

EVERTON FAN ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 9 July 2024
Time: 6pm
Location: Online (via Teams)

Attendees:	Position/Role:
Dave Kelly (DK)	Chair – Fan elected
Tony Sampson (TS)	Vice-Chair – International Supporters’ Club Network (ISCN)
Julie Clarke (JC)	Secretary – Fan elected
Richie Gillham (RG)	Member – Everton Heritage Society (EHS)
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)
Sarah Twigg (SW)	Member – Everton Fans’ Forum (EFF)
Paul Rigby (PR)	Member – Fan elected
Mark McKeown (MM)	Member – Fan elected

Apologies for absence:
 Amy Wilson (AW) Member – Everton Disabled Supporters’ Association (EDSA)

Item:	Discussion:	Action
1	<p>Chair’s introduction</p> <p><i>[Note: for the purposes of this meeting, the incumbent Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary assumed the position of Interim Officers, pending Officer elections in item 9]</i></p> <p>DK welcomed two new members to the FAB, SW and MM for this season and invited them to introduce themselves to the rest of the group.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the last meeting</p> <p>A vote was held to accept the minutes as accurate. Proposed by PR, seconded by RG and voted as accepted. PM will post the minutes to the FAB website.</p>	
3	<p>Declaration of AOB</p> <p>TS declared one item and RG declared one item.</p>	
4	<p>Matters arising from minutes of the last meeting</p> <p><u>FSA Survey on PL FABs Progress:</u> TS was to consult with the FAB in order to respond to a survey being carried out by the FSA on the status of FABs in the Premier League (PL). Ongoing.</p> <p><u>Club assistance in facilitating an overseas fan groups’ meeting:</u> TS was to speak to the Club regarding them providing facilities of an in-person meeting with overseas supporter clubs’ members. Ongoing.</p>	

	<p><u>Women's Game Ambassador:</u> RG to liaise with the Club on whether a former women's team player could be made an ambassador on match days at Goodison Park and to chase up the Club's reported consideration of a women's team Hall of Fame event. Ongoing</p>	
5	<p>Chair's Update DK thanked JC and PR for their work on the election process for new members for the 2024-25 season. He said he had attended a Merseyside Police footballing group meeting the previous week and the subject of tragedy and homophobic chanting was discussed. The police reported a raise in the number of arrests for attempts to take drugs into the ground. KS said that the majority of arrests outside Goodison Park and away grounds last season was drug-related. Both the SCC and the EFF said that they play an active role in encouraging good behaviour by all fans and it was agreed that the FAB should discuss being proactive in communicating to fans the consequences of hate chanting and drug use in and around the ground on match days.</p>	ALL
6	<p>Reserved group updates EDSA: Apologies had been received from AW, so the EDSA report was read out by JC: No dates have yet been scheduled for the next meeting with the design team over accessibility matters at the new stadium. The vacant Disability Access Officer (DAO) role has been readvertised and EDSA is awaiting further news on the second stage of the process. EDSA has launched a recruitment process for two new members to join the committee and will be doing some promotion on social media in the coming days. Plans for the Christmas Market event are ongoing, but it is likely to be held on the day of the Brentford match on November 23, subject to no changes for TV broadcasting purposes.</p> <p>ISCN: TS reported that, following a succession of global online engagement meetings surrounding the PSR issues it has now been agreed that such meetings should be held regularly to enhance overseas groups' involvement and experiences and to allow them to meet each other, as well as FAB members. TS has been speaking with the Fair Game group about the Football Governance Bill and will continue to do so, as the Bill passes through the new Parliament. The FAB would like the Bill to include the independence of Fan Advisory Boards. RG asked whether there was any update on the issue of the Club's liaison with supporter Clubs in Africa. TS will speak to the Club and report back.</p> <p>EHS: RG reported that the next meeting of the EHS will be in July, when the question of the space or facilities at Bramley-Moore Dock (BMD) for the Society's collection and activities will be discussed. He will report back at the August meeting. RG said that the EHS had recently been given access to Prince Rupert's Tower, during an "Everton FC in Everton" day, when fans who attended were also able to go inside the tower. The EHS has been liaising with the Preston North End Community Team, ahead of the pre-season friendly and, in particular, discussed two 19th century players, who played for both clubs; Bob Howarth and William Stewart, who went on to captain Everton.</p> <p>EFF: ST reported that the EFF held their last meeting on 26 June, where they were shown an example of a final season commemorative pack. They also discussed the upcoming new kit from Castore and how the kit would be distributed. The EFF believes it is important that the kit is made available at the same time throughout stores in the UK and the Republic of Ireland and this has not been the case recently. The meeting discussed pre-season friendlies and when all dates would be released. The away game fan guides are generally considered useful, although some new ideas were put forward for consideration. The EFF project groups are under review at the moment. The EFF are recruiting new members and the application process opened on 4 July. ST confirmed that an election for the Chair and Vice-Chair of the EFF had taken place, when Rob Fisher was elected Chair, with Jeff Wallner and ST elected joint Vice-Chairs.</p>	TS

