

# EVERTON FAN ADVISORY BOARD

## Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Tuesday 13 August 2024  
**Time:** 6pm  
**Location:** Online (via Teams)

<b>Attendees:</b>	<b>Position/Role:</b>
Dave Kelly (DK)	Chair – Fan elected
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:**  
 Tony Sampson (TS) Vice-Chair – International Supporters’ Club Network (ISCN)

Item:	Discussion:	Action
1	<b>Chair’s introduction</b> DK welcomed members to the meeting and confirmed apologies had been accepted from TS.	
2	<b>Minutes of the last meeting</b> A vote was held to accept the minutes as accurate. Proposed by PM, seconded by MM and voted as accepted. PM will post the minutes to the FAB website.	PM
3	<b>Declarations of AOB</b> JC declared two items, PM declared 2 items, RG declared 1 item	
4	<b>Matters arising from minutes of the last meeting</b> <u>Heritage facilities Bramley-Moore Dock (BMD):</u> RG has spoken to the Club about the possibility of facilities to house the EHS exhibits at the new stadium. Ongoing.	
5	<b>Chair’s Update</b> DK reported that he had attended a Sports Ground Safety Committee meeting last week, where the re-certification of the season’s ground safety certificate was discussed, as well as a series of test events prior to the opening of BMD. There is to be a remembrance service this week, on the first anniversary of the passing of Michael Jones on the BMD construction site and DK will attend to represent the FAB. He said he was sorry to report that the anticipated matchday cafes, run by Homebaked at St Luke’s would not now be possible due to the work that needs to be carried out to the building.	

