



SWANSEA CITY SUPPORTERS' TRUST

BOARD MEETING MINUTES 1st June 2026 @ 4pm BST

Trust Board Member	Present Y/N	In person/MS Teams
Dave Dalton, Chair (DD)	Y	IP
Chris Golledge, Vice Chair (CG)	Y	IP
Paul Meller, Supporter Director (PM)	Y	IP
Diane Hughes, Associate Director (DH)	Y	IP
Howell Williams, Treasurer (HW)	Y	IP
Jackie Rockey, Secretary (JR)	N	
Roger Goodwin (RG)	Y	IP
Peter Thomas (PeT)	Y	IP
Tony Sharpe (TS)	N	
Oliver Meller (OM)	N	
Teo Angheben (TA)	N	
Rupert Thomas (RT)	Y	IP
Phil Dillon (PD)	Y	IP
Paul Thomas (PaT)	N	

Apologies received from: JR, TS, PaT & OM

1. MEETING WITH CLUB REPRESENTATIVE

No club guest as holiday season

2. MAY MINUTES, ACTIONS & MATTERS ARISING

No matters arising & minutes approved.

3. FINANCE & ACCOUNTS:

a. Trust Related –

HW circulated details of latest financial position at **Appendix 1**



4. LEGAL & SHAREHOLDING

NTR

5. GOVERNANCE & SAFEGUARDING

PeT reported that Safeguarding all in a good place & our group FSA training rollout will recommence once Nicola returns to work.

6. TRUST OFFICER GROUP – inc Officer Comms with Club Reps

Reference should be made to SD/AD Report **Appendix 2**

7. GENERAL MATTERS

a. PR / Comms / Social Media

DD and PaT are meeting with Rhodri to discuss this area further on Monday June 8th & will report back in our July TBM.

b. Website / LoveAdmin Database / Trust App

NTR

c. Matchday Experience Working Group (MEWG)

DD confirmed that the last MEWG meeting was held in May and notes will be uploaded on our website as soon they'd been approved.

d. Trust Kiosk / Match Day

DD confirmed that Andrew Davies from the club will advise on a potential roof repair for the kiosk. HW flagged that the VETs may have a contact to assist.

See attached Kiosk guidance & procedure notes produced by DD & now approved for next season. Will be circulated to new board in August and copies placed inside the kiosk.

8. MEMBERSHIP inc Events Planning

Reference should be made to the Membership Report at **Appendix 3**



9. HERITAGE

Reference should be made to the Heritage Group Update at **Appendix 4**

10. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENTS

a. DSA

NTR

b. Football Supporters Association (FSA)

See FSA report from DH in **Appendix 5.**

c. Former Players Association

NTR

d. Faith in Families / Swansea Veterans / Charities / Fund Raising

NTR

e. Her Game Too/Fair Game

HGT – NTR

Fair Game see report from DH in **Appendix 6**

11. SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

RG reported whilst full programme expected next season, interest in business studies courses is gradually declining. Also stadium tours are very time limited and managing visit to upper floors has logistical difficulties.

12. SWANS FOUNDATION & ASSOCIATED PROJECTS

NTR

13. GLOBAL JACKS & SUPPORTER GROUPS

NTR - awaiting new season fixture list before next working group meeting.



14. TRUST Board Elections

DD confirmed that an email to all Trust members will go out early next week including key dates & procedure. For any board members seeking re-election or Trust members seeking election any applications and the usual 6 nominations from fellow Trust members will need to be submitted by 29/06/26.

15. AOB

DH confirmed that HF will share the final 25/26 Fan Engagement Plan & the proposed 26/27 version with us over the summer.

The meeting ended at: 6.23PM with next TBM scheduled for 4PM on Monday July 6th.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1

Summary of Accounts to 31st May:

Current and Deposit Accounts = £119.8k

Flagstone Investment Portfolio = £653.2k

Appendix 2:

Swansea City Supporters' Trust Board Meeting

1st June 2026

Supporter Director/Associate Director Update

11.5.26 Jackie Rockey appointed as new Trust secretary.

13.5.26 DD received notification from AD that he was standing down from the board as unable to attend due to new career and training commitments over the next year.

15.5.26 PM & DH notified by GC that following a majority vote by Championship clubs the new SCR rules will replace the existing P&S rules from next season.



