

SAFETY OF SPORTS GROUNDS ACT 1975

FULHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

SAFETY ADVISORY GROUP (SAG) MEETING THURSDAY 29th JANUARY 2015 – 9:30AM MINUTES OF MEETING

PRESENT:

London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (LBHF)

Fern Aldous (Minutes)	- Assistant Committee Coordinator	(FA)
Michael Allen	- Network Coordination Team Manager	
Stephan Brystanowki	- Building Control Officer	(SB)
Marya Lee	- Parking Services Officer	(ML)
Kieran McKenna	- Commercial Services Lead Officer for QPR FC	(KM)
Tony Pegrum	- Network Coordination Team Manager	(TP)
Ahmad Rafique	- StreetScene Enforcement	(ARaf)
Ann Ramage (Chairman)	- Head of Environmental Health (Commercial)	(AR)
Mike Rumble	- Parks Police	(MR)
Graham Souster	- Commercial Services Lead Officer for Fulham FC	(GS)
Keith Stevenson	- Information and Events Officer	(KS)

Metropolitan Police Service (MPS)

Chief Inspector Tim Ruprecht		(TR)
Inspector Jim Brockway		(JB)
PC Andy Wigley		(AW)

Sports Ground Safety Authority (SGSA)

Lou Elliston	- Regional Senior Inspector	(LE)
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Fulham Football Club (FFC)


Darren Preston	- Chief Operating Officer	(DP)
Steve Riley	- Safety Officer	(SR)
Steve White	- Deputy Safety Officer	(SW)

London Ambulance Service (LAS)

Paul Smith		(PS)
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Transport for London (TfL)

Marc Dickson	-London Underground	(MD)
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Item No.	ITEM	ACTION
1.	<p>Welcome from the Chairman</p> <p>1.1 AR welcomed everyone to the briefing and thanked FFC for hosting the meeting.</p>	
2.	<p>Apologies / introductions</p> <p>2.1 Apologies had been received from: Roy Instrall (Ahmad Rafique providing cover), Lisa White, Stephen Gibbs (Mike Rumble providing cover), Stephanie Needham, Suhail Dadabhoy, Inspector Kevin Jacobs, Sgt Carolyne Buttery.</p>	
3.	<p>Confirmation of previous minutes and matters arising – 17th July 2014</p> <p>3.1 AR confirmed that all actions from the previous minutes had either been completed or were due for discussion in later items on the agenda.</p> <p>The TMO issues remained outstanding but would be discussed in Item 6 of the agenda.</p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting were approved as an accurate record and were signed off by the chairman for upload to the Council's website.</p>	
4.	<p>Fulham FC Safety Management Review 2014/15 Season</p> <p>Fulham FC SAG Notes – 29th January 2015 (not for public circulation)</p> <p> Fulham FC SAG Notes - Jan 2015 SAC</p> <p>4.1 Overview</p> <p>FFC provided an overview on the Season to date for fixtures up to the end of December 2014.</p> <p>A total of 16 match days have been held at Craven Cottage between August and December 2015 comprising of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 Championship League games • 2 Capital One Cup games • 2 International games. <p>The total attendance at the stadium is 266,094 (home 232,197 / away 33,897).</p>	