	<p>EWSC: JM reported that there had been no meeting of the EWSC in the past month, due to the FAB election process and so there was nothing to report.</p> <p>SCC: There was no report from the SCC, due to non-attendance.</p>	
7	<p>Elected member updates</p> <p>JC said that much of her time had been taken up with the election process and that she had taken over the Communications role, pending the elections, with a subsequent vote for a season 2024-25 Communications Lead, so she'd had a very busy month. She said she wanted to thank the FSA for overseeing the election process and put on record her thanks to the FAB's former Chair, Jazz Bal, who successfully ran the two previous elections, for his help and advice. She said it was her intention to attend as many pre-season fixtures as possible but was concerned at the lateness of some of the announcements. She said she would be attending the FSA AGM at Wembley Stadium on 20 July, representing the FAB and that she would be reporting back to the FAB</p> <p>PR said that he had made an application for election onto the National Council of the FSA and would be grateful for members who were in touch with other Affiliated or Associated groups to help canvass on his behalf. He said that he had noted some very positive motions which had been submitted, especially from the Wolves 1877 Trust and Spirit of Shankly.</p> <p>MM said that, as he was attending his first meeting, he was interested to learn the format and would prepare a report for his next meeting.</p>	JC
8	<p>Subcommittee Votes</p> <p>There were votes to retain and, if retained, to vote in Leads for: FAB Communications: Voted to retain and PM was duly voted in as Lead FAB Business & Finance: Voted to retain and PR was duly voted in as Lead FAB Women's Game: Voted to retain. Lead to be advised.</p>	
9	<p>Election of Officers</p> <p>This process was chaired by PR, who was not standing for an Officer role. Nominations were received for the following: Chair: DK accepted the nominations and was duly voted in unanimously. Vice-Chair: TS accepted the nominations and was duly voted in unanimously. Secretary: JC accepted the nominations and was duly voted in unanimously.</p>	
10	<p>Priorities for FAB business in season 2024-25</p> <p>The proposed priorities had been distributed with the agenda for the meeting. Both the Terms of Reference and the Constitution are to be reviewed by the FAB and had been included with the agenda for the meeting.</p> <p>JC asked FAB members to review the documents provided, with a view to discussing them at the August meeting (time allowing), or the September meeting, but said this must be a priority, as last year's reviews were postponed as a result of the proposed takeover of the Club.</p> <p>The review of the Memorandum of Understanding will need to be reviewed with the Club shortly and JC will liaise with the Club and revert to the FAB prior to the Club meeting.</p> <p>JC said that she was still planning to produce a skills matrix, detailing the skills, experience and expertise of FAB members, so that they could use this information when agreeing and working on priorities. She said it was important that the FAB should, wherever possible, utilise subject matter expertise within the FAB prior to seeking external intervention.</p>	JC JC

<p>11</p>	<p>Upcoming quarterly meeting with the Club No date has yet been set, but JC said she was speaking to the Club about possible dates and would revert to ensure FAB members were available. She asked for proposed agenda items to be forwarded to her, copying in DK and TS.</p>	<p>JC ALL</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>AOB RG said he was concerned that when Clubs experience a takeover, some people who have worked with the Club for many years and are a point of contact with the fan base can be lost. He suggested we make such concerns known to the Club during the current takeover negotiations and reiterate the importance of continuity in fan engagement. TS said that the FAB had written to the Club, asking whether the current bidders wishing to take over the Club were aware of the FAB and its activities and had asked for a meeting with them, or any or subsequent bidders.</p>	
<p>13</p>	<p>Date/location of next meeting The next virtual meeting was agreed to be Tuesday 13 August 2024, 6pm – 8pm</p>	