15.5.26 DD messaged EA with the Trust's best wishes following a recent fall.

15.4.26 PM attended Foundation AGM.

16.5.26 HW, PeT and Terry attended the Swansea Junior Football League finals day at Briton Ferry FC and presented the trophies. Karen Trussler sent a message of thanks on behalf of the league on 17.5.26.

19.5.26 DH attended a Fair Game Advisory group meeting (see separate report)

20.5.26 TG responded to PM on various issues raised at last monthly catch up. Next meeting scheduled for prior to start of next season.

20.5.26 DD, CG and RT held a Teams call with GC to discuss club finances and related matters.

21.5.26 DD, PM, TS and DB attended a Heritage Group Meeting at the stadium (see separate minutes).

21.5.26 DD, PM & TS attended a MEWG meeting at the stadium (see separate minutes).

21.5.26 DH spoke with HF regarding progress with the FAB working group (no date set for a meeting yet), also, an update on the Fan Engagement Plans. Report on 2025/26 FEP is not yet complete; deadline for submission to EFL is 30.6.26. HF will send her draft report for comment to the Trust in due course. Outline of 2026/27 FEP will be available in early July - HF to attend July Trust Board as part of consultation on the FEP.

23.5.26 PM submitted the latest COAST grant bid of £2500 for a series of heritage talks on the club through the 1960s.

28.5.26 DH & HW attended a membership group meeting (see separate report).

29.5.26 DH attended an event for Trusts only hosted by Northampton Town Supporters' Trust (see separate report).

31.5.26 PM supported the Prostate Cymru PSA Testing Event hosted at the stadium by the Foundation.

PDM 1.6.26

Appendix 3:

MEMBERSHIP & EVENTS FUNDRAISING **THURSDAY 28TH MAY 2026 AT 18.00**

PRESENT - H. WILLIAMS – D. HUGHES – T. SHARPE – P. DILLON
APOLOGIES – R. GOODWIN - G. HUBSCHMID



EVENTS

A number of events are still being worked through and more details will be announced once confirmed

END OF SEASON LOCAL LEAGUES CUP FINALS

West Wales Women's & Girls League – We were unable to attend the Cup Finals Day at Briton Ferry F.C. due to the unavailability of TBM's to attend.

Swansea Junior F.L. – This was a 2-x day event held at Briton Ferry F.C. Peter T. – Terry R. and myself attended on the Saturday, but no TBM's were available on Sunday. We received a very warm welcome and were really well looked after and appreciated for being in attendance.

Swansea District Schools F.A. - We were informed very late of their Football Festival week-end taking place on Saturday 2nd May the same day as our last home match of the season v Charlton on Sunday 3rd May. Followed by another 3 days of Finals on 12th -14th May again held at Briton Ferry F.C.

Swansea Senior League – we were invited to attend the senior cup Finals (which we did last year). Phil D attended on Saturday 9th at Garden Village F.C. to present the medals and was made very welcome by the organisers. I will let Phil relay his experience of the day.

No AOB

Meeting ended at 19.20

Howell Williams
28.05.2026

Appendix 4:

Heritage Sub-Group Update

May 2026

The heritage sub-group met on 21st May at the Stadium.

The group is now made up of:

Paul Meller (PM)
Dave Dalton (DD)
Tony Sharpe (TS)
Andrew Gwilym (AG)
Hayley Ford (HF)
David Brayley (DB)



Stuart McDonald (SMD)
Gwyn Rees (GR)

PM chaired the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. AG joined via MS Teams

Updating Stadium Visuals

The first part of the meeting was taken up with a walk around the inside of the stadium to identify Ospreys pictures, images and artwork that will soon need replacing with suitable Swansea City pictures and artefacts. After the walk SMD calculated there are approximately 68 prints in frames and 6 other pieces of work that will need switching over.

HF will now talk to the Ospreys to establish their plans for all these items and if they'd like us to safely store them for a while longer?

SMD and GR confirmed there should be no problem finding suitable material to replace the Ospreys items and that the Club has a variety of items safely stored inside the stadium. Both they and HF will investigate that further.

HF will also have a conversation with the Hospitality Team on what any potential new/replacement frames would look like and seek suitable suppliers and likely costs.