<p>4.2.</p> <p>4.3</p> <p>4.4</p>	<p>The USA Vs. Columbia game had seen the highest attendance at Craven Cottage with 24,255 / Lowest attendance 22,288 – Doncaster - Capital One Cup.</p> <p>Match day Safety Team arrangements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To build resilience the Chief Steward has recommenced working toward his NVQ4 qualification and will be given the opportunity to perform the ‘safety officer’ role during the second half of the Season. • Those further down the match day safety management structure will be given the opportunity to step up and gain experience. • Other changes have been made throughout the Season to add strength and depth to the operation. • New supervisors from the existing operation have been appointed and are working towards their NVQ3 qualifications. • The Club have been able to maintain a strong leadership team. • Revisions to the match day safety documentation have been made together with a change to the Risk Assessments, from a numerical system to an improved traffic light system (RAG Matrix). • Many of the matches in the first half of the Season had been challenging. • Segregation nets had been installed. Learning had been taken forward and the number of seats netted off and the steward positioning improved. • The new search dog company had resulted in a large increase in drug finds. • The use of drones was being monitored match by match. <p>Challenging Fixtures/ Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been a number of challenging fixtures this Season in particular; Millwall, Cardiff, Charlton, Sheffield Wednesday & USA v Columbia. • Crowd numbers have been significantly down on last Season, but the behaviour of away supporters has been very different (described in the 4.4 below). • Arrests made inside the stadium and ejections from it has significantly increased as compared to the same period last season. <p>Crowd Behaviour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whilst the attendance this Season has been down the number of away supporters has increased. With 4,000 visiting supporters from Millwall, Norwich, Charlton, Sheffield Wednesday and Brighton. • It was felt that the vast majority of incidents had been caused by the visiting supporters. • The behaviour amongst the home supporters has been generally very good. • The number of refused entries and arrests had increased as compared to last Season for the same period. 	
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4.5	<p>Queue Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of turnstiles required to be in use has been reduced on a match by match basis as the capacity has been down 8,000 – 10,000 this Season. Turnstile use was monitored game by game. • There have been no issues with queue management this Season. • The introduction of the gate barrier system outside the Putney exit has improved security arrangement with the creation of a sterile area and allowed for the redeployment of stewards at the away end. 	
4.6	<p>Stewarding/Security</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was reported that the Club would potentially need to recruit around 200 stewards in the summer as relegation from the Premier League has had an impact on retention. • Club stewards has decreased and reliance on agency increased. • Three stewards were training to become supervisors. • There was less money for providing NVQ stewardship training. • In-house medical training was taking place to allow stewards to be redeployed to medical positions if needed, further training will be delivered in the coming months. • The senior stewards made a strong leadership team. They were being given experience of different areas of the ground to allow for more flexibility. • The services of Wise & Knights have been maintained. Both agency companies have been asked to provide a consistent workforce. • Three of the pitch runners had been the same for the whole Season. • The number of agency staff has increased to around 45% from 30% used last Season. • The Search Dog provider had been changed giving a capability to now search for drugs in addition to pyrotechnics and explosives. Since this change, drugs had been found at almost every game. In some of the more challenging games class A drugs had been found. 	
4.7	<p>Persistent Standing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persistent standing had been experienced with all visiting clubs. • The Club has successfully focussed its efforts in ensuring the gangways, staircases and vomitories are not obstructed with increased stewarding deployments. • Fulham had attempted to combat the issue using PA announcements but this hadn't solved the issue. The main safety concern of persistent standing was keeping the aisles clear. Some of the away supporters would stand for the entire game. 	

4.8	<p>Accidents, Injuries and Near Misses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There had been 59 casualties in the Season to date. Two had gone to hospital. The number of injuries was identical to last Season. The installation of the warm-up ball stop nets has led to a significant reduction in the number of supporter / stewards injuries. There were no current identifiable trends in the injuries, although there had been a rise in the number of minor injuries involving catering staff, many of which are owing to contributory negligence. 	
4.9	<p>Turnstiles and Ticketing Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were ticketing issues at the beginning of the Season when away supporters were purchasing tickets in the mixed area of the Putney Stand. This has since been resolved internally with new ticketing processes with the Safety Officer and Ticket Manager jointly assessing the risks and issues on a match by match basis. • There had been an increase in e-ticketing for the fixtures although there had been a problem with defective barcodes primarily owing to the quality of customer self-prints. • The use of mobile phone barcodes was being explored and needed to be batch tested. The downside was that if the system failed on a match day it would result in a major issue. The issue of multiple tickets on one mobile phone was also discussed. 	
4.10	<p>Ejections and Refusals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There had been 125 ejections in the Season so far, 99 of which had been away supporters. This did not include drug ejections, which when included took the total to 160. This was up from 78 ejections in the same period of last Season. The highest number for one game was 18 for the Sheffield Wednesday fixture. • The large majority of ejections have been alcohol related. • They were working on a way to improve their access to fast time information from fans about nuisance supporters to improve the quality of other fans experience and prevent escalation. • There had been a reduction in drunkenness inside the stadium which was an indication that the refusal system was working. However they hoped to see a reduction in ejections over the longer term. 	
4.11	<p>Searching Regime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New dog / search team procedures were introduced at the start of the Season. The decision to deploy is based on an intelligence based risk assessment. • A separate team was in place to deal with searches following 'dog indications'. • Drugs and pyrotechnic searches were in place and have proven successful. 	

