

Quarterly Meeting

Meeting Notes and Actions

Everton Football Club and Everton FC Shareholders' Association

Location: Goodison Park

22 July 2015 10:00am – 11:15pm

Attendees: Anne Asquith Vice-Chair, EFCSA
John Blain Chairman, EFCSA
Brian Doogan Everton FC
Robert Elstone CEO, Everton FC
Tom Hughes Executive Committee Member, EFCSA
Richard Kenyon Everton FC

AGENDA

1. Introductions JohnB
2. Update on EFC Annual General Meeting Robert
3. Update on proposed new stadium Robert
4. Update on the Board Robert
5. AOB

Introduction

This meeting is part of a series scheduled for 2015 that will take place on a quarterly basis between Everton FC, represented by the Chief Executive Robert Elstone and supported by selected colleagues. The Association is to be represented by the Chairman, John Blain, and representatives of the Shareholders' Association Executive Committee.

For this meeting Mr Elstone was supported by Richard Kenyon and Brian Doogan and John Blain attended with Executive Committee Members Anne Asquith (Vice-Chair) and Tom Hughes.

Summary

The meeting took place in Mr Elstone's office at Goodison Park and lasted for a little over an hour.

Planning for the EFC Annual General Meeting

Mr Elstone again confirmed that the Annual General Meeting will take place this year and that the meeting will be chaired by Club Chairman Bill Kenwright.

The meeting will take place after the publication of the company accounts which are expected to be signed-off after the close of the current transfer window, in early September, and published in early October. It is currently expected that the AGM will take place in early November, at a venue to be determined but one that allows for the attendance of the expected number (>350) of Shareholders.

The Association is keen to make the meeting as lean and productive as possible and has offered its guidance and support to the club to ensure that this is achieved. A meeting planned for June with the Club to move this forward was cancelled with the Club intending to contact the Association nearer the time to progress.

Update on proposed new stadium

Mr Elstone confirmed that the project continues to progress.

John Blain queried if the Board had made the commitment to progress towards a Planning Application? Mr Elstone confirmed again that the Board have not yet made the decision and furthermore confirmed that the elapsed time from that decision to the formal submission of a Planning Application is likely to be 9-months.

John Blain noted that it seems unlikely therefore that a Planning Application for Walton Hall Park will be made before the end of Q1 2016.

This prompted a fair amount of debate about alternatives, notably the redevelopment of Goodison Park. Led for the Association by Tom Hughes it was interactive with Mr Elstone noting that whilst re-developing Goodison Park might be physically possible other (new build) options are almost certainly more viable because Goodison is difficult to make work financially (including naming rights), and the lack of development space at Goodison. Based on previous assessment, a redeveloped Goodison on the same footprint may have a reduced capacity of as low as 34,000.

Mr Elstone was interested in what Tom Hughes had to say and in particular his informed insistence that the stadium could be re-developed to a higher capacity whilst maintaining its heritage. Mr Elstone confirmed that he would always be willing to review and consider any plans to redevelop Goodison Park.

Commenting on the financial challenges of re-developing Goodison Park John Blain queried if the Club would be interested in working with a well backed Fans Group. Mr Elstone said that he would be interested and noted conversations in the past where the Club had worked with representative Fan Groups. However, discussions had not progressed as those organisations he'd spoken with were unable to raise necessary funding.

Update on the Board

Mr Elstone confirmed that the Board was functioning as normal and that a Board Meeting had taken place within the last month and that he recently had a long meeting with the Chairman.

AOB

Transfer Window

As is sensible at this time of the year Mr Elstone would not be drawn on media speculation about our players.

The next meeting between EFC and EFCSA needs to be confirmed but will take place after the General Meeting.