Heritage Talks

PM confirmed a new application has just been submitted for COAST funding for the latest round of heritage talks prepared and delivered by David Brayley. This time they would focus on the 1960s and the number of talks/venues will be dependent on how successful the application will be and whether any alternative funding can be found to make up any shortfalls.

Ivor Allchurch – Golden Days

DB confirmed the film has been really well received since it was launched on YouTube last month. It's now been viewed over 6700 times and DB suggested the Trust and the Club keep promoting it on socials every few months.

It's entries to the Berlin Film Awards and Carmarthen Bay Film Festival weren't successful on this occasion but were highly commended and invited for re-submission again in the future.

It was however featured very positively on the recent [Socially Distant Sports Bar Podcast](#)

TS asked if Newcastle United were aware of it and DD confirmed they were sent a copy when it was officially released last month. HF will check to see if she has any contacts there and follow it up accordingly.

DB also advised he had approached the Wal Goch about a possible screening before it was publicly released and has subsequently made them aware of its availability on YouTube



Player Walls

SMD has recently spoken to the Club over how they're progressing with fixing the plaques to the new backing boards for the:

- (i) International Wall
- (ii) Relocated Robbie James Wall of Fame

Both are going to be situated on the walls outside stadium reception so they can be easily added to in future years. There are currently 136 players for the International Wall and HF will double check with the FAW there aren't any women international players who also played for the Swans at the same time and advise SMD and GR accordingly.

HF confirmed she'd like to officially unveil both walls with an announcement due to go out from the Club early next week. There would also be an invite to supporters to bring along items for a "pop-up" museum and there would also be heritage films and DVDs available for viewing.

Any funds raised will go towards the Swansea City Former Players Association who would also be asked to support the event in whatever way they can.

Railway Inn Murals

TS updated the group as to progress on the two planned large murals at each outer end of the Railway Inn. He needs to speak to landlord Jamie again in the coming days about ensuring both wall exteriors are sound enough for the murals to be painted and then arrange a timeframe for the scaffolding to go up around the artists availability.

Being no further business the meeting closed at 5pm.

Dave Dalton
25th May 2026

Appendix 5:

Football Supporters Association (FSA) Update

June 2026

There have been no network meetings in May but the FSA AGM takes place on June 6th and I outline below the topics to be discussed and voted on at that meeting. I am unable to attend in person this year but have a zoom link and a proxy vote.

Sorry for the length but details of these 7 motions are directly taken from the FSA AGM papers. The FSA National Council supports Motions 1-5 and I suspect these will pass with less debate. However, motions 6 and 7 may be more contentious.



I will vote on each motion on behalf of the Trust, so please can TBMs read the motions and come to the board with their views, particularly on motions 6 & 7. Anyone unable to attend, please forward your thoughts to me.

Motion #1 - Consultation on Changes to Competition Structure

Proposer: Charlton Athletic Supporters Trust; **Seconded:** Millwall Supporters Club

Background: The intent of the motion is to give the FSA greater support via a mandate to campaign for consultation on any future proposals such as the recent changes to the Championship Playoffs format. It is future proofed against eventualities by referring to 'competition organisers' rather than just the EFL.

Motion: As part of its continuing commitment to sporting integrity, the FSA resolves to seek agreement from the Competition Organisers (i.e. EFL, PL, WSL, NL etc) that they will direct their clubs to consult fans prior to votes on changes to the structure of the season and the mechanisms for promotion and relegation.

National Council comment on Motion #1:

We support this motion as a practical and proportionate step towards strengthening meaningful supporter engagement in the overall governance of the game. Structural changes to competitions have far reaching consequences for clubs, supporters and the wider pyramid. Ensuring fans are properly consulted prior to such decisions reinforces the principles of transparency, accountability and sporting integrity and helps embed good governance practices across the game.

Motion #2

Fully commit to sustaining and further integrating the existing FFD/FSA LGBTQ+ Hub as a core, ongoing stream of work within the Fans for Diversity campaign

Proposer: James Laley (Rainbow Blades); **Seconded:** Darren Yates (Rainbow Spireites)

Background: The FSA/FFD LGBTQ+ Hub was established in September 2025 with its first official meeting in November 2025. Since then, it has had a second meeting in March 2026. They are around 50 LGBTQ+ supporters' groups with many having already connected and interacted with the hub and a growing number now official FSA members, which form part of the Fans for Diversity (FFD) membership. The hub has quickly become an important part of the Fans for Diversity campaign, ensuring LGBTQ+ supporters are represented within wider FSA activity. The hub has already begun developing documentation and action planning, and external organisations have begun engaging with it as a representative voice for LGBTQ+ football supporters.