<p>4.12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There had been 35 drug finds and 1 pyrotechnic find. • Dogs were used following the setting off of a pyrotechnic that had been used during the game to find the culprit. <p>Dealing with flares, smoke bombs and pyrotechnics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is disappointing that pyrotechnics are increasingly being used inside the stadium. These were always set off from the back four or five rows and CCTV has now being focused on in this area. All but one of the culprits have been detained; there was strong CCTV evidence on the remaining culprit. • Staff had been trained in dealing with the use of pyrotechnics and the emphasis was on the safety of the other fans. The fire teams were deployed to dispose after use. Stewards were briefed to not deal with the pyro itself. • All pyrotechnics so far have been smoke bombs with all but one suspect being detained by stewards following examination of the CCTV systems. 	
<p>4.13</p>	<p>Smoking/E-cigarettes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smoking in the concourse and other open areas has become an issue. A number of Football League clubs have allowed smoking in the outside concourse area, and visiting fans are assuming this is the case at Fulham. • As a result the Club are considering changing their smoking policy to allow smoking in designated open areas with safe segregation. This will be raised at Management Board and in consultation with external partners. 	
<p>4.13</p>	<p>Customer Feedback</p> <p>10 complaints received this Season to date as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There had been some very minor complaints relating to action taken by stewards. • 7 compliments received in relation to stewarding standards. • 3 compliments for stewards/medical team from spectators who were ill and required treatment. • 2 compliments for Access Stewards. • Visit from a Football League (mystery shopper) provided positive feedback about the family areas experience. 	
<p>4.14</p>	<p>TV Broadcasting Arrangements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only two games have been broadcast this Season (Charlton & Watford), a reduction from last Season. • OBTV's were of a larger scale and did take up a lot of space in Stevenage Road. • A review meeting has been scheduled by the Club with Sky TV and 	

