

D S A Steering Committee Meeting

M I N U T E S

Wednesday 2nd July 2025 - 4.30 to 5.30pm - Online

Attended by: Gill Martin; John Jory; Eric Williams; Shana Pezaro; Mark Butler; Niraj Haria

Chaired by: Bryan Martin

Minutes by: Nicola Gibson

	Agenda Items
	The meeting opened at 4.30. No apologies had been received.
1	<u>Approval of previous minutes dated 21st May</u> Minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting & were duly approved
2	<u>Follow-up Items</u> Action - Committee members to inform GM of their availability for AGM Action - Gill to ask Marnie for contact details - dinner being arranged by NW Sussex Seagulls with lots of attendees from different clubs - would be good to talk about the DSA to other clubs.

Chair's Report**3.1**

Website - Bryan reported that he is still waiting for things to come through from the club in order to populate the site. The football season is so intense then everyone goes on holiday. Still waiting for official photos from the Lancing Training Ground visit. Bryan will endeavour to get the site up & running within the next few weeks.

3.2**AGM**

The club have decided that they don't wish to share the AGM with the Disabled Fans Forum. The Terrace cannot be used for Albion activities at the moment so the DSA might potentially be able to use the Players Lounge inside the Amex or it could be a Zoom meeting. A date for the AGM will be announced in the first month of the new season & updates on the DSA will be on the agenda.

Niraj suggested a Zoom call would be easier but possibly have less of an impact. Eric asked if we might be able to do both but this would depend on facilities at a potential venue. It might be an idea to ask attendees of the Disabled Fans Forum what they would prefer, also Katie or Millie may be able to signpost. Gill asked if we might be able to use the Terrace for the AGM. Bryan will make enquiries.

Bryan suggested that we use the Disabled Fans Forum meeting to get more members signed up. Currently there are 50 members.

Action - Ideas for AGM venues, send to Bryan - All**3.3**

Bryan reported that he had had lunch with Matt Roberts, CEO of Community Transport Sussex at which they discussed the possibility of working on a joint venture. Matt acknowledged that whilst there are a number of buses, finding volunteer drivers is a challenge. However, for anyone who has passed their driving test before 1979, their license has a default for being able to drive a minibus. CTS offers training for the minibuses.

3.4

Bryan suggested that it would be a good idea to offer some trial companionship meetings from September onwards at different times of the day to identify if there is any traction.

Niraj reported back on his visit to the Training Ground & what a positive experience it had been. Bryan hoped that the DSA would get invited again to do this. The visit had been very enjoyable and access for wheelchairs was exceptionally good.

4	<u>Treasurer's Report</u> 3.1 Gill had shared the report prior to the meeting. She reported that there had been no income for the month but total income was just over 1.5k. Whilst there is enough money to keep the DSA going for now, it would be essential to think of any fundraising ideas for the forthcoming year. .
5	<u>Website Update</u> See above
6	<u>Seagulls DSA - AGM Preparation</u> Action - ideas for the AGM invited from committee members - All
7	<u>Community Transport Sussex</u> See above
8	<u>Companionship Meetings</u> See above
9	<u>AOB</u> NH - on holiday from 15th July to 7th August. Bryan - the next DSA meeting will be in September NH - Withdean Stadium would be a good venue & it has good parking. Bryan thanked everyone for their time & the meeting closed at 16.59

Accompanying Papers: Agenda; Minutes of 21st May 2025; DSA Chair Report; Treasurer Report