

Minutes of OUSP Meeting

Wednesday 9th October 2024, 6 pm

Court Place Farm



1	Attendees: Paul Scaysbrook (vice-chair) (PS) Janine Bailey (Chair) (JB) ; Grace Bailey (GB) ; Pete Green (PG) ; Andy Holding (AH) ; Matthew O'Donoghue (Secretary) (MO'D) ; Pete Chilton (PC) . Invited: Andy Taylor (OUFC) (AT) , Adam Benson (OUFC) (AB) (Online), SLO designate (SLO) , Paul Peros (OxVox) (PP) . Apologies: Ohad Green (OG) ;	Action
5	Approval of Minutes of last meeting 8th August Approved Online	
6	Matters Arising From Minutes of 8th August 7 - JB has been in contact with the editor of the Oxford Mail in response to the non publishing of letters and some specific stories in the paper. 11- AH has been in contact with Mick Brown and the head of communications about sharing a carpooling story on the club website. 11- OUSP followed up with the club regarding a ticketing working group. This will be addressed alongside communications as per item 10 in these minutes. 11 - Her Game Too partnership agreed and published on 12th September alongside agreements with Oxford United in the Community and Oxford United Women's team.	
7	Actions since last meeting The OUSP led Fans forum had taken place at the stadium with around 40 people attending and the event was streamed online. OUSP also collated the questions for the BBC Radio Oxford special with Des Buckingham. GB, JB, OG and MOD attended a meeting with Oxford United in the Community to hear more about their work and their plans for the future. This was a really insightful evening into the work of OUitC and all of the work they are currently doing in and around Oxfordshire.	

	<p>GB, JB, MOD and PS met with Blaine, the manager of the Catherine Wheel pub in Sandford, to discuss potential pre-match events at the pub. This was a positive conversation and OUSP have offered to help where appropriate with any events.</p> <p>A list of pre-match matchday activities had been requested from the club.</p>	
8	<p>Introduction of New SLO</p> <p>The newly appointed SLO introduced himself to the panel. The new SLO role is a full time role and he will be working closely with OUSP as part of that role. 2 Month or so until full time – recruitment ongoing.</p> <p>AT will be continuing to be available to SLO and OUSP and will be attending relevant OUSP meetings. There will be a transition period where AT and SLO are working together.</p> <p>AB wished to place thanks on record to AT for the job he has done on top of his other roles at the club and for advocating for the SLO being full time.</p> <p>A conversation followed regarding what panel members might like to see from SLO.</p> <p>It was agreed that OUSP would continue copying AT and SLO into emails and that AT would continue to attend the monthly catch up.</p>	
9	<p>Review of Fans Forum</p> <p>A review of the fans forum took place. Everyone agreed that having a mix of people from the club was a positive thing. The collaboration with Radio Oxford for the Dub podcast Special had been a success, even though the manager couldn't attend the fans forum. PC noted that a lot of the pressure on the club had released since previous meeting. JB reiterated that positive feedback received in person on the night, despite the bad weather. Feedback had been taken on board regarding sound quality issues for the recording.</p> <p>AB informed the panel that there was positive feedback from club staff.</p> <p>Looking forwards there was a suggestion from PG to look at having an interval in the session to help the flow of the evening. OxVox will take the lead on next fans regarding club governance and PP noted that Fans forum is a separate entity to other fan engagement activity .</p>	
10	<p>Communications</p> <p>OUSP had raised a number of issues via email before the meeting which related to communication with the club. OUSP recognises that many good things had been done, but</p>	

	<p>were concerned that the issues raised are symptoms of fan engagement being a lower priority than it should be. The main areas of concern were:</p> <p>Interpretation and adherence to the MoU</p> <p>Responses to fans/OUSP</p> <p>Out of date and missing fan information on the club website.</p> <p>OUSP want to reset the communications in time for new SLO arriving in the SLO post.</p> <p>AB explained that Fan feedback is a high priority for the club and that recruitment was underway to help with resourcing and that he would respond to specifics by email.</p> <p>AB proposed a meeting to discuss a communication framework between OUSP and the club. MOD will set up a date for this meeting.</p>	MOD
11	<p>OUSP review of supporter Feedback</p> <p>The FSA had highlighted OUSP as having very good documentation for a supporters panel.</p> <p>A review of the supporter feedback occurred. The main ways that fans communicate with OUSP is via OUSP's X (twitter) account, OUSP's newsletters, official club website and Yellows Forum.</p> <p>Areas that we should focus on for the rest of the season were discussed. Fans had asked for members of the panel to be more visible so members will be wearing lanyards to identify themselves.</p> <p>OUSP to meet separately to discuss an action plan based on the supporter feedback.</p>	MOD
	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>AT thanked panel for all the work and support for the last few years.</p> <p><u>Transport</u></p> <p>JB, AH and MOD had regular communications with Mick Brown regarding the football special buses and work is being done regarding fans concerns about timings and capacity.</p> <p><u>Meeting schedule</u></p> <p>It was agreed to move back offering multiple dates to accommodate club staff attendance rather than being every 3rd Thursday of the month.</p> <p><u>Disabled fans</u></p>	

	<p>AT to continue as disabled supporter liaison officer, and he is planning to set up another Disabled Supporter Forum.</p> <p>Every home match on Sky, BB spaces on SE corner relocated behind East stand. No Blue badge spaces are being taken away and given to others.</p> <p>A number of BB holders have contacted OUSP about the need to arrive over 2 hours before kickoff to get a space. There are no easily accessible facilities for them to use. Questioned whether Exhibition bar could be used - there are some key logistic obstacles but AT working on this.</p> <p><u>Other</u></p> <p>GB – attended the opening of the Six by Nico restaurant opening as HGT ambassador. JB was invited, but as we do not receive benefits as a result of our work with OUSP, after consulting with MOD and PS, she declined the invitation..</p>	
12	<p>Date of Next Meeting and invitees</p> <p>Date – tbc based on club staff availability.</p> <p>Invitees: Safety team – Alex Locke and Michele Walton</p>	