

EVERTON FAN ADVISORY BOARD

Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday 11 June 2026
Time: 6pm
Location: Online (via Teams)

Attendees:	Position/Role:
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)
Paul McParlan (PM)	Member – Everton Heritage Society (EHS)

Apologies for absence:
Mark McKeown (MM) Member – Fan elected
Fawad Munir (FW) Member – Fan elected

Item:	Discussion:	Action
1	Chair’s Welcome <i>(and apologies for absence)</i> PR welcomed the group and reported apologies received from MM and FM	
2	Minutes of the last meeting Minutes were proposed as accurate by JM, seconded by JD and voted to be accepted. JC to publish on FAB website following the meeting.	JC
3	Declarations of AOB One declared by JC	
4	Matters arising from minutes of the last meeting <u>Premier League to review fixture scheduling and Monday night allocations:</u> JC Asked PL for a review and will report during the meeting. Closed <u>Consultation Framework Document Update:</u> MM leading on documents discussions and review, via the Business and Technology Subcommittee. Ongoing <u>FAB Efforts to Engage on International Strategy:</u> TS to report on discussions with the Club. Closed	
5	Chair’s update PR reflected on the Club’s first season at Hill Dickinson Stadium, noting that while there had been significant progress off the field, including efforts to strengthen the Club’s financial position and grow commercial revenues, the actual football season had ended on a disappointing note. He said that a combination of team performance frustrations and wider	

	<p>concerns had left many supporters continuing to seek reassurance about the Club's future direction. PR noted that the future FAB should continue to press for dialogue with the Club regarding its long-term vision and ambitions, particularly as Everton enters a new chapter in its history. He referenced the recent Premier League Disciplinary Commission ruling relating to Burnley FC and said he had been assured that it would not affect the Club's transfer plans for the forthcoming season. PR also spoke about the importance of maintaining Everton's identity, values, heritage and traditions during a period of significant change. He said it was important that the Club's future development reflects the qualities that supporters associate with Everton and that decisions continue to be viewed through that lens. He noted that trust between supporters and the Club remains an important consideration and encouraged future FAB members to continue engaging constructively with the Club on matters relating to ambition, identity, supporter experience and trust.</p> <p>In closing, PR recognised the work of the FAB during his three-year term and praised its ability to work collaboratively despite differing viewpoints, always seeking to represent supporters in a unified manner. He thanked members for their commitment and acknowledged the considerable time they had given voluntarily on behalf of Everton supporters.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>Vice-chair Review of key priorities</p> <p>TS said that the areas the FAB had decided to focus on this year were pricing, engagement and meaningful consultation. Whilst he appreciated that the Consultation Framework document is still being developed, it should be agreed and completed very early on with next season's FAB and, considering the difficulties on persuading the Club to agree to a framework, having talked about it for a couple of years, the FAB is now much stronger for having the document so far advanced. He spoke of the fact that the FAB had shone a light on the importance of the Club listening to the proposals of the FAB in relation to ticket price rises. Whilst all the FAB's proposals had not been acted on, some where and the message about affordability and the price of exploiting loyalty had been driven home, but there is work to be done.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>Reserved Group Updates</p> <p>EDSA: AW reported two committee members had stepped down and the membership would vote on replacements. She said the re-mapping of Nelson Dock was ongoing, which would hopefully increase the number of disabled parking spaces. Results should be heard in July and applications would remain ballot-based. The parking management is reviewing the parking facilities and is considering widening the scope of where blue badge holders may park, as long as it is safe to do so. They are also reviewing the current requirement for disabled drivers to arrive in their parking spaces two hours before kick-off and allowing parking up to one hour before kick-off.</p>	
	<p>EFF: JD reported the last FF meeting was short on numbers, due to holiday commitments, but a full agenda was discussed. The Club gave an overview of the 2026/27 strategy, which had already been shared with the FAB. It included upcoming communications about seat moves and memberships. The FF has asked for a comprehensive overview of the first season ad HDS. There was a discussion about the perceived safety of fans exiting the ground, on occasion, from the North Stand at the same time as away fans, which can sometimes feel uncomfortable and there may need to be a decision about staggering exits for some games. There continues to be concerns, from many fans, about the look and feel of the stadium, which doesn't feel as associated with the Club's history as Goodison Park did and more fans are now complaining that they'd like to see more Everton signage. Fans feel the stands, particularly the North stand, is devoid of colour or character. There are complaints about the lower South stand having no natural light and not being good for accessing food and drink quickly. The FF ask whether the Club was planning more events during the summer and remarked on how successful the Easter events were. The FF told the Club that some fans had reported being unhappy during the recent England Women's World Cup qualifier, due to there being limited kiosks open for food and drink, causing long queues, with food</p>	