<p>4.15</p> <p>4.16</p>	<p>the LA. The plan is for road stubs to be installed to delineate the maximum width for parking purposes.</p> <p>Remainder of the Season</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to review the operation to seek improvements and enhance the customer experience. • Emergency desktop exercise will be held on 19th February 2015. • 14 fixtures remaining. • As there had been disorder in the two previous Brentford games the Club is seeking an earlier kick-off time for the upcoming fixture. This match was currently scheduled for Good Friday at 19:30. • Final home game of the Season is against Middlesbrough and is likely to be challenging with them seeking promotion to the Premier League, and an anticipated large travelling/visiting support. <p>Comments / questions from the Chairman</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AR disagreed with allowing smoking in the stadium from a public health perspective. She thought this was against the direction that all clubs should be travelling in from a health promotion perspective. Fulham had an image as a family club that could potentially be damaged. The LA would discourage this move. AR would raise the issue at an SGSA forum. • AR questioned whether Operation Ease, set-up for last Season and mentioned in the previous SAG, had now been fully tested. FFC responded that there had been no need to test the operation to date due to lower attendance figures. The operation was still staffed and resourced however on a match by match basis where required. This will be kept as an update on future agenda. • AR asked if there had been any downsides to the introduction of new technologies. FFC replied that there had been the issue with the e-tickets and a few CCTV issues. However, these were not seen as major issues and trialling and testing seemed to be sufficient to flush these issues out. • AR queried whether there had been any specific issues with the mixed area of the stadium. It was reported that tickets were now not often sold for this area – the larger away allocation meant away fans did not need to use it and relegation from the Premier League had resulted in less neutrals (tourists) coming to the stadium. • The behaviour of the home supporters was queried and it was reported that there had been virtually no incidents. There had, however, been a deterioration of home supporter’s behaviour when travelling away. 8 bans had been imposed by the Club most of which 	<p>AR</p>
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	<p>had been upheld by court convictions. 3 Fulham fans had been arrested inside the stadium.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AR questioned the plans under the new ownership to outsource the stewarding arrangements. It was reported that steps would be taken to maintain the recent improvement shown in stewarding standards. Safety or service excellence would not be risked. • It was asked whether there were any key topics or issues coming out of supporter forums at the monthly supporter meetings. It was noted that the only issue of significance was around 8:00pm kick offs and whether 7:45pm would make it easier for fans to get home. There had also been a number of complaints about lighting in Bishops Park and GS would monitor this with Parks Police. 	GS
<p>5.</p> <p>5.1</p> <p>5.2</p>	<p>Metropolitan Police</p> <p>AW gave an update on the MPS' operational match day arrangements.</p> <p>There has been an 82% reduction of police inside the stadium and 11% outside. However there had been four times as many arrests this Season compared to the same period in the previous Season. TR pointed out that a primary reason is the arrests generated by the clubs use of detection dogs.</p> <p>The number of arrests of away supporters was significant. The number of away support has increased this Season, it was felt that this was due in part to the novelty of attendance at Craven Cottage. This follows Fulham's significant length of time in the Premier league and whereby other clubs have not played there for many years, hence the interest is attending by their supporters and the number of tickets available in the Putney Stand.</p> <p>Many away supporters charter boats to come to the match and as part of the package free drink is available. The MPS are currently working with the PLA and licensing authorities in relation to this matter.</p> <p>MPS are working closer with the Parks Police and SNT's in relation to the policing of the Palace and Riverside wards on match days.</p> <p>It was reported that Fulham Fans had been disorderly on two occasions away from home, once at Brentford and once at Watford. These incidents had resulted in a number of arrests.</p> <p>There were reports that free alcohol was available on some of the away fans boats was leading to an increase in disorderly behaviour. Licensing legislation was being explored to see if it could assist.</p> <p>Racist/ Homophobic Behaviour</p> <p>There had been 5 incidents of racist behaviour. All of the victims were stewards. All of the offenders had been found guilty in court. It was</p>	

confirmed that only one of these had been a high risk supporter.

An incident at Brighton involving former player Darren Bent had led to some racist and homophobic behaviour by travelling Fulham fans. Seats had been damaged and graffitied. It was reported that the abuse had continued on social media. AR reported that similar incidents are usually avoided by providing the referee with a safety officer brief beforehand to highlight potential players that may cause an incident. This had not been able to happen in the Darren Bent case.

5.3 **Banning Orders**

AW reported that 1 fan had been banned so far and 3 more were being processed. 6 more fans were “under interest” and it was thought these should be processed in time for the Brentford fixture.

The process for following up on arrests made was now more robust with CCTV footage and steward reports.

It was reported that there had been three NFA's.

5.4 **Arrest Figures**



Football Arrests Mid
Season 14-15.doc

It was felt that drawing comparisons with last Season's figures was not a useful comparison. It was confirmed that the figures related to the stadium only and would not include arrests outside.

It was reported that the first three fixtures had been a challenging start to the Season.

If arrests relating to social media were included then all together there were over 100 arrests. It was felt that these figures would decrease in the following Season, as people learnt the strict policing in the stadium and the novelty of Fulham being in the Championship becomes more of a norm.

AR questioned the additional resources needed to arrest all those caught for drug offences. AW confirmed that if the drug found was cannabis then in a normal situation a warning would be issued which would only be recorded in the Mets own records. However, arrests on match days fell under “mitigating circumstances” which allowed police to impose a £90 fine and record the arrest on a national computer. This helped tracking offending fans to other grounds. It was questioned whether higher police activity on preventing drug offences diminished other police activities on match days. AW reported that this was not the case as the role of spotters had been increased. It was asked whether the Club would fund any extra police resource for combating drug offences. FFC felt that drug prevention fell under the policing core duties of dealing with of crime and disorder. TR said

