**Agenda ‘A’ Report for 27 May 2021 Wycombe Wanderers Trust meeting**

**Finance**

Nothing new to report. 2021/22 budget preparation is at a relatively advanced stage with infrastructure capital expenditure continuing to be identified and prioritised.

Fans paid c.£292k on buying iFollow passes during exceptional ‘Behind Closed Doors’ 2020/21 season. It is still not possible for the EFL broadcast partners to advise on the number of Season Ticket Holders who took advantage of ‘free’ home game streams.

No decision has yet been communicated by the EFL on iFollow broadcasting proposals for season 2021/22.

**Fan Led Review**

Tracey Crouch MP, Chair of the Government’s fan-led review of football governance covering clubs who compete in the English football pyramid, met with the FSA’s National Council to explain in greater detail the evidence gathering process to take place over the coming months.

A ten-person advisory panel has been appointed. The panel will join the fan-led evidence sessions and advise on technicalities which arise from within their area of expertise. However, the report will be Tracey Crouch’s as Chair and not the panel’s – the panel does not sign off the final report.

There is a clear Terms of Reference focusing on structure and finance of the game, and the key subjects will include the Owners’ and Directors’ test, an independent regulator and meaningful fan engagement. Some grey areas and subjects such as replica kits and match ticket prices will not be covered.

The FSA’s member supporter organisations will lead dozens of evidence-gathering sessions throughout May and June, at which Crouch will listen to their experiences and proposals for improving football governance. Governing bodies and fan organisations in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Germany will also be consulted.

An interim report will be available in July 2021, with the final report due to be published in October 2021.

**Fair Game**

Fair Game is a newly established organisation formed by a number of clubs committed to the same Principles and determined to improve football governance through promotion of greater fairness, openness and transparency.

Focused on delivering real and long-lasting solutions, Fair Game has a wide pool of advisors and experts to call upon covering advocacy, corporate law, diversity and inclusion, ethical regulation, fan engagement, financial regulation, football agents, governance of football, governance of sport, human rights, owners’ and directors’ legislation, and sustainability.

Its day-to-day operations are largely run by board members and representatives of Fair Game clubs, with the assistance of academics and sports experts dedicated to helping deliver its aims and goals.

With clubs suffering financial difficulties even prior to the pandemic, as well as the withdrawal of the proposed European Super League, the teams are targeting four key areas for improvement:

**Sustainability**: a financial structure that is fairer and more responsible;

**Integrity**: greater recognition of, and protections for, current competitions;

**Independent regulation**: regulation that rewards and encourages good management;

**Community**: embedded and structured fan engagement at all club.

Currently, seven clubs have signed up with Fair Game, with discussions ongoing with dozens of others including Wycombe Wanderers FC. Pete Couhig and Tony Hector initially are working with Fair Game to gauge how WWFC can best become involved.

Tony Hector

25 May 2021