	<p>and drink running out, meaning those who had waited (and in some cases, missed the start of the second half), could not be served. The Club said the FA had dealt directly with the caterers and orders were made by the FA, not the Club, but that they would feed this back for future events.</p> <p>JC said she believed the stadium is effectively rented out to FA/FIFA, for these games and was not surprised to hear that they would then contract the stadium caterers directly, on food and drink. She said, however, that all parties are going to have to learn from this, especially with the upcoming Euros and non-football events. The Club would also have to consider the fact that many attendees for World Cup or UEFA games would be Everton supporters and would expect better treatment than this, with similar facilities to those laid on during league games.</p>	
	<p>SCC: KS reported that their main contact at the Club had left and this resulted in there not being a meeting of the SCC this month. He said she had been extremely helpful in organising meetings and events for supporter groups and would be greatly missed and he hoped the Club had put measures in place for continued engagement.</p>	
	<p>EWSC: JM reported the EWSC members' reports of disappointment at the England Women's game, as reported by the FF. she was not aware that the catering and concourse arrangements for the night had been handled by the FA, but felt strongly that the Club should review the lack of facilities and the fact that food and drink had run out and should take the matter up for future events, especially the upcoming Euros.</p>	
	<p>ISCN: TS reported that, following last month's meeting, when he reported on the lack of engagement from the Club on its international strategy. He said that despite persistent attempts to advance discussions with key personnel about the Club's international strategy, there had been a lack of meaningful engagement. He had subsequently met with Andrew Middleton and the club's strategy team about establishing a framework for advancing an international strategy and engagement plan. He said that the international fan community would like to be involved with the Club in developing future work and initiatives. TS made clear that the ISCN had not felt involved or consulted recently. AM has agreed to bring some of the ISCN representatives together, to provide insight in the Club's intended strategy framework and the Club's identity. TS had urged the Club to be fully committed to this and give it's fullest efforts to working with the group in its international strategy.</p> <p>He said that, as he leaves the FAB, after four years, he wanted to put on record his thanks to members, who had given up their personal time and had made personal sacrifices to represent fans. He said a lot that goes on is unseen and unheard. He urged the new FAB not to lose sight of FAB's priorities and to focus on fact that they are there to support the voice of the fans. He thanked PR and JC for their partnership and cooperation as fellow Officers and wished the rest of the members good luck.</p>	
	<p>EHS: PM was present, but experienced technical difficulties with the link and audio, so forwarded a written report, saying there had been no EHS meeting in June and the last one was in May, when Dr David France was present. The next Dixie Dean Awards Evening is planned for September, possibly at Goodison Park. The EHS has emailed members, for expressions of interest to become their FAB representative for next season. Three members of the EHS, including PM, have been invited to attend the Liverpool Historical Society's annual event at the Adelphi Hotel, with the theme being 1060s Liverpool. The trio are invited to speak about Goodison Park's involvement in the 1966 World Cup, as well as the Club's League win in 1962. The EHS Social Evenings at the Denbigh Castle will resume in Septembers and will include a variety of popular guest speakers. Details can be found on the EHS website.</p>	
8	Elected Member Updates	