	<p>but it is generated by your intervention inside your event.</p> <p>AR questioned whether police had felt they would have benefited from having a greater police presence inside the stadium at any point during the season. AW reported that they were happy with the current arrangements. FFC reported that it would be comfortable to be completely police free for some games.</p> <p>AR queried the number of police given ‘the Championship’? It was reported that disorder arrests in the stadium were down and the number of injuries had remained stable for this first Season in the Championship, justifying the policing levels.</p> <p>It was reported that the second game Wolves had played at Craven Cottage had been drug free. It was thought that this was proof the message about the increased use of sniffer dogs was getting passed amongst fans.</p> <p>AR asked whether there were any drug trends outside of football that the SAG should be made aware off. AW reported that only cannabis and cocaine had been an issue at the ground to date.</p> <p>It was questioned whether any of the game categorisations had changed since they were set at the start of the Season. It was reported that some had moved up a category and some had moved down. Each game category was reviewed up to 4 times before the fixture. It was felt that the category had been correct for every game. It was discussed whether some of the fixtures could have been downgraded.</p> <p>The police had written to all London clubs about Special Police Service Agreements for next Season including a clause about fixture changing to late kick-offs.</p>	
<p>6.</p> <p>6.1</p>	<p>British Transport Police</p> <p>GS provided comments received from the BTP that there had been no major issues at Putney Bridge Station and only two arrests since April. Concerns were raised about pedestrian safety and bus movement outside Putney Bridge Station owing to the MPS no longer performing queue management duties. It was reported that Station Approach was not owned by the local authority but by London Underground and the issue should be escalated by them. Low numbers attending FFC had clearly had an impact on this but would need to be monitored where increased capacity crowds were expected.</p>	<p>MD/LUL</p>
<p>7.</p> <p>7.1</p>	<p>Local Authority Review – 2014/15 Season</p> <p>GS gave an update on DPI inspections which had so far been carried out at Millwall, Charlton, USA vs. Columbia and Brighton games. There had been initial issues with ticketing in the Putney Stand at the beginning of the Season but it was felt this had now been resolved by the Club. GS referred briefly to issues with the Millwall fixture and joint work in ensuring LB</p>	

	<p>Wandsworth opened Putney Bridge. It was felt that the Club had handled the USA v Columbia game well including the unprecedented number of fans waiting for the arrival and departure of the team coaches. GS notified the SAG that KM had been deputising for some of the games.</p> <p>It was felt that the Club had proactively addressed emerging risk such as drones and had a policy on the use of selfie sticks inside of the stadium.</p> <p>They had also dealt well with the planning and contingency arrangements with the engineering works closure of the District Line for the Brighton game.</p> <p>Match day planning and briefings was of an excellent standard and stewarding standards were generally found to be high.</p>	
7.2	<p>Safety Certificate</p> <p>The Safety Certificate had been issued in December 2014 to reflect the seating changes made due to broadcast requirements. The Certificate had also been aligned with the changes requested by the SGSA on conditions. The Certificate had been issued in consultation with the Club. It was reported that the operations management review was not yet finished but that it was likely to be positive. FFC's Operation Manual is of a high standard improving all of the time and is now accessible via a secure internet portal.</p>	
7.3	<p>Customer Feedback</p> <p>The LA has not received any complaints or customer feedback.</p>	
7.4	<p>Putney Bridge Station Observation Visit</p> <p>KM reported that there had been no significant problems witnessed at Putney Bridge station. There were some congestion issues at the station entrance however the Authority will continue to monitor this.</p>	
7.5	<p>Annual Inspection</p> <p>Pre-season safety certification of stadium infrastructure and installations had been received from the LA and has been reviewed as satisfactory. Date for annual inspection 2015 is to be arranged.</p>	GS
7.6	<p>Licensing Update</p> <p>GS reported that the new DPS is now Tom Haywood.</p> <p>Corporate and public catering has now been contracted out to Delaware Co.</p>	

