

# EVERTON FAN ADVISORY BOARD

## Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Tuesday 17 February 2026  
**Time:** 6pm  
**Location:** Online (via Teams)

<b>Attendees:</b>	<b>Position/Role:</b>
Paul Rigby (PR)	Chair – Fan elected
Julie Clarke (JC)	Secretary – Fan elected
Paul McParlan (PM)	Member – Everton Heritage Society (EHS)
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)
Mark McKeown (MM)	Member – Fan elected
Fawad Munir (FW)	Member – Fan elected
Rob Galkoff (RG)	Member – Fan elected

**Apologies for absence:**  
 Tony Sampson (TS) Vice-Chair – International Supporters’ Club Network (ISCN)  
 Amy Wilson (AW) Member – Everton Disabled Supporters’ Association (EDSA)

Item:	Discussion:	Action
1	<b>Chair’s Welcome</b> <i>(and apologies for absence)</i> PR welcomed the group and accepted apologies from AW and TS.	
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.	
4	<b>Matters arising from minutes of the last meeting</b>  <i>Officers to attend Club meeting:</i> PR, TS and JC attended a meeting to clear up matters not discussed in January Club meeting, due to time restrictions. To be included in Chair’s report. <b>Closed</b>  <i>Women’s Game Subcommittee Meeting with the Club:</i> JC to request meeting with Dave Beeston, following Hannah Forshaw resignation. <b>Closed</b>	
5	<b>Chair’s update</b> PR combined his report with a review of the key priorities, in the absence of TS. He said he had attended a meeting between the Club and FAB Officers to discuss items there had not been time to discuss during the December meeting, including seat moves, pricing and membership. JC had fed back comments on seat moves gathered from represented fan groups and the Club had committed to a separate full FAB meeting on pricing. He thanked the group for their active participation in that single-issue meeting with the Club, which had taken place earlier this month, and was attended by Andrew Middleton (AM), TFG new	

	<p>President of Business Operations at the Club. He gave specific mention to the strong, evidence-based proposals submitted to the leadership team. He confirmed that AM had written and committed to follow up on the proposals. Another matter the FAB is speaking to the Club about is the consultation framework proposal, which had been submitted last year. This is also being considered by the Club. There followed a general discussion about the proposals and fans' feedback. It was agreed by the FAB that there should be a notice put out on social media to fans to let them know that the meeting had taken place and a commitment to keep fans informed going forward, when there is a response to share. PR reported that the FSA National Council meeting was coming up, which he would be attending, as an FSA Council member, and would include the attendance of the Independent Football Regulator. The next meeting with the strategy group, which included the council and travel companies will take place in March and the next quarterly meeting with the Club will be in late May, after the conclusion of the season. The Premier League's PSR rules have now shifted to a Squad Cost Ratio (SCR) model and this is likely to be a subject for discussion at the next PL FAB Leads meeting in May.</p>	JC
6	<p><b>FAB Conference 2026</b>  FM and RG presented a proposal, which they had drafted on behalf of the Comms Subcommittee, for the upcoming Fan's Conference 2026. The date has been decided so as not to conflict with games, possible re-schedules, or public holidays and will be on Thursday 16 April, at the Blue Base (part of the Everton in the Community estate) in Salop Street. Entry will be free for all who register to attend and food will be provided for free and there is a paying bar. The venue also offers around 100 free parking spaces. There followed a general discussion on suggested areas to be covered and panellists. It was agreed that the conference theme should broadly follow the subjects raised as priorities by fans in the FAB's recent survey. It was also agreed that the evening should highlight discussions impacting all Evertonians, including younger fans and women fans. JD will liaise with the FF about involving members of the Junior Fans' Forum and JC will liaise with women's fan groups. As well as panellists from the represented fan groups, there will be invited guests from sports media and podcasts.</p>	JD/JC
7	<p><b>Reserved Group Updates</b>  <b>EDSA:</b> AW had offered apologies, so her report was read out by JC. It included an investigation into the number of wheelchairs available for the wheelchair loan service after reports of people not returning these after matches. The first meeting been held with EDSA and EFC on pricing of accessibility season tickets. The Club are considering suggestions and further discussions will take place. The Club is looking at onsite parking spaces during the summer and hope to create further accessible spaces available on top of the 100 currently available. Issues with inadequate lighting issues on approach roads to the stadium was brought up with with LCC and the Club. The Level Playing Field (LPF) "Unite for Access" designated match will be against Burnley. A photoshoot with some EDSA members will take place pre-match. EDSA member, Alfie, a wheelchair user, was lead mascot at the Bournemouth match and a tour of Finch Farm for randomly selected members took place on February 11. Other activities are scheduled to coincide with the Unite for Access campaign. LPF have been invited to attend the Burnley match. Hot drinks were available from the 'At Seat' delivery service in the East and North upper viewing platforms for the first time at the Bournemouth game.</p> <p><b>EFF:</b> JD reported that the FF January meeting had been quite positive and included discussions on seat moves prior to next season and the FF hope priority will be given to accessibility and will also consider building atmosphere and supporting the work of the 1878s. They had asked the Club to consider its ticket transfer processes for domestic cup games, including the credit system. The Club has committed to consider proposals made and come back. The issue of empty seats was discussed and it is thought that the frequency of night time games is adding to this. The FF are discussing the possibility of having a designated charity match each season. The fan plaza was discussed and there had also been</p>	

