


Minutes of the London FA Council Meeting		 LondonFA
Date:	Monday 30 th June 2021	
Venue and time:	18:30 – 20:30 Meeting conducted virtually via Microsoft Teams	
Number of attendees:	44 (excl. London FA staff)	

Item	Minutes	Action
1	Welcome	
1.1	James Middlehurst (JM), Chair of the London FA, opened the meeting and introduced the agenda for the evening. He remarked that following the successful AGM on 21 st June 2021, this meeting could focus primarily on footballing matters.	
2.	To receive and approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 19th October 2020	
2.1	Received and approved (proposed Ian Wallis, seconded John Taylor)	
3	Coach Education & Development in London	
3.1	Mark Leigh (ML) and Peter Augustine (PA), Coach Development Officers from the FA's Education Dept, were introduced and gave a presentation on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The new FA coach education landscape - The reason for the shift to online learning for certain courses - An overview of the new course structure 	Slides to be circulated with the minutes of the meeting
3.2	A question and answer session followed the presentation, with the following points covered:	
3.2.1	- Some participants reporting a confusing experience on the new 'Intro to Coaching Football' course.	More detailed feedback can be provided to ML directly
3.2.2	- A request to clarify the costs for the various courses (FA Playmaker, Intro to Coaching Football and UEFA C). ML covered this.	
3.2.3	- ML was able to clarify the safeguarding requirements on each of the courses.	
3.2.4	- The lack of access to the UEFA A and B course was raised, alongside the demand in London and that as a region we had very bespoke needs. ML/PA recognised this and confirmed it would be factored into FA planning on course delivery.	
3.2.5	- ML explained why the FA was seeking to create a closer relationship with coaches and how they would work in partnership with London FA to do this	
3.2.6	- Neil Twitchett explained how the FA contribution would work, as financial support to County FAs	
3.2.7	- Several members highlighted the importance of a strong CPD programme to support this new qualification structure	

3.3	<p>Neil Twitchett (NT – Head of Football Development); Neil Fowkes (NF – Coach Education Coordinator); Shannon Hyner (SH – Football Development Officer) and Christina Oshodi (CO – London FA Board Director) then gave a presentation on London FA’s emerging coach development offer. They covered the following specific areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic priorities for coaching in London - An overview of our 100FC female coaching programme - Feedback from coaches through our recent survey - The detail of our emerging membership programme and CPD offer - The role of the new coaching working group <p>A question and answer session followed the presentation, with the following points covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The importance of high quality CPD, with some concerns raised about this in the past. A Leyton Orient representative was present in the meeting and able to pick it up directly off-line - NF explained how the old FA coach mentoring scheme would be replaced - The proposed costs of the new membership scheme were explained - CO emphasised the unique challenges that London faced and that the working group would continue to push for this to be reflected in the plans 	Slides to be circulated with the minutes of the meeting
4.	London FA Divisions	
4.1	Anita Poulman (AP) gave the Council an update of the discussion at the first Divisional Working Group meeting	Any Council member with feedback to provide to PB directly over email
4.2	Paul Bickerton (PB) reminded Council members that even if they weren’t on the working group, they could feed back their thoughts to him via email and he would ensure this was reflected and discussed in the working group meeting	
5	London FA Governance	
5.1	Sir Simon Hughes (SH), Independent Director, gave a summary of the changes which had been approved by members at the London FA AGM on Monday 21 st June 2021.	Proposed Vice-President roles and allocations shared with Council
5.2	He outlined the next steps, which would involve the selection of the 10 portfolios for the Vice-Presidents and that the Council would be consulted on their roles and allocations	
5.3	SH then explained that, following feedback from several Council members, he was recommending that the Vice-President positions be informally referred to as ‘Ambassadors’ until the next London FA AGM, at which point that name would be formally updated in the Articles. This was to avoid any confusion with Life Vice-Presidents, Honorary Vice-Presidents, etc	
5.4	The London FA Council voted in favour of this proposal	
5.5	SH also informed the Council that, following an open recruitment process, the London FA Board had appointed Yashmin Harun as the new London FA Representative, for the period 2021 – 2024. Yashmin would take up her post on 22 nd July 2021.	

5.6	JM wanted to place on record his thanks from the Council to George Dorling, London FA's current FA Representative, for his work in representing the Association over the past 6 years.	
6	London FA Council Reports	
6.1	<p>The following reports were given to the London FA Council and members were offered the opportunity to ask questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chair's report (written) 2. Standing Committee reports (written) 3. Health & Wellbeing Officer Report (oral) 	
6.2	There were no questions on the reports	
7	Future topics for Council meetings	
7.1	PB asked that any further feedback be sent to him by email to consider.	
7.2	JM noted that on the agenda for the next meeting would be an election for the vacant Council-elected Board Director position and an outline of the process to appointment the London FA Chair for the upcoming three-year cycle.	
8	Date / Time / Place of next meeting	
8.1	<p>The CEO reminded Council of the following dates for 2021 Council meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monday 11th October 2021 - Monday 6th December 2021 	
8.2	Council meetings will take place from 18.30 to 20.30 and government guidelines will determine whether they take place virtually, face to face or a mixture of both (hybrid)	
9	Any Other Business	
9.1	SH brought the Council's attention to the 'Spirit of Football – The Ball' initiative and explained that a request would be circulated to the Council for a volunteer to lead this interesting project on behalf of the London FA. PB explained the role was open to all Council, Board, and external independent candidates.	
9.2	PB reminded Council of the recruitment for a Chair of the Inclusion Advisory Group and asked that anyone interested contact him directly. All details are on the London FA website	
9.3	John Taylor asked for an update on the Referee Development Officer role. PB replied that it was out to advert, and this advert was shared with Council members in the meeting.	