	<p>A minor variation had been approved for the Hammersmith Stand bars to increase their size. There had been a danger that the proper approvals would not be in place for the planned start of the work but this issue had been resolved.</p> <p>It was reported that there would be both a licensing visit and a gambling visit before the end of the Season. LBHF to make arrangement for the visit with FFC.</p> <p>It was reported that on the whole licensing conditions were being complied with. The only issue identified was during the USA v. Columbia where the crowd were unaware of some of the rules, especially in regards to supporters being in possession of alcohol in sight of the pitch. Stewarding of vomitories could have been better in the Hammersmith Stand. This matter was reported to the Club and actions have been taken.</p> <p>It was noted that the police were targeting pubs in the vicinity on match days in relation to ensuring compliance with licensing conditions. There had been an issue with the Golden Lion and Larrick PH's. It was reported that all the licensees would meet to discuss the issue.</p>	GS
7.7	<p>Highways Update</p> <p>It was reported that the experimental TMO was to be reviewed alongside the review of all the signage in the vicinity. New regulations were coming out that would allow for the new signs to be made. Highways are to meet after April with FFC to address concerns already raised about the standard of signage and responsibilities.</p> <p>It was questioned why this meeting could not take place earlier as many of the signs were in bad order. It was explained that as the signs would have to be replaced when the new regulations came in place there would be no point replacing faulty signs until that point. AR asked that the plans for the signs were in place before the new legislation. TP agreed to speak internally with colleagues about timescales for the sign replacement to address the Clubs concerns.</p>	TP
7.8	<p>Bus Lane – Fulham Palace Road</p> <p>FFC reported on an issue on the Fulham Palace Road of the coaches not being able to park owing to supporter cars being able to use bays after 7pm when the bus lane operation hours finishes. There was uncertainty about whether this area was included in the TMO. FFC believed that the flip signs on the road to manage the parking were not be used and there had been a particular issue to accommodate all coaches. FFC queried what enforcement action was taken for cars parked in the bus lane. It was explained that parking tickets could not be issued to those blocking the coach parking if the signs had not been flipped. TP reported that the contractor should be notifying the authority if they found an issue with a flip sign. FFC agreed to take photos of the issue before the Sunderland match.</p>	TP

<p>7.9</p>	<p>TP agreed to discuss the matter with the contractors as well as to feed back to the SAG the specifics of the TMO. It was agreed that the height of the flip signs on Fulham Palace Road should form part of the review into the signage.</p> <p>The use of road studs to demarcate the TV coach parking area was discussed. It was thought that the line marking of the bays would not be possible. TP would get a quote for the installation of the studs.</p> <p>Network Issues/Planned Closures</p> <p>MA reported that works to Hammersmith flyover could potentially impact on evening games. The dates of the work would only be known 2/3 days in advance of the closure. It was confirmed this would be from 10:30pm Monday to Thursday.</p> <p>Hammersmith Bridge was due for refurbishment in 2016 which would result in a full closure.</p> <p>FFC queried the works taking place outside Charing Cross hospital as they were having an impact and causing congestion. It was explained that these were emergency works to fix a water supply pipe. The works had been delayed whilst a part was ordered. MA to ensure someone was on site to manage the traffic flow around the works if they continued until the next home game.</p> <p>It was reported that there had been 1 resident complaint concerning the match day TMO which had been dealt with.</p>	<p>TP</p>
<p>7.10</p>	<p>Parks Police Update</p> <p>It was reported that the budget for the parks police had been cut resulting in the loss of 1 sergeant and 2 PC roles. The Service had moved from Glenthorne Road to the Holland Park. It was felt that if there was another budget cut next year then a review of the service offer would have to take place.</p> <p>The match day arrangements had 4 PC's in Bishops Park. A lot of the police's time was taken up from locking up the parks but a new system had been devised that allowed the PC's to lock up whilst the game was in process.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the parks police only charged FFC for international friendlies, this would usually be for around three hours' work.</p> <p>Within the parks the police had limited powers that were restricted to the bye-laws. It was thought that a trading standards officer present would help the enforcement of street trading in the park. AR agreed to look into the issue but would need to have evidence for its need.</p>	<p>AR</p>

