



**Arsenal Football Club Supporters' Forum**

**10am – 11.30am March 11<sup>th</sup> 2018**

**Canteen  
Highbury House**

**Supporters' Forum membership 2017/2018**

16-21 Yr Old Representative	Mr	Connor	Runswick
Arsenal Supporters Club – Domestic	Mr	Martin	O'Donnell
Arsenal Supporters Club – Overseas	Mr	Lars	Lundstedt
AISA Representative	Mr	Daniel	McCloskey
Disabled Supporter	Ms	Anne	Hyde
Club Level	Mr	Steven	Downey
Family Enclosure	Mr	Ryan	Maskery
Gold Member	Mr	Mike	Maloney
Red Member	Mr	Sarah	Coppock
Over 60 Year-Old	Mr	David	Sharp
Ethnic Minority Representative	Mr	Vik	Dattani
LGBT Supporter Representative	Mr	Dave	Raval
RedAction Member	Mr	Sam	Blackman
Shareholder	Mr	Michael	Francis
Away Scheme Member	Mr	Soran	Hourami
AST Member	Mr	Steve	Cooper
Women's Representative	Ms	Robyn	Boparai

**Arsenal representatives**

Arsenal FC (Chair)    Mark Gonnella  
Arsenal FC            Ivan Gazidis  
Arsenal FC            Raul Sanllehi  
Arsenal FC            Mark Brindle  
Arsenal FC            Alun Francis  
Arsenal FC            Charlotte Kenny

**Apologies:**

Connor Runswick  
Vik Dattani  
Michael Francis  
Steve Cooper – Glyn Taylor as alternate

## MINUTES

The fans' forum members were joined by Supporters' Clubs representatives from around the world.

Chief Executive Ivan Gazidis opened the meeting and explained he was not going to discuss questions around the future of the manager in a public forum as that would not be appropriate or fair to someone who has been such an integral part of the growth of the club over many years.

He made it clear that everyone shares the same ambition – for Arsenal to be successful in the league and Europe. He pointed to the work that has been done to transform facilities at our Colney training centre and Hale End plus the investment in people. This has included the appointment of Per Mertesacker as the Head of our Academy from next season, Huss Fahmy joining to work on contract negotiations, Darren Burgess arriving as Head of High Performance, Sven Mislintat, our new Head of Recruitment and Raul Sanllehi who is our Head of Football Relations. He said these appointments were all designed to push the club ahead.

IG spoke about the January transfer window which saw us conclude a number of deals including the arrival of Pierre Emerick Aubameyang and Henrikh Mikhtaryan. He also pointed to the fact we recently announced a new deal with Emirates which is one of the longest standing partnerships in sport and welcomed the fact board member Josh Kroenke had spent time at the club in recent weeks.

Looking at the Premier League, he stressed how the competition was increasing and the days of one or two clubs dominating year in year out have probably passed. He was clear that being competitive in the changed environment will be about ensuring we do everything better than our rivals on and off the pitch.

He introduced Raul Sanllehi to the meeting. Raul spoke about his decision to join Arsenal after 14 years at Barcelona and said he was excited to be joining one of the top clubs in Europe. He said Arsenal is a club everyone looks up to and it was a “no-brainer” to join. He had been impressed by the level of professionalism across the club and said he is convinced the club is in good hands.

Ivan was asked about what could be done to get us competing for the title again.

He said the work going on behind the scenes in terms of people and facilities has been done with the goal of competing. There has been a lot of change, he said, and that will ultimately play through on the pitch. He is convinced that we have great quality at the club and can achieve our goals. However, he accepted we are not where we want to be so far this season.

He reminded people that the nature of football is that things change quickly from season to season and he reassured everyone that this is a great club with lots of people working hard for success.

**AOB**

Presentations were made to retiring members of the supporters' forum

Mark Gonnella advised that answers to pre-submitted questions based on operational matters would be replied to directly.

**Ends.**