Motion: We now believe the time is right to fully commit to sustaining and further integrating the existing FFD/FSA LGBTQ+ Hub as a core, ongoing stream of work within the Fans for Diversity campaign, ensuring its continued growth and impact.

Actions:

- The FSA will commit to sustaining and expanding the work of the existing FSA/FFD LGBTQ+ Hub.
- Continue to engage LGBTQ+ fan groups, FFD campaign, and other stakeholders and partners to strengthen the hub.
- Publish a 2026/27 strategy and action plan.
- Organise an in-person gathering of LGBTQ+ supporters' groups in October 2026.
- Support LGBTQ+ supporters' groups to develop strong, sustainable organisations, while assisting the formation of new groups where needed.



National Council comment on Motion #2:

We support this motion and recognise the significant progress made by the FSA/FFD LGBTQ+ Hub. Formalising the Hub as an integrated workstream within Fans for Diversity will provide stability and enable long-term planning to ensure that the LGBTQ+ supporters' voices continue to be embedded within the FSA's wider activity and decision-making processes.

Motion #3

Inconsistencies in FA Rules Regarding Abandoned Games

Proposer: Scunthorpe United Supporters Society; **Seconded by:** Rob Bradley (Red Imps Community Trust)

Background: On 6th September 2025 the game between Scunthorpe United and Wealdstone was abandoned in the declared added time. The referee made this decision when the Wealdstone's players and officials left the field and refused to return due to a non-serious injury to one of their players. The NL declared that SUFC be awarded 3 points and the result would be recorded as 0-0. This deemed scoreline does not follow precedent set in other English Leagues nor international precedent (e.g. Morocco v Senegal plus many more). The 0-0 result compromises the sporting integrity of the National League; it rewards the offending team to the detriment of all other NL teams. It creates an incentive for a team losing heavily to abandon the game, forfeit the 3 points but not suffer the negative goal difference. The NL rule that all yellow and red cards that are handed out in the abandoned game remain although perversely the game does not count towards any players serving suspension. In the National League, abandoned games follow the standard FA rules with regards to points awarded and recorded result. We believe these rules contain a number of inconsistencies especially with regard to recorded score and the treatment of cards and suspensions in these matches, which leave clubs at this level at a disadvantage.

Motion: The FSA recognises the concerns around rule inconsistencies regarding abandoned games and agrees that they warrant formal consideration and engagement with the Football Association.

Actions:

- To raise the issue with the FA via structured dialogue and encourage them to review the rules on abandoned games and address the inconsistencies in these rules.

National Council comment on Motion #3:

We support this motion and recognise the legitimate concerns raised regarding inconsistencies in the application of rules governing abandoned matches. Situations of this nature have clear implications for sporting integrity, competitive balance, and supporter confidence in the fairness of competition outcomes. We believe this motion represents a constructive step towards addressing an important governance issue and supports the call for formal dialogue and review.

Motion #4

Encouraging Sustainable Financial Models in English Football

Proposer: Daniel Sharples; **Seconder:** Chester FC

Background: The Independent Football Regulator recently announced that as part of its licensing regime, clubs must hold appropriate financial resources to meet their financial



commitments and withstand stresses such as relegation, withdrawal of owner funding or other income shocks. More and more clubs across the English football pyramid are operating with persistent financial losses or relying heavily on owner subsidies to remain competitive, with those in non-league often particularly reliant on external funding. With the introduction of stricter licensing regimes for tiers 1-5, clubs further down the pyramid may become more attractive for the unsustainable investment models that the regimes are seeking to address. This leaves those clubs and their fans more vulnerable to financial shocks and creates a regulatory cliff edge for those approaching tier 5.

Motion: The Football Supporters' Association therefore calls upon the National League and other governing bodies below tier 5 to introduce governance procedures that look to mirror those set out by the Independent Football Regulator insofar as is possible, to encourage financial sustainability and help better prepare clubs to meet the regulatory requirements should they be promoted into tier 5, or the remit of the IFR be extended.

