MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE STADIUM COMMUNITY COMMITTEE (SCC), HELD ON TUESDAY 18 APRIL, 2023

ATTENDANCE

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL: Mr Brian Hanney (BH)

Cllr Danny Byrne (DB) Cllr Claire Byrne (CB)

LOCAL COMMUNITY: Mr Alf Guinevan (AG)

Mr Terry Byrne (TB)

LRSDC: Mr Martin Murphy (MM)

Mr Daniel Wynne (DW) Mr Andrew Keegan (AK) Mr Roddy Guiney (RG)

VENUE: Aviva Stadium

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies as all committee members were present.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

It was agreed that the minutes of the last meeting of 29 November 2022 were an accurate record of that meeting. Same to be put on the stadium website as per policy.

3. MATTERS ARISING:

It was agreed that with the exception of the point concerning IRFU property ownership there were no matters arising that would not be covered in the business of the meeting. Point re property ownership to be covered under Any Other Business.

4. **COMMEMORATIVE BENCH:**

A date was set for the function to show the bench to the families of the late Joe McCann and Philip Land. The function will take place on Sunday 21st May at 11.00am at the bench on the Dodder Walk. RG to inform the Land family. TB to inform the MacCann family. RG to put together an invitation list. TB/AG to provide RG with any names from the local community they feel should be invited. RG to draw up final invitation list and to circulate to Committee. In the main guests will be SCC Committee and the two families. All present will be invited back to Ballsbridge hotel for light refreshments. RG to book hotel.

5. OPERATIONS REVIEW:

MM updated all in relation to events at the stadium. He said it had been a busy few months since the last SCC meeting with five rugby games and two soccer internationals.

All of the above were full houses with the exception of Latvia and Leicester, both of which were over 40,000. There were no significant issues to report at these matches. Leinster's good run means that they are in the Heineken Cup Semi Final v Toulouse to be played at the Aviva Stadium on 29 April. He said that hopefully, they will make the final on 20 May which is also scheduled to be played in the stadium. The stadium will also host the Challenge Cup Final on 19 May which is unlikely to have more than 30,000 present. Leinster are also due to play their URC Quarter Final on 6th May. If they win, the semi-final will be on 13 May at the stadium.

The season ends with Republic of Ireland v Gibraltar on Monday 19 June, after which the pitch will be renovated. The stadium will host two warm up games before the Rugby World Cup in August against Italy and England.

The Notre Dame v Navy US Football game will be on Saturday 26th August. This is already a sell-out is already a sell out with 40,000 tickets sold in the US.

Looking forward to 2024 MM said he is hoping to shortly confirm three concerts which will be scheduled for in June 2024.

TB queried the number of major events in the stadium each year. MM said in the main it was fairly constant although the number might rise slightly if the stadium was granted international events such as this year's Heineken Cup Final and Challenge Cup Final. He also noted that Leinster would play an additional five games next season while the RDS was being renovated.

6. **COMMUNITY FUND**:

RG began by updating the meeting on the 2022 Community Fund. He said that of the 51 projects being supported last year that all but six have drawn down their funding. He has been in touch with all of these.

He noted that the applications for the 2023 fund were now closed. He said that 48 separate applications for funding had been received but that these covered in excess of 60 different projects. RG reminded all of the scope of the fund which covered the area 1km from the stadium on all sides of the ground.

He said that with the exception of applications from BADRA and LADRA all other applications received a maximum of 50% of the cost of their projects. Reflecting their unique proximity to the stadium, in the case of BADRA and LADRA they could receive up to 70% of the costs involved.

RG said he was conscious of the overall number of projects under consideration and of the number of individual projects in the BADRA and LADRA applications. Following a discussion, it was agreed that RG would come back to the Committee once he has concluded his discussions with all applicants with a recommendation as to the BADRA and LADRA applications. All present were in agreement that the fund would continue to recognize the unique area covered by the two associations.

RG said he hoped to begin his discussions with all the projects next week.

It was also agreed that the Committee would meet to discuss his recommendations and rationale for all projects before applicants were informed.

BH noted that the Covanta Fund was again open for applications. He undertook to circulate details of same to all on Committee.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was a discussion in relation to the properties owned by the IRFU around the stadium and TB queried what did the IRFU intend doing with them. MM noted that a number were used by the IRFU to house staff members while others had been purchased to facilitate the creation of proper entrances when the stadium was being built (eg Shelbourne Road.) MM said he would take the matter up with the IRFU and would come back with an answer.

CB raised the issue re sustainability. It was agreed the DW would make a presentation in relation to all the stadium's initiatives re sustainability at the next SCC meeting.

8. **NEXT MEETING**

MM noted that he would be retiring at the end of August. He said he would like to invite all on the Committee to dinner following the next meeting. This meeting was scheduled for August 22nd.

RODDY GUINEY Hon Sec Stadium Community Committee 20 April 2023

Circulation

Brian Hanney (chairperson)
Cllr Danny Byrne
Cllr Claire Byrne
Alfred Guinevan
Terry Byrne
Martin Murphy
Daniel Wynne
Andrew Keegan
Roddy Guiney

RODDY GUINEY

Hon Sec Stadium Community Committee 1 June 2022

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