

# EVERTON FAN ADVISORY BOARD

## Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Tuesday 13 January 2026  
**Time:** 6pm  
**Location:** Online (via Teams)

<b>Attendees:</b>	<b>Position/Role:</b>
Paul Rigby (PR)	Chair – Fan elected
Tony Sampson (TS)	Vice-Chair – International Supporters’ Club Network (ISCN)
Julie Clarke (JC)	Secretary – Fan elected
Ken Sweeney (KS)	Member – Everton Supporters’ Club Committee (SCC)
Jo Davies (JD)	Member – Everton Fans’ Forum (EFF)
Julie Makin (JM)	Member – Everton Women Supporters’ Club (EWSC)
Amy Wilson (AW)	Member – Everton Disabled Supporters’ Association (EDSA)
Mark McKeown (MM)	Member – Fan elected
Fawad Munir (FW)	Member – Fan elected
Rob Galkoff (RG)	Member – Fan elected

**Apologies for absence:**  
 Paul McParlan (PM) Member – Everton Heritage Society (EHS)

Item:	Discussion:	Action
1	<b>Chair’s Welcome</b> <i>(and apologies for absence)</i> PR welcomed the group and read apologies	
2	<b>Minutes of the last meeting</b> Minutes were proposed as accurate by KS, seconded by MM and voted to be accepted. JC to publish on FAB website following the meeting.	JC
3	<b>Declarations of AOB</b> None declared item(s).	
4	<b>Matters arising from minutes of the last meeting</b>  <i>Promotion of Everton Women’s Supporter’s Club Website:</i> JC to add link to FAB website. <b>Closed</b>  <i>Club International Strategy:</i> TS to have follow-up meeting with Aaron Duckmanton (AD). <b>Ongoing</b>	TS
5	<b>Chair’s update</b> PR referred to the last quarterly Club meeting in December. The Club had suggested a separate meeting to deal with matters not covered at that meeting, due to time restrictions. PR and JC will attend a further meeting at the Club tomorrow, 14 January and TS will join online. Invites were extended to other FAB members, should they wish to join. PR would like to discuss the role of Pursuit Sport with the TFG/Club strategy, as well as UEFA rules on multiple ownership and European competition. We are still waiting for a response to the paper submitted on the price freeze, ticketing and concessions. We have been invited to	PR/JC

	<p>discuss seat moves requests and have liaised with represented groups, so we need to go back with our collective responses. PR has received a response on the submitted proposals for a consultation framework and he gave details of the Club's position, which requires further discussion. PR will distribute the response to FAB members, for comments. KS said he had received a lot of feedback, following the FAB's social media statement, informing fans that the FAB had not been consulted on the launch of a new kit immediately after Christmas, nor about the decision to wear the new black shirt for the first FA Cup tie at Hill Dickinson Stadium (HDS). MM said the Club needs to be aware of the link between heritage and commercial decisions, in light of the new IFR guidelines and PL rules. JC said she had collected the responses on views about seat moves and would be presenting them to the Club when she and PR attend tomorrow's meeting. RG said that the PL rules only allow three kits on-field in a season, but this obviously does not cover FA Cup games. PR confirmed the matter would be brought up at tomorrow's meeting. PR confirmed that the FF would lead on discussions about, and with, the PGMOL about recent and historical decisions in readiness for the upcoming meeting.</p>	PR
6	<p><b>Review of key priorities</b>  <b>TS:</b> reported on the paper submitted by the FAB, on ticketing, concessions and membership. The paper makes clear that the FAB is acting on feedback from fans through various sources, including the recent FAB survey and regular pre-match drop-in sessions. Affordability is a priority for fans. He confirmed that the Club had committed to making concessions a priority. He made clear that EDSA are not signatories to the paper, as they are holding separate discussions on behalf of disabled fans. After discussions with the Club and other represented groups, he is re-drafting the paper and will distribute it to FAB members for approval before re-submitting to the Club.  There followed a general discussion on members' and groups experience of fans' disquiet about affordability, particularly aligned to the additional costs of the increasing number of evening games, which is making some fans consider whether they wish to retain season tickets next season.</p>	
7	<p><b>Reserved Group Updates</b>  <b>EDSA:</b> AW reported that EDSA has been liaising with the Club on operational matchday issues, mainly problems within concourses and disabled toilets, including no hot water in sinks. There have also been concerns raised about the volume of music and its affect on those who are neuro-diverse. Some issues have been resolved, after being reported. The Level Playing Field annual campaign "Access" will run from mid until late March this year, which includes an international break so it is not yet known which home game might include the campaign. The next EDSA meeting will be in early February.</p> <p><b>EFF:</b> JD reported that the last FF meeting was cancelled, so she is unable to provide a report and will update at the next meeting.</p> <p><b>SCC:</b> KS reported the SCC had held a meeting with the Club's appointed traffic management partners and as a result, signage had been changed for coaches of affiliated supporter clubs and this has resulted in improvements in parking. However, the coning off, to accommodate a relatively small number of buses, along Derby Road and Great Howard Street continues to cause problems and results in longer journeys, with coaches arriving later than they should. Concerns remain about the introduction of a forth kit immediately after Christmas, but KS wanted to give recognition to the staff in the ticket office for their work in processing three matches within a week, whilst dealing with ticket returns, exchanges and sales. He said supporter groups were pleased to have been asked to provide fans' views on seat moves.</p> <p><b>EWSC:</b> JM reported that there had not been a meeting of the EWSC since the last FAB meeting, but that the group remains concerned with the situation the women's team find themselves in, with a real possibility of being relegated from the WSL. There has not been a home win at Goodison Park so far this season and, despite seven signings in the summer,</p>	JD