National Council comment on Motion #4:

We support this motion and recognise the importance of financial sustainability across all levels of the football pyramid. Encouraging the National League and other bodies below tier 5 to adopt proportionate governance measures aligned with the Regulator's approach is in line with work already being done within the FSA to ensure clubs are "regulator ready" which will help promote greater financial resilience, support better long-term planning, and ensure that clubs are more prepared for progression within the pyramid.

Motion #5

Food Allergies and Intolerances

Proposer: Tim Hillyer; **Seconder:** Dan Crawford

Background: The Patterns and Prevalence of Adult Food Allergy (PAFA) report dated 16 May 2024 published by the Food Standards Agency (FSA) a large study into the prevalence of food allergies in the adult population in the UK found that more than 30% of adults reported some types of adverse reactions when eating food – meaning they had an illness or trouble when eating a particular food. When this was investigated further through a clinical assessment, it was found that around 6% of the UK adult population are estimated to have a clinically confirmed food allergy. This equates to around 2.4 million adults in the UK. The Food Standard Agency (FSA) publishes 'allergen guidance for food businesses' detailing the 14 recognised allergens which are crucial for food labeling and safety, as they can cause severe allergic reactions in sensitive individuals. Catering outlets at football stadiums in England and Wales at all levels serve food drink to 00s and 000s of supporters in limited time intervals pre-match and at half-time. It is rare to see allergy and /or food intolerance information displayed on menus, signboards and tariff lists at outlets. Most outlets display notices inviting customers to ask for information about ingredients of products relating to allergies and food intolerances. There are obvious problems obtaining allergy and food intolerance information during such intense trading periods. There can be surprising ingredients in common products such as milk in brioche rolls; celery in Bovril foil sealed cups; and celery in Heinz tomato ketchup.

Motion: The Football Supporters' Association (FSA) believes that the 14 recognised food allergens be clearly identified as ingredients at the catering outlets and hospitality areas of football stadiums on signage and menus and staff/volunteers trained appropriately.

Actions:

The FSA AGM mandates officers, National Council members, affiliates and associates to contact leagues and clubs and encourage them to fulfil their legal obligations to:



1. Educate and train catering and hospitality staff in allergy and food intolerance awareness and legal responsibilities
2. Include pop up outlets and food courts as well as stadium owned catering and hospitality outlets
3. Ensure that menus, display boards and tariffs include clear details of allergens included in all food and drink products
4. Maintain and update signage, tariffs and menus when ingredients of products change or new items are added to the range
5. Ask clubs to consider asking their medical professionals and first aiders to include EpiPens in their medical kits to deal with potential cases of anaphylaxis and to organise appropriate training.

National Council comment on Motion #5:

We support this motion and recognise the importance of improving accessibility and safety for supporters with food allergies and intolerances. The evidence demonstrating the prevalence of food allergies across the adult population underlines the scale of the issue and the need for clear, consistent, and readily accessible information within football stadiums.

The actions outlined in this motion are proportionate and aligned with existing legal obligations, while also promoting best practice across all levels of the game. In particular, the emphasis on staff training, inclusion of all catering outlets, and maintaining up-to-date information reflects a comprehensive approach to safeguarding supporters.

Motion #6

A level legal playing field for football fans

Proposer: WHUST; Seconder: Wolves 1877 Trust

Background: Entering a football stadium without a ticket has been made a criminal offence. Entering other stadia – or the same stadia for a non-footballing event – will not be a criminal offence. This adds to a litany of other discriminatory actions against football supporters. These include, but are not limited to:

- Specific restrictions that only apply to football fans;
- Lower levels of evidence required for football banning orders, with no legal aid provided to defend the charges;
- Sentencing guidelines that instruct the courts to implement higher penalties for offences at a football match than for exactly the same offence at a different sport or entertainment event (even if held in the very same stadium).

The Home Office publishes misleading statistics on offences by football fans. The most recent report says there were 1,932 football-related arrests during the 2024 to 2025 domestic football season (11% decrease on the previous season). It reports this as 4.2 arrests per 100,000 attendees. Royal Ascot in 2025 had 15 arrests out of 286,541 attendees giving it an arrest rate of 5.2 per 100,000. In 2024 there were 54 arrests with 273,526 attending. While this was reported as just 0.2% of the 273,526 who attended, using the same reporting method as football it gives a rate of 19.7 per 100,000.

