

Minutes from the meeting of the Chelsea Disabled Supporters' Association which was held on 13th January 2024.

The meeting took place at the Millenium Hotel, Stamford Bridge after the Fulham game.

Thank you for all that attended.

Speakers

Owain Davies - Level Playing Field

Cliff Auger Chelsea Supporters Trust

Diane Akers Chelsea Supporters Trust

Welcome - Cliff Auger CST (Chelsea Supporters Trust)

- Apologies for Cat Smith absence
- The club are enthusiastic and happy for the DSA to be up and running.
- Possible AGM next season once DSA is established.
- Owain Davies (LPF) - Welcome.
- Our 'Unite For Access' campaign runs for two weeks from 24/02/2024 - 10/03/2024 if you have ideas of how this could be recognised please send ideas to us or the club.
- Outlining the importance of a DSA
- To make sure voices are heard of all disabled people, effective communication to the club.
- A DSA is a positive asset for clubs.

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Cliff

For anyone wishing to apply for a position on our temporary committee, please apply stating which role, with a short description why you would like and how you see yourself in this role.

Email chelseadsa@chelseasupporterstrust.com

We would like to have a deadline for beginning of February.

Questions from the floor

Question - How much does LPF (level playing field) meet with club representatives for accessibility.

Response - Cliff and Diane attended a previous southern forum, LPF are always actively working.

Question - Is there a certain percentage of how many wheelchair users?

Response - This is what guidance will help with, certain stadiums, depending on size and capacity, numbers will differ.

Tottenham is now the most accessible stadium.

Question - A lot of stadiums do not accommodate electric wheelchairs, which then impacts using facilities within different venues.

Response - Information will be shared once guidance is complete. Communication needs to be better, radar keys were recently introduced in the West Stand without anyone knowing.

Communication for travelling fans, our fan base is wide across the U.K.

It would be ideal to have emails sent out before games, to prepare for access to away matches and also home games if any changes.

Communication, stewards need to have more knowledge about supporters.

Communication before games for disabled supporters about search procedures.

Question - If it was possible to allow accessible supporters access at cup games as closed areas entails a long walk.

Response – This will be fed back to the club.

Question - Disabled supporters on a low income, thinking of ticket prices?

Response - LPF on average found disabled supporters pay on average and in addition to regular match day costs; £66 home games and £111 for away games.

Question - When will the DSA be up and running?

Response - We are looking for a steering committee, Diane is happy to chair and Cliff as vice chair, however if you are interested in those positions, please apply along with the other positions available.

We would like the DSA to be ready for the beginning of the new season and this time next year we hope to have our first AGM.

Any further questions, queries to send on to DSA email. chelseadsa@chelseasupporterstrust.com

We would like to thank-you all for attending today and voicing your thoughts.

**On behalf of the CDSA
Diane and Cliff**