Club Takeover</b></p> <p>A discussion followed on the apparent stalemate of the proposed takeover process and the lack of information being made available. Members of the FAB determined a course of action to include writing letters to the owner, the proposed investors (777) and the PL, to ask for updates and explanations for the delay in progress. Members of the Comms subcommittee will work on drafting letters for approval and a strategy for distribution and notification to fans will be agreed.</p>	Comms All
11	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>None</p>	
12	<p><b>Date/location of next meeting</b></p> <p>The next virtual meeting was agreed to be Tuesday 16 April, 6pm – 8pm</p>	