	<p>five of whom are internationals, results are still extremely disappointing, so there is a general agreement that the team needs a new manager. PR said that the rapid departure of the interim CEO has not helped the situation and the Club needs to make its strategy for the women's game clear. JC said it feels like the FAB Women's Subcommittee and the EWSC has promoted the women's game more than the Club has recently. News on the women's team does not get anywhere near the promotion on the Club's website that it needs. JM said that a string of good results would encourage higher attendances and, despite having the third highest attendance in the WSL, this could be improved upon.</p>	
	<p><b>ISCN:</b> TS reported on the lack of progress in getting a clear international strategy and noted particularly that in the USA, there appears to have already been a change in strategy with less communications between the affiliated groups and soccer schools that the Club has been involved with. He is disappointed about the lack of progress, given the Club's commitment last May that this was a priority for TFG and that AD would lead on it. He will bring the matter up at tomorrow's meeting.</p>	
	<p><b>EHS:</b> PM had offered apologies, so he had provided a short report to be read out by the Secretary. The first social evening held by the EHS took place last week and the Denbigh Castle. Speakers were authors, Rob Sawyer and Gavin Buckland, who spoke about the careers of Harry Catterick and Howard Kendall. Despite poor weather, there were over 50 fans present. The next social evening will be on Thursday 5 February at the Denbigh Castle and Paul will report on that at the next meeting.</p>	
8	<p><b>Elected Member Updates</b>  <b>JC</b> reported a very busy month for the FAB, in terms of meetings and correspondence with the Club, submissions on ticket pricing and consultation and attendance at the pre-match drop-ins, all fitted around three home games in the space of seven days. She is concerned about the venue for the drop-in sessions, as it continues to be inaccessible for some disabled fans and the FAB had been asked whether they could be in a more accessible space. She said the Comms subgroup has asked the Club about an alternative site, on the fan plaza and provided them with photos to demonstrate the difficulty in access for anybody with mobility issues. The Club had indicated that this was a possibility in early 2026, but there has been no further development, so she will bring it up at the next Club meeting.</p>	
	<p><b>MM</b> had to leave the meeting early, so was unable to provide a report.</p>	
	<p><b>RG</b> Reported that he had attended pre-match drop-in sessions and had been liaising with the Club about an alternative FAB drop-in space, which JC had mentioned in her report. He will continue to liaise, but agreed that the matter should be discussed at the February Club meeting if it is not resolved.</p>	
	<p><b>FM</b> reported that he is working on plans for the upcoming FAB Conference in April and had put out a poll, asking for suitable dates, out of a choice of three Thursdays. He had not received all responses and asked Comms group members to respond.</p>	
	<p><b>Subcommittee and Working Group Updates</b>  <b>Business and Technology:</b> No report, as MM had to leave the meeting early.</p>	
	<p><b>Community Engagement:</b> PR reported that the transition from Goodison Park to HDS has resulted in the magnification of the differences between the East and West of the dock wall entrances to the stadium. The bars and eateries outside the wall still have an authenticity to them and are providing what fans want at more affordable prices than the fayre offered inside. He said this group would monitor whether there would be a shift in that position in time and whether the atmosphere outside the wall could be replicated inside.</p>	

	<p><b>Women's Game:</b> JC reported that the group has not held a meeting, since they met with Hannah Forshaw in December. This was a meeting she felt had been all but rendered ineffective, due to HF's departure from her role having been announced immediately before the meeting. The group is concerned about events at the Club, in light of HF leaving and they feel they still have no indication of the Club's strategy for the Women's game. She would like to request a meeting with Dave Beeston, TFG's Chief financial Officer, who is now on the Board of Everton Women Ltd, and has taken over the liaison role HF had with the WSL. She said she will bring up the matter at the meeting tomorrow. There has been a very long period of non-attendance at Goodison, with a month between home games. The next game will be on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January and she hoped for a long-overdue first home win.</p>	JC
	<p><b>Communications:</b> JC reported she had been busy dealing with writing reports for the website for both the recent meeting with Liverpool City Council, Merseytravel and Merseyside Police, and the December Fan engagement sessions. The latter included a comprehensive list of questions from the fan engagement sessions. Both were posted on X and Blue Sky, with links to the whole articles on the website. Each had been very well received by fans, with many positive comments, although some negative ones directed at the Club, LCC and Merseytravel. She will monitor these and they will form part of the discussions with the Club at the February meeting. She thanked members of the Comms team for their help and comments on the reports, summaries and publications, and emphasised the importance of having the reports published on SM and the website, so that fans are clear about the work the FAB is doing on their behalf.</p>	
10	<p><b>AOB</b> KS said that Fans Supporting Foodbanks now have a Just Giving page and asked whether the FAB could support this around matchdays. He also said he fully supported the idea of having a fans' drop-in space within the fans plaza, particularly for fans with limited mobility, who prefer to go straight into the plaza on match days, but arrive early and would welcome the opportunity to meet FAB members.</p>	
12	<p><b>Date/location of next meeting</b> The next meeting of the FAB will take place on Tuesday 17 February at 6pm (via Teams)</p>	ALL