

Minutes of meeting of Supporters' Board, March 26, 2022

Present: Gavin Baldwin, Shaun Lockwood, Liam Hoden, James Errington, Derek Daniels, Paul Mayfield, Mellony Shepherd, Gill Shepherd, Len South, Matty Davis.
Apologies: Martin O'Hara, Patrick Queen, Lizzie Robinson

1. The formation of the new Shadow Board

- a. It was confirmed that Derek Daniels had been elected as chair of the new Shadow Board with James Errington becoming vice-chair.
- b. On March 22, DD had met with Shaun Lockwood to discuss the position and the formation of the Shadow Board.
 - From the meeting, it was recommended that the Shadow Board contain one member from each of the following groups:
 - Supporters' Trust
 - Supporters' Club
 - Black Bank
 - Women Supporters' Group
 - It was also recommended that the Board include representatives from Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) and youth supporters, as per the fan-led review.
 - Matty Davis confirmed the Black Bank would be continuing in its current guise for at least one more season.
- c. A discussion was held on the process of electing members to the board. It was suggested that to be eligible for election, individuals would need to be on the club's ticketing database with a history of regularly attending home matches.
- d. It was confirmed the Shadow Board will contain ten members.
- e. It was suggested that current Supporters' Board members from the various organisations migrate across to the Shadow Board to ensure a smooth transition. It was suggested this migration period would be for an initial 12 months to ensure the Shadow Board was fully up and running before any election period. After the 12 months, individuals could decide if they were willing to stand for election.

2. Publicising the Shadow Board

- a. A discussion was held on how the Shadow Board members could engage with the wider fanbase in order to ensure issues are addressed and views listened to.
- b. Various options were suggested, including designated meeting points on matchdays and the publishing of contact details.

- c. The need to promote the past work of the Supporters' Board and the work to come from the Shadow Board was stressed, in particular how the views of the Board had influenced decisions within the club.
 - i. Past work to be highlighted includes:
 - 1. Current season ticket pricing
 - 2. The season ticket refunds policy during Covid-19
 - 3. The implementation of unreserved seating in the South Stand
- d. Liam Hoden explained there would be a greater prominence given on the DRFC website to the Shadow Board, particularly as it launches with profiles of the members and contact details.
- e. Shaun Lockwood read the section of the Fan-Led Review which specifically suggests what a Shadow Board should look like.
 - i. Meetings to be held a six-week intervals
 - ii. Annual presentations from various departments within the club to discuss current performance and future plans - eg: finance, operations, communications
 - iii. Fan engagement and community engagement should be agenda items at every meeting

3. AOB

- a. Dan Pearson presented a list of questions to Gavin Baldwin about the current state of DRFC including the playing budget, player fitness and recruitment of players. GB spoke of plans to change the structure around the first team manager with the likely creation of a head of football operations position which would bring together various departments under one guiding hand.
- b. Matty Davis offered an update on the section banner proposed in the previous meeting. Discussions are on-going including the possibility of not requiring crowd funding for the project.

The date of the next meeting was set at April 23, 2022