The Home Office reports just raw numbers of arrests for individual clubs. This always makes the clubs with the most fans and the most matches (successful domestic and/or European cup runs) have the highest numbers, when their per 100,000 figure might be much lower than smaller clubs with lower attendance figures. This again skews the impression given. The Home Office reports that its 4.4 per 100,000 figure is based on more



than 46 million football fans attending matches. The tiny total arrest figure of 1,932 is too small to be shown as a percentage, in the way the Royal Ascot figures are presented.

The reporting of data distorts the picture and allows politicians to pass laws against football fans when the real numbers prove there is no worse behaviour among the vast majority of football fans than any other groups of the population. In fact, it is often better and is improving.

Motion:

The FSA:

1. Notes with concern the growing list of rules, regulations, laws and guidance that treat football fans differently from the general public as a whole.
2. Notes that the reporting of arrests statistics is inconsistent and skews policy-making against football fans.
3. Believes there must be a level playing field, with one law for all, applied equally regardless of location or activity, with decision-making based on indisputable evidence.
4. Believes arrest statistics for all sports and leisure activities must be reported in a consistent manner, either as per 100,000 or as a percentage of all attendees.

Actions:

The FSA will:

1. Work with the Home Office, Ministry of Justice and other government departments as appropriate to ensure no new legislation against football fans and seek that all prejudicial practices are repealed.
2. Work with the Police, the Home Office, the National Statistician, the Government Statistical Service, the Office for National Statistics, and the Royal Statistical Society, to ensure all sports and leisure activities are reported in a consistent manner.
3. Continue to use the FA and FSA Structured Dialogue process as a forum to raise these matters and advocate for fair treatment of fans, as was the case in successive meetings with the FA around tailgating legislation.
4. Engage with the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Football Supporters to gain political support for these issues.
5. Encourage football fans to lobby their MPs to support the necessary changes.

National Council comment on Motion #6:

The FSA, and its predecessor organisations, have long campaigned against discriminatory treatment of football supporters in legislation and in policing and reporting practices. Most recently, as the motion acknowledges, in relation to the tailgating legislation introduced following the men's Euro 2020 tournament. The National Council is therefore sympathetic to the sentiment behind the motion, and FSA policy is to oppose introduction of legislation that singles out football supporters.

However, the motion commits the FSA to campaign for the repeal of 'all prejudicial practices', meaning the Sporting Events (Control of Alcohol) Act (1985), the Football Spectators' Act (1989), the Football (Disorder) Act 2000, and arguably the Football Governance Act (2025), which gives powers to football supporters denied to fans of other sports. This would put the organisation in the untenable position of effectively campaigning for the legalisation of pitch incursions, throwing missiles inside a stadium, ticket touting, racist and discriminatory chanting, pyrotechnics, and the scrapping of all banning orders.



The National Council therefore requests that the proposer of the motion remits it to the National Council, so that the sentiment behind the motion is not lost and the Council can develop an approach to working on issues included in the motion.

Motion #7

Equal status for fan reps on local authority football Safety Advisory Groups (SAGs)

Proposer: WHUST; Seconder: Chelsea Supporters Club

Background: The Hillsborough report recommended football fan reps be part of the local council SAGs. The Sports Ground Safety Authority recommends that too (but with caveats). The safety of fans is paramount. However, many SAGs wilfully exclude fans or give the football club the authority to exclude fans. Where fans are permitted, they are sometimes treated as second class citizens and denied access to vital information and excluded from important safety discussions. This is the difference between fan reps being “invited representatives” rather than full members.

After 10 years of being refused a place on Newham council’s SAG, West Ham fans do now have a rep invited to attend for a special part of the meeting where issues raised by fans are discussed. The fan rep is then excluded from the rest of the meeting where other issues that affect fans are discussed. Fans are excluded from all working groups, including those on safe standing, for example. In anticipation of achieving full SAG membership, two board members of the West Ham United Supporters’ Trust attended the SGSA training course in stadium safety and the Trust has attended the SGSA conference. However, under a deal negotiated by the FSA, the club was given control over who can attend. So, the club refuses to let either of those trained fans be the fan rep. The club can also control what issues fans raise. Hammersmith and Fulham Council’s SAG includes fan reps from both Fulham and QPR but allows Chelsea football club to dictate that no Chelsea fan reps can attend.

