

Supporters Board Meeting Minutes – 10th March 2021 – 7pm

Chair's Notes

New investment, future safe return of fans to the stadium, possible LNER Stadium capacity extensions, and a new stadium catering partner were among the major good news items discussed at the latest virtual Supporters Board Meeting.

As you will discover by reading the detailed minutes of the meeting shown below, additional positive developments at the club include the recent opening of the new 3G facility, news on next season's kit design, and the return in due course of the popular "Take A Break" stadium visits for fans to enjoy.

On the field, hopefully all of our players and staff affected by the pandemic make a full and speedy recovery. All Imps fans have certainly got plenty of football and an exciting finish to the season to look forward to.

UTI

Tony Smith
Chair of the Supporters Board

Attendees

- Andrew Helgesen, Tony Smith, Liam Scully, Jake Longworth, Jay Wright, Jackie Atkins, Dan Rawson, Julian Burley, Marcus Burton, Nick Procter, Gary Hutchinson, Sam Kendall, Jonathan Battersby, Jon Clack

Apologies

- Jane Chamberlain

Health & Safety

- N/A

Equality & Diversity

- N/A
-

Stadium Catering Partner

- As part of best managing business challenges brought on by the pandemic, the catering, conference and banqueting department had been mothballed.
- Most match day team members have now, in the majority found work elsewhere.
- Full time/part time staff were either made redundant or redeployed to other roles.
- The challenge of building this part of the business from scratch ahead of next season, without external support is huge.
- As a result, the Club has agreed a 5-year deal with a national company who will come on board to look after all catering and venue at LNER Stadium. This is after a competitive tender process.
- Club to announce partner in due course but as part of the recruitment process, fan experience and proven ability to deliver were key criteria.
- Prior to appointing, the Club sought references from other Clubs. The feedback was universally excellent.
- Club and newly appointed catering partner aim to improve the match day offering by introducing mobile apps, pre orders and faster beer pouring points.
- Local partners will still remain a part of the match day offering, however these will be managed by the catering company, as opposed to by LCFC.
- Catering company will look after match day and non-match day venue/catering.

- Significant cap-ex investment will be provided at the start of the contract to improve various catering outlets.

Return of Fans

- General feeling is that it will take time for supporters to return to LNER Stadium and it will not suddenly 'return to normal'.
- LCFC are working hard behind the scenes to prepare for the return of supporters
- There could be a possibility of fans returning for play offs/cup finals, but nothing is confirmed at the time of the meeting.

Future Investment

- Value has been protected for LCFC shareholders by the addition of a 'come along' clause.
- Jay Wright confirms that he will be investing further into the club in the near future.
- Club have also met with a potential new investor and talks are progressing well.
- LCFC continues to be in safe hands and safeguarding the future of the club is the number one priority for the board.

Stadium Capacity

- Club looking at various options to increase capacity ahead of the 2021/22 season.
- Temporary stands and all extra seating options being considered but all options must be financially viable for the club.

2021/22 Kit Design Update

- Home shirt based on an older kit which will have a retro feel.
- Away and 3rd shirts still at concept stage but the club will soon be locking in the designs.
- Harris Jones Scaffolding will feature on the back of the shirt for the next two seasons.
- Club still working on a front of shirt sponsor for next year.

AOB

- Take A Break will return this spring/summer for supporters to visit LNER Stadium.
- The new 3G is complete and open from 29th March 2021

DONM

- 5th May 2021 at 7pm