



Committee	Lincoln City Fan Advisory Board Meeting
Location	Co-op Community Hub
Date	4th October 2025
Time	12.30pm

Chairman's Report

The fiftieth FAB meeting on 4th October prior to the Exeter City home game sadly focused on the negative impact of recent instances of anti-social behaviour on the matchday fan experience namely discriminatory chanting as well as smoke bombs & flares. We were joined during the meeting by representatives of Chelsea Pride & Chelsea F.C together with a family of Imps fans who all provided details of how these incidents affected both themselves & their fellow fans. We thank them all for joining us to share their recent personal experiences & emotional feelings with us.

On behalf of all Lincoln City F.C supporters, FAB unreservedly apologises to Chelsea Pride, Chelsea F.C & their fans for the incident & we will continue to work closely with both our club & our other supporter groups to eradicate such behaviour which will create an even better matchday experience for all fans to enjoy.

International breaks, matchday ticket pricing, match streaming were amongst other items discussed with the club's hierarchy.

We welcomed original Supporters Board member Nick Procter back for his first FAB meeting providing us with continued valuable input from a 617 perspective & beyond.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us by emailing fabchair@theredimps.com should you have any off-field questions or matters which you would like us to cover at future meetings.

Finally, we were delighted to see Michael Skubala deservedly collect October's League One Manager of the Month & we thank the playing & coaching staff for providing all off our fans with an excellent start to this season. A great team effort!

UTI

Tony Smith

Chair of the Lincoln City F.C Fan Advisory Board

Minutes of Meeting: FAB Meeting, 16th August 2025

Attendees: Tony Smith (TS), Charlie Beeston (CB), Chris Laming (CL), Jackie Atkins (JA), Jonathan Battersby (JBa), Roy Thomson (RT), Julian Buttery (JBu), Samantha Kendall (SK), Nick Proctor (NP) David Lowes (DL), Liam Scully (LS) Jason Futers (JF), Rob Noble (RN),

1. Meeting Admin

Meeting start: 12:30pm Estimated close: 1:45pm-2pm

Apologies: None



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2. Discriminatory Chanting (LS)

- Representatives from Chelsea Pride and Chelsea FC were invited by LS to discuss discriminatory chanting at the recent fixture and provide additional background and context to the chanting for FAB members.
- LCFC praised for its proactive response.
- LS confirmed the club will use the insights to strengthen its approach.
- The incidents are a hate crime and the club have identified around 30 individuals via CCTV.
- Police investigations and club sanctions are ongoing, with some cases likely leading to criminal charges.
- FAB discussed the personal impact on affected supporters and will write to Chelsea FC to apologise.
- Education and communication were agreed as key priorities.
- The club will review the Safe Text reporting line to improve visibility and access.
- FAB will work with fan supporter groups to promote positive messaging and challenge poor behaviour.
- The club anticipates FA sanctions but will present mitigating evidence.

3. Anti-Social Behaviour (LS, RT)

- Discussion expanded to antisocial behaviour, including smoke bombs and flares
- LCFC supporting family invited to join the meeting and discuss how the smoke negatively impacts their experience.
- NP reiterated 617 stance as opposed to in-ground use and offered to continue to educate younger supporters where they can.
- LS confirmed ongoing work with police and the EFL.
- It was noted that matchday safety responsibility lies with the host club, wherever incidents occur.
- FAB highlighted the importance of engaging young supporter groups.
- Additional measures including extra barriers, increased signage, and more stewards have been added in north west corner following recent crowd issues.
- FAB acknowledged the cost and complexity but supported prioritising safety.
- Inconsistent stewarding at some away grounds remains a frustration for travelling supporters.

4. International Break – EFL Postponements (TS)

- LS explained the challenges faced by League One clubs when fixtures clash with international call-ups.
- The process involving federations also having deep standby lists often also results in decisions being made closer to the ultimate deadline for a decision, which is accepted as being close to matchdays, creating uncertainty for supporters who book travel early.
- FAB members discussed fan frustration over late postponements and called for clearer communication on fixture lists to highlight potential international weekends.



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- LS agreed to explore adding a visual marker or note to fixture graphics and season calendars to make this clearer in future seasons.
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5. New Investments (TS)

- FAB congratulated the new investment from Jack Harvey and family.
 - LS confirmed there are no further material updates on investments but as always it is an ongoing process and dialogue with a range of interested parties continue.
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6. Match Streaming (RT/NP)

- RT raised questions about the impact of iFollow streaming and VPN use on away attendances.
 - LS noted that overall attendances across the EFL are believed to be up.
 - The club reiterated its support for legitimate streaming channels and continues to monitor any potential reforms to the 3pm blackout rule.
 - FAB agreed that accessibility should remain a priority while balancing the value of live attendance.
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7. Club History & Heritage (TS/RT)

- RT & TS highlighted the need to celebrate club history and anniversaries, noting recent gaps in social media coverage.
 - LS confirmed heritage is covered by club media channels but accepted some dates may have been missed.
 - DL confirmed that heritage is central to club identity and supporter education with agreement of FAB members who offered to work with the club and other parties to provide support where needed.
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8. Match Day Ticket Prices (SK)

- A query from fans was raised regarding the £2 premium on matchday ticket purchases.
 - LS explained that advance sales allow better forecasting and operational planning; the matchday charge reflects increased servicing costs and mirrors common practice across the EFL and generally within most ticketed events (or similar).
 - FAB noted understanding of the rationale.
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9. Fan Engagement & Independent Regulator (JBu)

- Independent Regulator briefing (online) with RICT and supporters had to be re-scheduled.
- JBu updated on the new RICT Youth Board member.
- The RICT survey for younger supporters has launched, gathering feedback on matchday experience from junior fans.



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- Results will be shared in due course and used to guide future engagement initiatives.
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10. AOB

- It was noted it was the 50th FAB meeting with the club and all should be congratulated especially TS and LS for their 100% attendance.
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11. Next Meeting

- Saturday 15th November before Doncaster Rovers fixture.
- Adjournment: Meeting concluded at 2:05pm