<p>7.11</p> <p>7.12</p> <p>7.13</p> <p>7.14</p>	<p>A controlled drinking zone was being enforced tactically, with around 20/30 seizures of alcohol on a match day.</p> <p>Lighting Issue</p> <p>On the issue of the failing lighting system in Bishops Park it was reported that there were three different control boxes for the system, which were not included in the regeneration of the park. MR would contact the parks projects officer to see if the issue was being addressed and would report back to GS on the matter. It would pose a safety issue if the system were to fail on a match day.</p> <p>The MPS reported on the issue of the parks police having to hold on to any drugs confiscated for long periods of time. They were investigating the possibility of Special Constabulary Support. There was also a difference in the penalty that could be given for drug offences inside and outside of the park, which was being investigated.</p> <p>The issue of CCTV inside the park was discussed and it was felt that it would be very difficult to install.</p> <p>Parking Services Update</p> <p>There were no issues to report since the last SAG meeting. AR reported that a parking consultation had taken place in relation to the borough's 3 clubs and match day restrictions. GS agreed to find out the outcome of this consultation as Parking Control were not aware about it and feed back his findings.</p> <p>Building Control Update</p> <p>KSS had resubmitted the plans for the refurbishment of the Riverside Stand. FFC reported that the majority of work was unlikely to start until the summer 2015. There would be nothing on site before the next SAG meeting where they would be in a better position to update. AR asked that an LA officer be involved in any forthcoming changes.</p> <p>StreetScene</p> <p>AW was looking to back up prosecutions for street trading. The specification of streets was also being investigated to help combat the issue.</p> <p>It was reported that a significant number of basement conversions were taking place in the surrounding area but that there had been no issues with these to date. GS advised that the pre-match inspections were being carried out and currently were working well. GS encouraged the Club to report any works or street issues they were concerned about to the Authority.</p>	<p>MR</p> <p>GS</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Update from London Fire Brigade</p>	

8.1	<p>AR reported that the LFB had pulled out of all the current SAG arrangements. LE would take the issue up with the London Fire Brigade and report back.</p> <p>FFC reported that the Club had had difficulty in contacting the fire brigade about the issue of replacing aged fire hoses. They reported that the Club did have their own qualified Fire Team who would be performing an audit of the ground.</p>	LE, AR
9.	<p>Update from London Ambulance Service</p>	
9.1	<p>The LAS had no issues to report. They were happy with the stewards being trained as medical staff. They confirmed they did not hold their own figures for stadium injuries but they had not recognised any trends in the injuries that were of concern.</p>	
10.	<p>Update from Sports Ground Safety Authority</p>	
10.1	<p>LE reported they were looking at updating the Green Guide and asked the SAG to contact her to give their input on anything they felt should be improved or updated.</p> <p>The role of social media in policing matches was discussed. It was felt some of the abuse was committed solely to create a furore. It was confirmed social media training was provided but that it was almost impossible to police everything.</p> <p>An SGSA conference was being held at The Oval in March, LE asked the group to let her know if they would like to attend.</p> <p>LE reported she had visited Craven Cottage twice so far in the Season, once for the Millwall game and once for the Watford game. She was particularly impressed that the stewards had remained attentive during uneventful games.</p>	
11.	<p>Update from TfL</p>	
11.1	<p>The most significant underground disruption had been the closure of the district line on the day of the Brighton fixture. Increased planning had gone in to ensure that alternative arrangements were in place. It was reported that there were no further planned closures for the rest of the Season. However there were network rail closures planned for Jan/Mar 2016.</p>	
12.	<p>Chairman's Update</p>	
12.1	<p>AR reported that she had met with the FA and broadcasters to discuss fixture time changes. She had let them know the LA's priorities for safety but reported that they were happy for all games to be broadcast as it bought revenue to the Borough. AR asked for the Club and the police to maintain good communication in regards to fixture times.</p>	

	<p>The Chairman sought to clarify the role and power of the SAG and explained that as it stood, it would be necessary to consider the use of enforcement powers available to the Council under the General Safety Certificate for any of the clubs in the Borough without a match commander and Police resources. She expressed her concern that the Statement of Intent and SPS might not be ready in time for the 2015/16 Season.</p>	
13.	Any Other Business	
13.1	There was no other business	
14.	Date and Venue of Next Meeting	
14.1	<p><u>The date of the next SAG meeting to be held in July 2015 is still to be confirmed.</u></p>	GS