



Summary Minutes of the Lewes FC Supporters Club Meeting, held at the Rook Inn on Monday 22nd June 2026

1. Apologies

Stuart Finegan, Janette & David Guyton, Mike Wallis

2. Attendees

- 15 in room
- 5 online

3. Maintenance

- Volunteers have been pressure-washing the Ham Lane stand and seats, aiming to have everything looking smarter for pre-season friendlies.
- A long-running issue with paint flakes on the pitch has been traced to the hospitality roof; the roof has now been cleaned, and follow-up tidying is under way.
- Work has started on the grass banks and overgrown areas, helped by a new mulching blade for the big strimmer.
- The club has sprayed paths and surrounds with a selective weedkiller and will repeat this before the season starts.
- Damian has begun installing a shelter near the chip hut so people don't have to queue in the rain.
- The dugouts will be refurbished once new timber arrives, using acetate sheeting already in stock.
- Installation of the new fixture board has been postponed a week due to extreme heat.

4. Fundraising & Events

- The Supporters Club is planning a sponsored walk, likely linked to a women's Sunday fixture (for example, a Saltdean–Pan route, subject to fixtures).
- A summer raffle will run roughly from 1 July to 1 August:
 - Instead of one big prize pot, fans put tickets into specific prize "pots" they want to win.
 - A rare 20-year-old Springbank whisky, donated by Terry Morton, is being considered as a headline prize to boost interest and income.
- The next quiz night is scheduled for 26th June, raising money for Hear Your Voice, a local dementia singing group, with ideas for future quizzes at alternative venues being explored.
- Recent World Cup predictions raised £410, with £210 profit after prizes.

5. Finance

- The Supporters Club currently has just over £5,000 available after committed payouts, despite a small drop in Pound for Gold numbers; there will be a push to rebuild this before the season.

6. Membership (update given after meeting, as clueless chair forgot to call on Membership Sec!)

Facebook	+/-	Twitter/X	+/-	Bluesky (Mem./Posts)	+/-	Mailchimp Contacts + Subscribers	+/-	% Last Campaign Opened	
End Q1 2026	2,346		1,350/14,100		213/1,200		448 total contacts/399 subscribers		
April (30 April 2026)	2,363	17	1,349/14,100	-1/0	216/1,400	3/200	450 total contacts/402 subscribers	2/3	31.6% open
May (1 June 2026)	2,376	13/30	1,343/14,100	-6/-7/0	216/1,400	0/0	450 total contacts/401 subscribers	0/-1/2	14.8% open (Quiz Night)
June (21 June)	2,390	14/44	1,340/14,110	-3/-10/0	217/1,400	1/4/0	450 total contacts/401 subscribers	0/0/-1	31.1% open
End Q2 2026									

7. Other business

Football and club investment

- John Peel gave an update on men's team recruitment and management changes
- Some pre-season friendlies (especially in the women's game) may be behind closed doors due to opposition concerns about scouts and trialists. These matches have limited impact on overall gate income.
- On the takeover/investment, progress is slower than hoped but ongoing. A sub-group of directors is handling detailed talks, but all key decisions remain with the full board.

Volunteers & Matchday Operations

- Jan has stepped down after five years as women's matchday lead to enjoy matches as a fan.
- Barry Haffenden will oversee both men's and women's matchdays through pre-season while the club and Supporters Club run a major volunteer recruitment drive.
- Pre-season will include "shadowing" opportunities so new volunteers can try roles out alongside experienced people.
- The club and Supporters Club are working with director Lisa to make sure volunteers with additional needs can continue to be involved where possible.

New Volunteer Reward Scheme

- From 1 July, a new Volunteer Loyalty Reward Scheme will recognise everyone who gives their time, whether on matchdays or during the week.
- Each shift counts as one credit, regardless of length.
- Planned reward tiers include:
 - Small items (e.g. badges, coasters, mugs) for early milestones
 - Clothing (e.g. T-shirts, hoodies, jackets/gilets) at higher totals
 - A signed Lewis FC shirt (men's or women's) for those reaching 100 shifts
- Final costs are being confirmed, but the scheme is expected to be affordable and phased over time.
- Volunteer attendance will be tracked using the existing matchday volunteer app plus simple maintenance rotas, so no-one misses out.

Supporters Club Elections & Committee Changes

- The Supporters Club plans to expand the committee to 12 members, adding:

- A Maintenance Manager role
- Four additional committee members without fixed portfolios
- Instead of electing people to specific roles, members will elect the committee, which will then allocate roles internally, similar to the main club board.
- Elections will move to a two-year rolling cycle, with six positions up each year.
- Current committee members will serve one extra year to avoid all positions being contested at once.
- These changes require constitutional amendments, so an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) will be attached to the next Supporters Club meeting. A 75% majority of those attending will be needed to approve the changes.

New programme/publication proposal

- Supporter Simon Ward proposed that the Supporters Club should revive a printed matchday programme/periodical publication covering men's, women's, Foundation and wider club news, rather than a single-match booklet.
- Initial estimates suggest that at a £2–£2.50 cover price and sales of 300–400 copies per issue, the publication could generate a meaningful surplus over a season.
- Key practical issues from previous programmes (unsold stock, delivery to an unmanned building, league-mandated pages) can be mitigated by making this an unofficial Supporters Club publication with more flexible scheduling.
- Simon Ward, Miranda Kemp, and Barry Collins will develop a detailed proposal (format, frequency, print costs, advert strategy) and the Supporters Club is willing to take a modest financial punt on a trial run, with a review around Christmas.

Pan For Gold

The meeting closed with the monthly Pan For Gold draw made from Alan's magnificent bag of balls.