

Minutes of the AFCW PLC Board Meeting Thursday 23 February 2023

Present: Iain McNay, Kris Stewart, Michele Little, Nick Robertson, Graeme Price, Mick Buckley (online), David Charles. (Craig Cope, Danny Macklin, Laurie Hill present up to and including item 10.)

1. **Apologies for absence.** None.
2. **Minutes of previous meeting for approval.** Approved.
3. **Matters arising not on agenda.** None.
4. **Laurie Hill and Craig Cope update.** Discussion led by CC describing current progress on agreeing the preferred style of play for the club. Players will be developed to fit this and recruits to match the style. A technical board meeting will be convened to discuss further the style of play and impact on Academy Development (if any) and player monetisation strategy. This will then be presented back to the PLC board.
5. **Johnnie's update via Teams.** Recent games have shown we are becoming a tough team against which to play. As new players gel, more goals should come. Atmosphere around the club is very good. Unfortunately, Injuries mean the full squad will be utilised. Planned Improvements will be made to training ground and facilities.
6. **Finance update with Laurie – Management Accounts and Cashflow.** LH picked out key messages from his report. Budget holders have been given much more accountability. Several areas of both under and over delivery were identified.
Cashflow: Current cash surplus on short term deposit. How can we get more interest on this?
7. **Refinancing update/Finance Committee update with Michele Little.** There is about £3.5m of equity to be refinanced by March 2025. At present there is £400k of interest to pay on PL Bonds. A discussion ensued about progress on refinancing options. Are repayments likely to emerge from the operational budget? PLC equity sales or elsewhere? How is the DTB progressing with discussing further equity sales with members?
8. **Spencer via Teams.** Launch of partnership with Richmond-upon-Thames College (RuTC) provided solid foundation. SCL and Longfield International College partnerships will be launched soon. We are on schedule for this year's budget. First cohort of adult courses will start after April at PL. DM agreed that seeking "quick wins" is not helpful. Spencer insisted that solid long-term partners are vital to long-term benefits. DM added that the marketing will be increased.
9. **Safeguarding and D & I.** Review on the girls' section by Frank Thompson was very thorough; his recommendations need to be implemented. The terms of reference for the board of the women's teams need to be clarified. KS expressed the possibility that there should be representation of the women's board at the PLC. The DTB will discuss aspirations for women's and girls' football, necessary governance and structure required and make a recommendation for the PLC board.
10. **Managing Director's Report.** MD received and answered questions about his report on several topics including planned changes in commercial department, the new white paper on football regulation and the recent L2 meeting.
11. **Actions from previous minutes reviewed.**
All agreed actions completed.
12. **Strategy/ PLC Board responsibilities.**

A joint board day will be planned to review and update strategy.

KS reminded the PLC board of areas where they could make decisions and areas where DTB approval was required. DTB members on PLC also have a veto on decisions. A joint board nominations Committee comprising two members of the DTB, and the PLC board will be convened for the appointment of PLC NEDs.

13. A.O.B. Approval was given to change the name of AFC Wimbledon Ladies FC Ltd to AFC Wimbledon Women Ltd.

14. Date of next meeting. Wednesday 15 March at 14.30.