The SGSA advice is that fans may be excluded from certain discussions, such as terrorism. The FSA has, so far, accepted these kinds of exclusions. In London, the very same West Ham and Chelsea fan groups that are denied access to their SAGs join others on the Metropolitan Police Independent Advisory Group for football where they receive briefings from the head of counter-terrorism. They sign the Official Secrets Act and always respect confidential information. It makes no sense for the very same individuals and fan groups to be excluded from the same information at their local SAG. The time has come to step up and demand equal treatment on SAGs for football fans reps, making them full members of their local SAG. There should be no special treatment, no additional restrictions and no specific exclusions. Crucially, the clubs should have no say, no control, no veto and no influence over who the fans can choose to send and what they can discuss. SAGs should have one set of rules applied equally to all, including fan groups.

Motion:

1. The FSA will campaign for the local council Safety Advisory Group (SAG) for every football club to include recognised fan group representatives as full members. The fan reps must have equal rights and status as any other SAG members, with the same access to documents and with no additional restrictions or controls from the club or any other group. The fan reps must not be excluded from certain parts of the agenda or subject to any more onerous confidentiality agreements or other restrictions than any other members of the SAG.



2. The FSA will work with all relevant parties, such as the Sports Ground Safety Authority, to ensure this is clearly communicated and any existing advice to the contrary is updated to promote this as best practice.
3. If necessary, the FSA will campaign for the law to be changed to reflect this.

National Council comment on Motion #7:

We recognise the importance of and support having a fan representative on local Safety Advisory Groups. For the sake of accuracy, the FSA worked with SGSA to encourage the local authority to include a supporter representative on the Newham SAG for the London Stadium, however we did not negotiate a deal that gave the club a say over who attended.

We recognise that there may sometimes be topics which it would be inappropriate for some of the SAG members to attend, such as terrorist threats. This is not a reflection of the members involved, but an understanding of the complex technical nature of some of the discussion. For clarity, the Met Police IAG has received a general briefing about counter-terrorism, however the group has never received information about specific terrorist threats which would be the case at a SAG.

The National Council therefore requests that the proposer of the motion remits it to the National Council, so that the FSA can continue to advocate for the strengthening of appropriate supporter representation within SAG structures

Di Hughes

Appendix 6:

Fair Game (FG) Update

June 2026

A meeting of the FG Advisory Council was held on May 19th 2026. Attendees from FG, Southend Shrimpers Trust, Bees United, AFC Wimbledon Foundation, Huddersfield Town AFC, Argyle Community Trust, Port Vale FC and myself.

Organisation changes

CEO, Niall Couper has left FG to set up his own business which will focus on campaigning, advocacy and pressure groups. FG will maintain a focus on football-specific advocacy, research, and engagement.

FG Conference 2026

The March conference, which was attended by a range of external stakeholders as well as FG members, included sessions on governance, finance, grassroots football and a Hillsborough workshop. Attendees expressed interest in increased networking opportunities and additional regional events. A more detailed summary of some of the topics covered at the conference is included at Appendix A.

FG Index

Data collection is currently ahead of schedule, with the main outstanding issues relating to



unpublished club accounts. There is a three-month period in which to refine outputs ahead of the planned mid-September publication. The Index will be positioned primarily as an indicator of club readiness for regulation and focus on finance, governance, engagement and transparency.

Additional Research Projects

Research activity will include a heritage paper, online harms, and an ownership-risk study is being developed with external partners. The heritage project will involve collaboration with the Football Museum and include surveys and fan consultation. We could potentially put our heritage work forward as a case study.

Parliamentary Engagement

The All-Party Parliamentary Group for Football (APPG) meets monthly when parliament is in session and FG act as APPG secretariat. FG members often attend and contribute to these sessions. It is hoped that future sessions will be extended to allow online attendance and participation (which I look forward to!)

APPG activity is currently considering how to tackle online harms. Future topics include a session with Howard Webb on refereeing, a sporting events bill session on ticketing and resale, and an October safeguarding session intended to clarify responsibilities relating to grassroots youth protection.