<p>6</p>	<p><b>Reserved group updates</b></p> <p><b>EDSA:</b> AW reported that two new members, Claire Miller and Phil Peel had joined the EDSA committee and would attend their first meeting in September. There are ongoing discussions with the Club, about issuing paper tickets to disabled members, particularly wheelchair users. There are concerns that Southampton FC have re-located the area used by away fans, into the corner of the ground, and this has reduced the number of wheelchair spaces. The matter will be discussed at the next EDSA meeting. AW reported that a replacement DAO has yet to be appointed at the Club.</p> <p><b>EFF:</b> ST reported that the last meeting of the EFF was on 31 July, where they discussed fielding several questions about the new ticketing rules and credits. They have also received questions about the resale platform and from international supporters, asking how they were now going to obtain tickets. They have asked the Club to provide an FAQ, which they can publish and direct fans to. They have directed concerns about kit distribution and quality to the Club. The EFF continues to review their project groups, with discussions about bringing in representatives from other supporter groups. The election to recruit four new members is progressing and will close on 22 September.</p> <p><b>SCC:</b> KS reported on his meeting with Merseyside Police footballing division and about discussions on arrangements for travelling fans. They have spoken to the Club about the new ticketing arrangements and requested that more tiers be introduced, recognising the attendance of regular match-goers. They also discussed the timeframe for allocation of season tickets at BMD. SCC members report concerns from fans about fraudulent PDF tickets and problems with accessing grounds using digital tickets.</p> <p><b>EWSC:</b> JM reported that, following a recent meeting, the EWSC has set up two subcommittees and are working on improving fans' experience at Walton Hall Park (WHP), including publishing a songbook. They are concerned that the Club has stopped the practice of men's game season ticket holders being able to attend matches at WHP, as part of their season ticket cost, without any consultation. This will undoubtedly affect attendance, which is concerning, as the WSL licensing agreement proscribes a minimum attendance. The EWSC would still like to have the opportunity to hold meetings with the Club, as other fan groups do. They are not happy that the Club hasn't allowed this, on the basis that they are members of the SCC, as this does not afford them the opportunity for meaningful direct engagement with the Club and JM reminded the FAB that there is only one single women's supporter club throughout the whole country for Everton. JC said she would add this to the agenda for the next FAB/Club meeting. KS asked whether the Comms subcommittee could do more to publicise the women's team and their upcoming matches.</p> <p><b>EHS:</b> RG reported that the EHS will hold their AGM next week, where officer elections will take place and he will report back with results. The EHS continue to hold discussions with the Club about final season commemorative events and kits, although they are disappointed there is still no progress on heritage facilities at BMD. More than 500 books were collected at St Luke's, before the first home game, to replenish those lost at the Spellow Community Library during recent public disorder and damage to the building. The Rainbow Toffees Awards evening organisers have extended an invite, through the EHS on 23 August. DK said the Fans Supporting Foodbanks van had also taken donations of books and suggested they deliver them together, using the foodbank vans.</p> <p><b>EFSA:</b> PR reported that he had been voted onto the FSA National Council and that the next meeting would be on 29 August. He will report back from that. He reminded the group that the FSA would be hosting an APPG meeting about the Football Governance Bill in Parliament on 3 September. He said the FSA are currently in talks with its members about digital ticketing and they currently have four positions available on their committee.</p>	<p>RG</p> <p>PR</p>
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	<b>ISCN:</b> There was no report from the ISCN, due to TS being unable to attend.	
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Elected member updates</b></p> <p><b>JC</b> said she had attended the FSA AGM at Wembley stadium and had attended two workshops; one on fan engagement through FABs and another on fans' legal rights. She reported that the Everton FAB continues to receive positive reports from other FABs and fan groups in the process of setting up FABs and that she extended an invitation to other FABs to request assistance. She had provided a written report to the FAB in July. She is in the process of building a skills matrix, detailing professional experience and expertise of FAB members and hoped this would assist in determining how the FAB's agreed priorities can be brought to fruition, utilising internal subject matter expertise.</p> <p><b>PR</b> said he had nothing to report in this item, other than what he had reported on his FSA activities, but would speak later, on the Business and Finance subcommittee report.</p>	JC
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Subcommittee Updates</b></p> <p><b>Communications:</b> PM reported that he would make an announcement on PR's election to the FSA National Council within the next day and that he would put out an announcement about the Michael Jones remembrance event at BMD. He thanked JC and DK for attending the drop-in prior to the AS Roma friendly and said he had spoken to the Club about promoting the drop-ins before every weekend home game. He has reached out to fans who were not successful in the recent FAB election.</p> <p><b>Women's Game:</b> JC reported that, during the last meeting of the 2023-24 season, it was agreed that the women's game had been reduced in stature and had been seriously under-funded. There had been reports of significant sums coming in for players sales, but those funds did not appear to have been re-invested into the women's game, including improved facilities at WHP. Some members believe the money has been subsumed into the men's game and facilities. The FAB has urged the Club to invest in WHP for the past two seasons, including improving toilet and catering facilities and JC said she hoped the FAB could convince any new investor to give the women's team as much credence as the men's team, in terms of investment. It was agreed that the matter should be added to the agenda for the first FAB/Club meeting.</p> <p><b>Business and Finance:</b> PR reported that he has been monitoring the ownership situation and has followed reports of new investors closely. The prospective for new investors still stands and we should ensure any new investors are aware of the fans' expectations. The FAB will continue to engage with the Club at a strategic level on the matter to determine its future commercial strategy, in light of apparent losses of revenue opportunity.</p>	JC/JM
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Next quarterly meeting with the Club</b></p> <p>Items for the agenda were discussed, including kit strategy, season ticket methods of payment, women's game and the appointment of a Disability Access Officer. JC asked members to forward any other items to her by the following day.</p>	ALL
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Review of TORs, Constitution and MoU</b></p> <p>JC said that the FAB's Terms of Reference and Constitution were due to be reviewed, as well as the Memorandum of Understanding with the Club and she suggested the formation of a working group to start the review, to present updated recommendations in September, for discussion and voting at the October meeting. She asked FAB members who were interested in working on the group to contact her in the coming days.</p>	ALL
<b>11</b>	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>JC reminded members who had not provided details to populate the skills matrix to do so as soon as possible, as she would like to present it at the September meeting.</p>	JC

	PM said that he would like to propose a working group on changes of the FAB meeting format and the election process. JC said that these areas formed part of the TOR and constitution review, so would be discussed in that working group.	
<b>12</b>	<b>Date/location of next meeting</b> It was agreed that the next FAB meeting should be held on Tuesday 3 September at 6pm	