



Derby County Supporters' Board Meeting: 16th September 2024

Overview

The Derby County Supporters' Board met with Stephen Pearce (Chief Executive Officer) and Dave Biggar (Chief Commercial Officer) on 16th September 2024 at Pride Park Stadium with all members of the Supporters' Board in attendance. Ashley Brown from the Football Supporters' Association attended as a guest to offer advice as we establish the workings of the Board and the relationship with the club.

The main conversation in this meeting related to finalising the terms of reference for the Supporters' Board, an important starting point to ensure the Board is set up to be effective. We made good progress in agreeing the key parts of the document and the club were receptive to all our suggestions. We asked how the proposed veto powers would be ensured by the club and they agreed to take this away to ensure that the appropriate governance around this was present within the club. A final version was agreed to be written by the Supporters' Board, and we will share this on the club website as soon as possible.

The way that the Supporters' Board communicates with the fanbase was the next topic for conversation and we agreed upon some actions. Sharing updates to the fanbase following meetings with the club via an article such as this one, was the method we all thought would be most effective. The club agreed to provide the Supporters' Board with a section on the club website where further information on the board could be shared and stored along with biographies and photographs of the Supporters' Board. We all agreed it was important that fans could contact the Supporters' Board, the club agreed to set up an email account with direct access to the Supporters' Board. We agreed that emails should not be filtered by the club and would be received directly by the Supporters' Board. Collectively we agreed to work towards these all going live during the next international break (week commencing 7th October).

For the Supporters' Board to be effective it was agreed that we needed a clear induction into the workings of the football club, and we provided some thoughts ahead of the meeting of areas we felt we needed to know more. The club proposed that the key head of departments could attend the next meeting to help us in learning about how the club operates and we agreed this would be useful. An organisational chart was provided to us in this meeting.

The club also agreed to look at the relevant attendees for future meetings with the agenda items being planned with the seasonal nature of when topics should be discussed.

An update was provided by the club on ground safety issues and the relationship with the Sports Ground Safety Authority and the local Safety Advisory Group. The club explained some challenges that they had faced with persistent standing in the East Stand, and the directives they had received from the SGSA and SAG. They explained that if they did not tackle persistent standing in this area that they would receive sanctions that would impact the finances and reputation of the club. The club explained how they were trying to work with fans in this area and that in the most recent



home game (Cardiff City) the situation had improved. They were grateful the many fans that had responded well but stressed that they had to continue to monitor and manage the situation and would take further action if necessary.

The final agenda item covered an update on club finances and progress with finalising the latest accounts. The club is working to complete the accounts and finalise the auditing process, they committed to publishing the accounts and getting them out into the public as soon as they were completed. We discussed commentary around the accounts and the club confirmed that they would provide relevant commentary through the media and in the accounts themselves. The club also confirmed that in the next meeting they would share more detail on their financial planning for the next few years.

As we move forwards with meetings with the club, we'll continue to share information in the best way we can, we do welcome feedback so if any fan would like to share that with us, please reach out via our email address. Now that our email address is live, we also welcome any questions or issues you want us to put to the club so please reach out to us if you have anything you'd like to know about the Supporters' Board or anything you think we should be raising to the club in line with our terms of reference.

ENDS