Football Supporters' Association

FG wishes to re-engage with the FSA; there have previously been tensions between the FSA and the ex FG CEO.

Community and Grassroots Support

I submitted the following topic for discussion: *"The Swans Trust support grass roots football (via contributions to 4 junior leagues and attend their end of year events) and work in partnership with several local charities (including contributions from Trust funds, collections at our match day kiosk, annual quiz and an online raffle). However, we get little benefit by way of trust membership for this community work although we get some awareness of the trust via their social media. Do other trusts/fan groups have a similar issue? Any thoughts on how we can achieve better support for the trust from our support for the community would be welcome"*

The group shared examples of delivery models that secure protected low-cost or no-cost community access through social-value partnerships and trust-led fundraising approaches. The strength of relationships between trusts and foundations was also discussed. I now have contact details for several members of the group and will have further 1-2-1 discussions on their approaches and outcomes and will report back to the Board in due course.

Supporter Behaviour

Concerns were raised regarding supporter behaviour, including chanting, pyrotechnics, alcohol and drug-related incidents, and the movement of abusive behaviour from online



spaces into stadiums and surrounding areas. Examples were shared of rioting in city centres and increased numbers of younger ‘fans’ drinking heavily and not attending matches to watch the football, only to cause disruption.

APPENDIX A – SUMMARY OF FG CONFERENCE

GOVERNANCE AND THE INDEPENDENT FOOTBALL REGULATOR

Speakers were optimistic about the Football Governance Act 2025 (FGA 2025), which established a new statutory framework for the governance of English men's football and introduced an Independent Football Regulator (IFR) to oversee the top 116 football clubs.

Financial stability and good governance are paramount to the long-term sustainability of football. Delegates highlighted the IFR's various new powers, particularly in relation to club owners and financial stability. The first State of the Game report – which is expected in draft form in Autumn 2026 – will provide further detail as to the issues that the IFR will seek to regulate.

Fans and the IFR agree that part of good governance is ensuring clubs effectively engage with their fanbases (and this is now required under the FGA 2025). Better integration into local communities and maximising resources builds more resilient and inclusive clubs with an engaged and sustainable fanbase. The impact that football clubs have on local communities cannot be underestimated: some delegates argued clubs should be awarded for good governance off the pitch as well as good results on the pitch, to reflect the broader importance of the game for economic growth and community cohesion.

FINANCE

Funding sources and club ownership structures can be intricate, reflecting the scale and ambition of the modern game. Speakers highlighted the growing momentum behind improving transparency, recognising that clearer information creates confidence and resilience across all levels of football. There was strong support for robust checks and balances that encourage responsible ownership, long-term commitment, and decision-making that prioritises the best interests of the sport and its communities.

Considerable attention is also being given to how revenue can be shared more effectively across the football pyramid. Speakers welcomed evidence-led proposals that would enable a fairer and more sustainable distribution of resources, including mechanisms that recognise and reward clubs investing in successful youth development. These ideas were presented as a constructive pathway towards long-term stability, helping to safeguard clubs, protect local communities, and ensure that financial reform remains a positive and collaborative priority for all stakeholders.

TACKLING SOCIAL ISSUES

Social issues including sexism, racism, transphobia and homophobia are all experienced not only on the pitch, but via online platforms. Delegates were in agreement that more needs to be done to tackle these harms against footballers, fans and referees. There was clear consensus that meaningful progress can be achieved through collective action, including openly challenging harmful behaviour, strengthening regulatory responses and ensuring accountability through appropriate sanctions such as stadium bans, and educating



younger generations, with serious calls for these social issues to be integrated into school curriculums. Day 1 of the conference closed with the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Football's hearing into online harms, which provided a sobering reminder of the challenges posed by abusive behaviour, and a call-to-action for all stakeholders to take meaningful action to safeguard those at risk, and to eradicate permissive cultures at their source.

SPORTSWASHING

As foreign investment in domestic sports grows, there is increasing opportunity for clubs and stakeholders to demonstrate leadership in addressing human rights risks. Politicians, fans and civil society have put a spotlight on these issues, underlining the necessity of good human rights due diligence for sponsors, funders, owners and managers to identify and mitigate human rights risks throughout the sporting supply chain.