complaints made about the loud music being played as fans are leaving the game. The Club said that the music wasn't coming from the stadium, but from nearby bars. Regarding transport; the FF brought up the waiting times at Sandhills and had been told that the times are comparable with fans attending other premier league matches, using similar transport. They have asked for the Club to liaise with them on future plans to make use of the fourth kit. The "Report it" number displayed at the ground, for fans to report concerns is sometimes not working, so the FF has asked the Club to consider developing a matchday app for the same purpose. PR said the Fan Plaza was not working out to be the social space that had been hoped for, with many simply rushing through to enter the ground, but this may change in better weather and with more daylight games. JD said it didn't help that there was no covered eating or drinking space, which prevented many from buying food and drink in the plaza. JC asked whether the issue of ticket transfers had included Club View, and the inability of CV members to be able to put their tickets on the re-sale platform. It hadn't, but JD said she would feed that back and ask for it to be included.

**SCC:** KS reported they had complained to the Council, about soccer buses not turning up to collect fans from the pick-up points and had been told this was due to driver shortages. When the buses do attend, it is taking a very long time for them to reach the final parking space, due to the coning and road closures. The SCC still wants the coning to be stopped on Great Howard Street and Derby Road, to enable the free flow of traffic before the game. This is particularly problematic for 7.30pm kick-offs, where football traffic is also competing with rush hour traffic. They also spoke about street lighting and KS said JC had brought this up several times at meetings with the Council and the Club, particularly around the safety of women and girls. Coach parking is working very well, despite late arrivals. KS attended the Police and Club meeting, where facial recognition was discussed and noted that JC would be speaking about that in her report. KS said they had asked about the inability to put Club View tickets on the re-sale site and had been told it was because the Club classes Club View as 'Corporate'. JC said the FAB had been told Club View was classed as 'Premium'. The SCC will be holding a meeting tomorrow night and ticket transfers will be discussed. JC said that she had received an email from the Council about the progress of street lighting, including lots of technical details which she has yet to go through, but that she would share details when she has an opportunity.

JC

**EWSC:** JM reported that the EWSC has been speaking with EHS about the possibility of using St Luke's church, to be able to have a base from which to sell women's team supporter merchandise, following the closure of the Winslow pub, where they had previously been provided with a dedicated space. They are extremely happy with the performance of the women's side since the appointment of the new manager and hoped that relegation worries are now addressed.

**ISCN:** TS had offered apologies, so PR reported on his behalf. The North American Toffees had organised a trip and planned to have around 35 supporters making the trip across for the upcoming game against Manchester United. In the absence of TS, PR would accompany them to the stadium. PM said that the Everton Heritage Society were also liaising with the group, to include assistance and offer heritage-based experiences for them, as they did last season.

**EHS:** PM reported that the EHS had recently held it's second social evening at the Denbigh Castle, where the guest speaker was Pat Nevin. He praised Pat's presentation and insight into his time at the Club, as well as his views on where he believes the modern game is heading. The evenings have been quite successful, with high attendances and the next meeting will be on 5 March, where PM himself will be speaking about the 1986/87 league title win.

