

Dulwich Hamlet Supporters' Trust
(Dulwich Hamlet Football Community Mutual Ltd)

Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday 13 November, 2014, 7.00 pm

Venue – The Board Room, Dulwich Hamlet FC, London SE22

In attendance: Jack Bagnall (JB), Guy Grater (GG), James Masini (JM), Darren McCreery (DM) Chair, Eddie Muraszko (part), Mark Panton (MP) Secretary, Fiona Scurlock (FS). James Mathie (JMe) from Supporters Direct.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Andy Greig (AG), Duncan Hart (DH), Jonathan Hunt (JH)
2. **Last meeting's Minutes:** Minutes from 2 October and 8 September accepted and signed by Chair.

MAIN ITEMS BY OBJECTIVE

3. DHFC has a secure long-term home in East Dulwich:

- 3.1 Update from DM and JM on recent meeting with Hadley Property Group (HPG) on ground proposals.

DM and JM met with HPG and confirmed that the updated ground proposals are designed to meet Conference National standards. However, one of the biggest concerns is that architects have not been to the ground to see how it functions on match days to feed this into their proposals. They need to know how the crowd circulate, where spaces are needed around the ground for selling merchandise, etc. They also need to provide details on rooms that will be built for match-day and community use. Further consultation on the proposals will now be held on 27 and 29 November. See item 5.1 re. proposals for a joint meeting with HPG in the evening after the first consultation.

DM/JM

- 3.2 Update from meeting with HPG on 3 November.

Further discussions held between members of the Trust and HPG about the ground development proposals, but the meeting was largely based around the recent publicity and campaigns activities undertaken by the Trust. JB discussed some of the recent press coverage of the football club and the work of the Trust.

JB/FS

- 3.3 Southwark Council on Green Dale consultation.

DM and JM drafted the Trust's recommendations, which were submitted for the Council's second consultation. DH had recently contacted the Council by

email to ask when the results of the consultation would be published and was informed that the results are still awaited.

- 3.4 Update on petition to ensure that the needs of the club are fully integrated into the Council's plans.

The petition now has over 250 signatures (hand-written and on-line). The next stage will be to send the petition to Southwark Community Council. However, the next meeting of the Community Council is not until 4 February 2015, so there is plenty of time to finalise the petition and obtain further signatures.

FS

4. DHFC has an ownership model that involves supporters/community either fully or partly:

- 4.1 Introduction of and presentation by James Mathie (JMe), Club Development Manager of Supporters Direct.

(JMe) discussed his work and that of Supporters Direct (SD) on working with football clubs and supporters trusts to convert or start-up under the community ownership model. These include numerous clubs at different levels of the leagues over the last 3 years. A brief summary:

JMe heads the Club Development at SD. Club development involves 4-stage process:

Club health check: including due diligence, management accounts, etc.

Governance: management, setting up of new board, establishment of the community model through amended constitution.

Community ownership: Although most community-owned clubs have a similar structure, they all work in individual/different ways.

Club development / day-to-day running: including business planning, cash-flow planning and opportunities for raising finance and day to day revenue, e.g. partnership opportunities. SD can assist with all these issues.

JMe agreed that an open meeting for all supporters to discuss the opportunities for community ownership was a very good starting point. JMe and SD would support this and be willing to attend to answer questions. The meeting could also include members from other community owned clubs to discuss their experiences.

JMe state that there were approx 40 community-owned clubs. More clubs are now choosing this model, rather than through a crisis.

The Trust thanked JMe for attending and for his insightful presentation.

The next stage on this issue for the Trust is to arrange an open meeting for all supporters. See item 6.1

FS/JB/MP

4.2 Update from FS on sub-group meeting on ownership and governance issues.

Notes from the first meeting on this sub-group had previously been circulated. Open meeting proposed for 15 January to discuss these issues with supporters, dependent to stage reached with planning proposals and availability of guests.

FS

4.3 Joint meeting with the Football Committee with Stuart Fuller of Lewes on his experience of running a community football club.

AG unable to attend this meeting, so no further updates.

AG

5. DHFC as a transparent and well run football club:

5.1 Further joint meeting between Trust and Football Committee.

DM to liaise with Jack Payne to arrange a joint presentation by HPG / Farrell's to members of the Football Committee and the Trust in the evening after the first consultation on 27 November.

DM

5.2 Update on developments concerning Trust's request to HPG concerning covering behind the goals.

JB is liaising with Matt Rimmer over proposals and considering ideas from various different football grounds.

JB

6. DHFC has a growing Supporters Trust that communicates regularly with its members:

6.1 Proposed Trust/supporters meeting on 15 January 2015.

May be dependent on discussions over the planning developments and attendance of guests. See also item 4.2

FS/JB/MP

6.2 Trust Mega Shed

6.2.1 New (Christmas) merchandise ideas / orders

We have stocked up with both bar scarves and striped mugs.

N.B. Over £200 raised for the Dulwich Hamlet junior section through sales of old kits.

New badges (samples) due to be delivered.

GG

6.3 Christmas Calendar. Confirm agreement of photographs.

Photographs provisionally approved, but GG raised issue of time-scale for Christmas, with limited number of home games to sell the calendars.

DH/GG

However there was a proposal to produce a football season calendar for the start of the next season that would include the fixtures, which was well received.

DH/GG

6.3 Christmas catalogue.

This is very near to being issued on-line and in print

JB/DH

7. DHFC has strong links with its surrounding community:

7.1 Invitation to councillors and planning officers to attend future home games.

JH has written to local councillors with an update.

JH

7.2 Trust attendance at Camberwell Community Council meeting at 1.00 pm on 15 November.

FS will attend to represent the Trust

FS

7.3 Update on FARE anti-homophobia campaign/game v Bognor Regis Town.

The banners arrived, together with badges, and the day was very successful.

JB

7.4 FARE £100,000 refugee project application

Currently the project is on hold and we will be updated when this changes.

JB

7.5 LGBT history month in February.

Events being organised involving the Trust and the football club. Mishi Morath has organised a friendly against Stonewall FC. JM is organising a game between the supporters' team and LLKA FC.

7.6 Street Soccer project.

Mishi Morath has done research on stewarding courses with a view to providing training to individuals and Dulwich Hamlet games and JB is liaising with him.

JB

7.7 Mental Health awareness week in May.

JB working with Mishi Morath and Crystal Palace Eagles Mental Health team. He is also in contact with Southwark Councillor Michael Situ. DM is also trying to liaise with CPFC.

JB/DM

8. AOB

8.1 Fixtures notice board outside of ground.

DM expressed his view that control of advertisement consent will be needed for the fixtures board.

DM/AG

8.2 SE22 Magazine

JB confirmed that SE22 Magazine would run a voucher for reduced admission at a future game in its next edition.

JB

8.3 DHST Accounts

The Trust accounts for y/e 31 December 2013 will be finalised by the end of the year.

EM

8.4 Accountant

JB confirmed he had been approached by a supporter who is a qualified accountant that wanted to assist the Trust. JB to follow-up to invite him to attend the next board meeting.

JB

Next board meeting: 7.00 pm on 15 December 2014.