

OUSP PANEL ONLY MEETING

Held Online

MONDAY 17TH APRIL 2023



1. **Attendees**

Paul Scaysbrook (chair) **PS**; Pete Chilton (vice-chair) **PC**; Janine Bailey (secretary) **JB**; Grace Bailey **GB**; Henry Lane **HL**.

Apologies

Dean Worrall

2. **Matters arising from minutes of last meeting**

We are awaiting an update from AT on SLO actions.

AT

5a LB circulated list of STH promotions after the meeting. The offer has been poor this season. We look forward to meeting with the club later this week as part of the consultation process for 23-24 ticketing.

5h Away fans in home end continues to be a problem at matches with large (sell-out) away followings. Some away fans are passing postcode and additional checks – e.g. 2 Bolton fans in SSL on Saturday. They were reported via text to the “Report it” line but no action appeared to be taken. We are awaiting feedback on this. OUSP was particularly concerned that a group of Derby fans was able to sit in SSU hospitality for the Derby match, and have raised this with both ticketing and safety teams.

5j Singing Section.

Recognising that the current stadium structure is a real obstacle, OUSP agreed that it would probably be more productive to put energy into encouraging atmosphere initiatives with the current setup than changing it at this stage. Having a designated safe standing area in new stadium would be a priority for which OUSP will advocate throughout the process.

HL will contact the fans looking requesting a singing section to discuss further.

HL

OUSP election process and planning

JB’s term of office ends this season, and as she is likely to stand for re-election she withdrew from discussion on plans for OUSP election processes to take place in the summer.

PS and PC agreed to form election committee and will ask Ashley Brown of FSA to chair as in previous years.

PS PC

Stadium

JB and PS reported on their meeting with PR team for stadium earlier today. They were given an outline of the communication processes which will take place with supporters and local communities over coming weeks, and made a number of suggestions of ways in which to engage effectively and widely.

Stakeholder Meeting

OUSP agreed key points to bring to the stakeholder meeting taking place with the council officers next week.

EDI

Disabled Supporters Forum

OUSP had suggested a forum for disabled supporters take place as part of the club's involvement in the Level Playing Field week of Action at the end of February. The forum took place on 13th April online. PS, JB and GB (disabled fans and/or carers) attended this along with some 10 other supporters. We all agreed was a very constructive meeting. We look forward to seeing the meeting notes, and the establishment of a regular forum for disabled supporters.

AT

LGBTQ+ fan group

A "Proud Yellows" group is being set up. OUSP is pleased to work with Sammy to share the contact details and to promote the group widely, including in our last newsletter.

On twitter follow @ProudYellows

Email proudyellows@gmail.com

HerGameToo/Female Supporters

GB reported that there were several inappropriate sexist comments made at the recent matches regarding the female officials.

Ideally any form of abuse/discrimination is best dealt with by reporting at the time, however for those affected it is intimidating to approach a steward in view of the perpetrators. All agreed that the Report It line should be far better promoted, posters in concourses cannot be seen in the busy pre-match period or at half time, and the LED information is intermittent. Suggestions include having announcements during play and the return of posters in toilet cubicles.

In addition, when the away fans were reported at the Bolton match there was no acknowledgement, therefore no confidence that the report had been received or acted upon.

OUSP agreed to forward our concerns over report it line to AT and MW.

JB

Correspondence

Drums

OUSP has been asked to look into whether the club would stop allowing away fans to bring drums. On checking club policy on the website we noted different policies for drums in club's supporters charter and the away fans information. It was agreed that we would clarify with the club what the current policy is and explore options to amend it.

JB

Gambling

OUSP has been asked if we would support Football Supporters Against Gambling Ads (Football SAGA). This is a platform that brings fans and people harmed by gambling together enabling them to collectively urge their clubs to end and reject gambling partnerships. Football SAGA is run by [The Big Step](#) and supports their campaign to [end to all gambling advertising and sponsorship in football](#).

OUSP will look into the details of the campaign, consider the impact and the background with Joey.

ALL

AOB

GKB has requested the FSA to join their Women's Game Network Group. It was unanimously agreed to support this.

All agreed to offer an open online OUSP meeting to help potential candidates for the Panel explore the role, and give supporters the opportunity to ask any questions/make suggestions.

PS PC