



MEETING LINCOLN CITY FOOTBALL CLUB FAN ADVISORY BOARD (FAB) MEETING
 LOCATION Foundation Classroom
 DATE 25 November 2023
 TIME 12:30 pm

**MEETING #39
 MINUTES**

PRESENT:

- Tony Smith (Chair) (TS)
- Charlie Beeston (CB)
- Marcus Burton (MB)
- Chris Laming (CL)
- Rob Noble (RN)
- Liam Scully (LS)
- Damian Froggatt (DF)
- Roy Thomson (RT)
- Jon Clack (JC)
- Rick Laika (RL)
- Jonathan Battersby (JB)
- Jackie Atkins - Minutes Secretary (JA)
- Sam Kendall (SK)

The Fan Advisory Board held our final meeting of the year ahead of our exciting drawn game with Barnsley.

As usual we discussed a wide range of off-field & fan related matters including the new club crest, standing options in the new Stacey West Stand development, allocated seating & transport for away games & the format of the EFL Trophy. Additionally Liam provided further detail regarding the future financial EFL deal with the Premier League which can be viewed within our minutes shown below. We are also looking forward to working with the FPA on the club's Hall of Fame project.

Ahead of our next meeting on 20th January 2024 before the Derby County home game please get in touch via our email address fabchair@theredimps.com if you have any off-field questions or views which you would like us to discuss with the club's hierarchy. We look forward to hearing from you & will inform you of the outcome after the meeting.

The Fan Advisory Board wish Imps fans & everyone at Lincoln City FC a Happy Christmas with a sack full of points for us all to enjoy.

Tony Smith
 Chair of the Lincoln City FC Fan Advisory Board.

#	ITEM	ACTION:
1.	Meeting Admin	TS
	A. Apologies: David Lowes, Andy Helgesen, Toby Freestone	
	Noted.	
	B. Estimated or required time of meeting close – 13:45	
	Noted	



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2.	Minutes/Actions From Last Meeting	TS
	The minutes of our previous meeting have been delayed for confidentiality reasons relating to the proposed change to the club crest but will be available for approval by FAB & publication within the next few days. All attendees are happy with this	TS
3.	Welcome	TS
	Welcome to everyone. Good meeting last time and looking forward to a good discussion at this meeting.	
4.	Branding	AW/LS
	Club are working with supporter groups to gain support for the change to the Imp design. LCFC Board, RICT, LISA, FPA have all given unanimous support. LS is requesting the view of FAB members before the votes goes live on 1st December. All present at the meeting gave their unanimous support for the change of crest.	
5.	Hall of Fame	RN
	A proposal from the FPA that John Kennedy be admitted into the Hall of Fame. There is currently no formal process in place for entrants into the HoF. The club believe this should be a fan led project. FAB asked to work with the FPA to think about what process could be implemented. TS passed our thanks and said we are proud to be involved with this project	
6.	Standing in Stacey West	LS
	LS - confirmed that the options for the SW stand are rails or rails/seats combination which will create more standing for home fans at selected game too. Locations yet to be confirmed. DF - The standing in Upper 7 has been well received by fans and the Safety Group	LS/DF
7.	Away Games Allocated Seating	RT
	RT raised this issue following the Peterborough game. LS Safety officials at all grounds should know their stadiums, which is usually the determining factor between allocated Vs unallocated seating arrangements, but this is difficult to monitor. Unallocated seating does mean that a club lose 10% of their capacity due to safety requirements.	LS
8	EFL Deal	TS
	LS is optimistic that an agreement between the PL and EFL will happen. There is still some debating over critical points. When the deal is agreed between the authorities, all clubs will have a 'take or don't take' option as the ability to 'pick and mix' is not realistic. Redistribution and reform both have to happen. Likely to be 3 years transition. All clubs must be aware of not creating a pyramid that favours big clubs/big fan base that prevents small clubs from progressing.	LS



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9.	EFL Trophy	TS
	<p>TS-We have voiced our concerns in the past regarding the format of the competition with fans continuing to show very little interest particularly in attending the games involving PL U21 teams.</p> <p>LS – We are expecting some proposed changes to the format, but believe Clubs will be consulted on this matter as it will sit outside of the master ‘ new deal’ proposition.</p>	LS
10	Away Transport	TS
	<p>TS - Peterborough away - only two carriages on the home train. Can we liaise with transport companies to try to negate issues with fans being mixed with home team supporters and causing flashpoints. LS - the club do try to communicate needs but these are not always met.</p>	LS
11	Club Media Outlets	RT
	<p>RT - There seems to be more in-house media lately. Is there a plan to move down the Peterborough route? LS - no plan to do so. Club believe it should be free to air for all fans for news and updates. BBC contract is due to renew next year. Club have no plans to put anything behind a paywall system.</p>	LS
12	Fans Forums	SK
	<p>SK - suggestion to open up to fans for suggestions for what they want to see at Fans Forums. TS - Perhaps a mix of formats - eg: an evening with.... ex player/forum guest/manager owners/board and specialist club presentations.</p>	SK/TS
13	Any other Business	
	<p>Email is getting good use.</p> <p>Message from Melanie Bowler - are there plans for another clock in the stadium as it is difficult to see the current one in some parts of the stadium.</p> <p>LS - There is intent from the club to install a new scoreboard/clock within the SW development.</p> <p>No agenda items to be carried over to next meeting</p> <p>Next meeting: 20/01/2024 (pre Derby game) - 12:30 Venue: Foundation Classroom</p>	TS
	Meeting closed: 13.54 pm	