	<p>JC reported that she had been busy working on arrangements for the upcoming election and said she would give a report on this in her Communications Subcommittee report. She said she had attended the Women’s World Cup qualifier game at HDS, where England Women played Ukraine. She said the game had been a great success and was very well attended, with over 26,000 fans. Considering this had been a midweek evening game, this was remarkable. She said it had been a great game, particularly with a winning scoreline. Having said all of that, she was sorry to hear of the problems some fans had in some of the concourses. She said everybody wanted HDS to be a success and the next FAB should bring this up with the Club. This had been a great opportunity to showcase the facilities, but had been hampered by events that were not in the Club’s control. However, the regular fans attending are not aware of this and so it is in the Club’s interest to do its utmost to try to prevent a repeat in the future and they can do this by making representation to the organisations who hire the venue. She said the FAB and its reserved groups had worked hard to promote the game, to help increase attendance. KS said that it was a pity the game had been staged on a weeknight. He said, had it been a Saturday, it was likely it would have sold out, as very many Children would have wanted to attend. He believed the England Women’s team demonstrated that they loved playing at the stadium, but lamented the missed opportunity, by the organisers of the women’s game, to fill the stadium, particularly during school exam periods, where younger fans could not attend.</p>	
	<p>MM had offered apologies, due to family holidays, so no report.</p>	
	<p>FM had offered apologies, due to family holidays, so no report.</p>	
<p>9</p>	<p>Subcommittee and Working Group Updates</p> <p>Communications: JC reported the FAB election process is now well underway to select three candidates to go forward to an open fan vote, and had been heavily promoted on social media. The Committee, which will include FAB members, FM and JD, would meet at the Royal Liver on 26 June to shortlist applicants and produce a selection of nine candidates to go forward for the fans’ vote. She thanked FM for promoting the election on the Across the Park Podcast, as well as TS for making contact with media organisations to spread the message of the election. She gave the timetable for the process, confirming that the results of the shortlisted candidates will be announced when voting starts on 19 June, and the three successful candidates would be announced on 1 July, with the first meeting of the next FAB taking place on 7 July, in-person, at the Royal Liver Building, when new FAB members will get to meet other members and Club staff.</p> <p>Business and Technology: MM had offered apologies, so there was no report, but this group will have responsibility for the passage of the very important Consultation Framework Document at the beginning of next season, so it is expected that a report will follow in this section.</p> <p>Women’s Game: JC reported that a meeting had been held between the Club and the Women’s Game Subcommittee. The committee had requested a meeting to details the Club’s strategy for both women’s game and the structure of Goodison Park (GP), as they move forward next season. There was a strong presence from the Club, Including recently appointed Women’s Commercial Director, Fiona Breedon (FB), Club Technical Director, Nick Cox (NC) and President of Business operations, AM. FB and NC gave an overview and slide presentation on the Club’s ambitions for the Women’s Team and the revival of the academies, which had been much reduced under the previous ownership. The Women’s U21s will be playing in league competition again from next season. As well as making significant investment in the Women’s team, the Club has reviewed other successful</p>	

	<p>women's teams, as well as analysing data which supports stronger squad methodology, and will be introducing improvements at Finch Farm.</p> <p>On the subject of GP, the Club has formed a steering committee, dedicated to the Women's Teams and GP, which includes former Interim CEO, Colin Chong (CC), now Chief Real Estate & Regeneration Officer. The Subcommittee was encouraged to hear this and they recognise CC's role in overseeing both the construction of HDS and in maintaining the infrastructure at GP. There is significant work to be completed on the Bullens Road Stand and this is about to commence. The committee asked for improved services in the Gwladys Street concourse and AM committed to reviewing those proposals. The current used capacity at GP is 10,000 and this will increase to 12,000 as work commences. AM recognised that the stadium is under-utilised on non-matchdays and will be working closely with FB on initiatives to generate revenue for investment in the team and GP infrastructure. The Committee was impressed with the Club's plans and vision for the Women's game and its plans for Goodison and it re-iterated its request for there to be a museum, to be able to exhibit contents from the Everton Collection and to showcase the stadium's long and proud history. The Club is considering this, amongst other options. The committee urges next season's FAB to follow up and review the commitments given.</p>	
10	<p>Discussion on the PL Independent Disciplinary Committee Finding</p> <p>A discussion was held, following the announcement on 10 June that a panel, consisting of the same three members who had previously imposed a 10-point deduction on the Club (later reduced to six points after an appeal) for PSR breaches dating back to 2022, had imposed a compensation order on the Club in response to a claim brought by Burnley FC. Despite the Club having already been penalised, Burnley FC had claimed that the breaches had given the Club a sporting advantage that had contributed to their relegation from the Premier League. The panel found in their favour and ordered the Club to pay compensation of £40m. The Club announced their disappointment in the result and have confirmed they will appeal. After discussion, the FAB agreed that they would make a statement in support of the Club's decision to appeal, and would post it the following day.</p>	
11	<p>AOB</p> <p>JC reported that she had heard from the PL, following her request, at a PL meeting she attended, for a review on the unacceptable amount of Monday night fixture re-scheduling. She had also asked for a review of the very late re-scheduling of the game against Arsenal in December, forced to be played at 8pm on the Saturday evening immediately before Christmas. The PL had given an undertaking to come back to her by the end of the following week. She will report back when she hears.</p>	
12	<p>Date/location of next meeting</p> <p>Agreed to take place Tuesday 7 July 2026 with the new 2026-27 FAB meeting in-person at the Royal Liver Building, at 6pm</p>	
	<p>Post-meeting note:</p> <p><i>The final draft of these minutes were distributed to FAB members, proposed as accurate by MM and seconded by JM on 22 June 2026</i></p>	