

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

Board Meeting Agenda

8.00 pm, 21 April, 2016

Venue – Football club boardroom, Champion Hill, London SE22.

In attendance: Alex Crane (AC), Andy Greig (AG), Mel Hughes (MH), James Masini (JM) part; by phone, Darren McCreery (DM), Vice-Chair, Mishi Morath (MM), Mark Panton (MP) Secretary, Isaac Parnell (IP) Treasurer, Dave Rogers (DR), Jack Spearman (JS)

The meeting was chaired by DM.

There was limited discussion on a number of items due to earlier 100 Club meeting and consequential restraints on time.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Jack Bagnall (JB), Duncan Hart (DH) Chair, Fiona Scurlock (FS).
2. **Last meeting's Minutes:** The Minutes from the last meeting on 17 March 2016 had already been uploaded to the website and therefore have been agreed. No objections were raised.

MAIN ITEMS BY OBJECTIVE

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

- 3.1 **Update on latest ground development plans.** See Item 3.2.
- 3.2 **Poll of Trust members.** There was some discussion of this issue in relation to Item 6.9. The poll on the ground development will take place as soon after Southwark Council has validated the planning application as possible.

DM / JM

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

- 4.1 **IP and Matt Purser update on Business Plan for supporter owned club.** Business planning is moving ahead, but further information is required.

IP / MPu

4.2 **Any other updates from Supporter Ownership group.** No further updates.

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

5.1 **Update on joint issues with the Football Committee.** No updates.

5.2 **Trying to obtain further clarity around financial issues, including liabilities.** No updates.

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

6.1 **Merchandise, including Trust Mega Shed:**

6.1.1 **Change from Mega Shed to Mega Container.** Painting, wiring and shelving to be completed. Issues over food and drink; manning the shop; and takings - AC agreed to produce operational plan for next meeting.

AC

6.1.2 **Website.** Should be ready to launch with Purple during the summer with major launch at start of the season.

DR / MH

6.1.3 **New merchandise ideas and involvement of football club.** Any new ideas to be discussed by (new) merchandise group and sent to (MH).

MH

6.1.4 **Replica shirts.** Will sell what we have left, with new designs due in the future. Existing shirts will not be sold online due to sizing issues.

MH

6.1.5 **AirPros – retail till system.** Board members to consider information provided by MH with view to making decision at next meeting.

MH / ALL

6.1.6 **Selling BALA balls.** We now have these in stock and have sold a number already.

MH

6.1.7 **Stickers.** Current position of not actively advertising the sale of stickers to be maintained.

6.2 **100 Club registration, objectives, use of funds.** Positive meeting took place with members at 7.00 pm on 21 April.

IP / DM / MP

- 6.3 **Updating FAQ section of Trust website** JB will prioritise this update.
JB
- 6.4 **Fixing problems with software to automate membership joining processes.** DR working on this issue.
DR
- 6.5 **Membership renewal.** Closing date for joining Trust to be able to vote in poll on ground development to be confirmed. Closing date for joining to be able to vote in any election, 29 May, 2016.
ALL
- 6.6 **Position of Secretary of DHST.** MP updated on recruitment process and advised there had been a number of expressions of interest.
MP
- 6.7 **Planning for AGM 2016.** This will take place on 4 July. AGM timetable and documents to be sent to members were agreed. Any existing Board members that have not confirmed their personal positions on continuing or resigning to do so by 8 May. MP will send round final versions of documents once confirmed, which will then be mailed out to all members.
MP / DR
- 6.8 **Newsletter.** To be sent out with AGM documents, 8 May. JB to prepare.
JB
- 6.9 **Motion proposed by Mishi regarding expression of individual views on ground development.**

This Board recognises the variety of views that exists about a new ground and therefore recognises the need for individual members to be able to express views in public about it, so long as it is clear it does not represent Trust policy.

MM put forward the motion and stated the current position presents difficulties for any supporter being a member of two boards, especially now if there is a view that there is a need to get behind the ground development immediately. AC seconded motion. DM put forward reasons for maintaining collective responsibility and therefore against the motion: (1) advice from Supporters Direct; (2) reasons for collective responsibility; (3) legitimacy of Trust position. JS accepted the current position meant there were problems for the two people who are on both boards, especially where a position has been agreed by the Football Committee. AG: expressed view that the Trust may need to comment further on the existing position. MH: communications needs to be putting views of Trust out there. JM (by phone) set out views based on SD advice. Stated that he understood the frustration, but this

approach will provide a stronger position for the Trust and the Club after a legitimate vote by members. MM: stated there is a limit to the number of people that can be reached individually, whereas social media has a much greater use.

After a vote, the motion was rejected. Following the rejection of the motion MM resigned.

JB / DH

7. **DHFC has strong links with its surrounding community:**

- 7.1 **On-going communications with local councillors.** Not discussed.
AC
- 7.2 **FARE article on refugee work.** Article due by next Board meeting, JS. Not discussed.
JS
- 7.3 **Planning for Goose Green Fair, 8 May.** AG will order gazebo. IP organising. Website request for volunteers for Goose Green and other events.
IP / AG / DR
- 7.4 **Plan for community initiatives for rest of the season.**
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- 7.4.1 End of season events (*All confirmed, Trust to support*).
- 7.5 **Southwark Neighbourhood Fund.** Documents to be collated, cheque to be collected; expenses to be collated; photographs of events; and submission of evaluation form post-events.
AC
- 7.6 **Southwark EnviroGrant scheme.** AC will make application for recycling bins by 30 April.
AC
- 7.7 **Supporters team (or any DHFC team) v Refugees in Calais.** JS to look into idea further and revert to Board. Not discussed.
JS
- 7.8 **Lambeth Country Show, 16 and 17 July.** Event planning.
IP
- 7.9 **Ruskin Park Summer Fete, 18 June.** Not discussed

8 **Trust governance and miscellaneous items**

8.1 **Declaration of Expenses.** All expenses for last month were emailed by IP in advance of the meeting and agreed.

IP /ALL

8.2 **Continued use of Co-op Bank and account signatories.** The continued use of the Co-operative Bank and new signatories were agreed

8.3 **Next Board meeting date:** 7.00 pm, 25 May.

9. AOB

9.1 **Mega-Shed.** Trust will retain the shed, but make it available to 12th Man, John Lawrence, Bill Azzi by the time of the first game of next season. This will provide time for a tidy-up.

End: 9.40 pm.