



West Ham United Supporters' Trust

Board Meeting Minutes

Date of meeting: 24/4/2023

Location: Virtual by Zoom

Present: - Nick Drane, Richard Elliot, Kevin Hind, Mark Inskipp, Andrew Knight, Rachel McFetridge, Terry Reynolds, David Shaer, Sue Watson, Chris Wheal

Apologies: David Shaer, Anthony Knight

1. Chair's welcome and apologies for absence

Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all present.
--

2. Minutes of Last Meeting and matters arising

No minutes available – to be reviewed at next meeting There were no matters arising
--

3. Preparation for general meeting

No motions received, but MI checking the registered office tomorrow.

Notice needs to go out this week. No voting required. Far more informal. Open to non-members to attend too.

Ashley from FSA happy to do a presentation.

ND had produced some questions. Agreed to send to Ashley but also to let members and supported know the questions and to ask if there are any further questions. Also can we ask for our members to rank the questions

Query whether to ask the FSA is here it sees itself going in the future. Some discussion about this and the needs for the FSA to have a better way of resolving disputes and mediating. Also, the funding from the PL raises questions about its independence. Is the regulator going to become closer and closer to the people it is supposed to be regulating? Is the FSA now part of the football establishment? Agreed we need to ask the FSA all these things, but it was a separate discussion to the white paper so would detract from the main discussion of our meeting.

Agreed SW would do an introduction to the FSA and Ashley. Ashley would get 15minutes. Then there would be Q&A.

Intrepid Irons to be explained.

Members to be asked what they would like to see us focus on.

Agreed that if they have no suggestions we could ask about:

Cost of living crisis, season ticket prices. SW concerned ticket prices was off the agenda in the white paper. ND and CW disagreed. The Regulator will not be able set prices, but it is not excluded from fan engagement. Ticket prices will be announced after the next match if they know were safe from relegation.

Catering

Stewarding/searches/stop-go boards

Changes to Stratford Station

Community engagement and obstacles to extending the fanbase

Broadcasting

Final agenda agreed as:

1. Welcome
2. Introductions
3. The White Paper: [A sustainable future - reforming club football governance](#). Ashley Brown, head of supporter engagement and governance at the [Football Supporters' Association \(FSA\)](#) will provide an update, followed by a Q&A.
4. Fan engagement at West Ham United: The WHUST board will provide an update, followed by a Q&A.
5. Intrepid Irons: An introduction to the new [women's supporters' group for West Ham](#) fans. Check them out on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).
6. Focus of the trust for next season: Members are invited to tell the board the issues you would like us to focus on for the coming season.

Confirmed that motions had to be submitted in advance so there could go on the agenda. Amendments can come from the floor of the meeting on the day.

Meeting agenda to be posted on social media once the email has gone out and MI has done a website posting.

4. AOB

Next item on the agenda is to be fan engagement at the club. Some discussion about what the club is or is not proposing and the poor way it communicates. We need to agree what we do if the club does not offer what we consider meaningful engagement with timescales for replies etc. If the fan engagement does not meet the required standard, WHUST reserves its right to decide on further action. Agreed we need to look at the latest document outlining proposed standards and agree both the standards and action to take. Meaningful engagement requires the participation of WHUST. Board members have to meet FCA probity standards.

Responsibility.

6. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 8 May 2023, 6.30

Meeting closed 7.20pm