



MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

Monday 5th August 2019

Present: Michel Thomas (MT) – chair, Simon Baker (SB), Nick Brodrick (NB), Ali Bryant (AB), Rob Burkitt (RB), Robin Causley (RC), Rob Dickinson (RD), Rick Williams (RW).

Apologies: Matt Carpenter (MC), Jon Gibbes (JG)

19/43	<p>Minutes of meeting held on 4th July 2019 The minutes were tabled and approved.</p> <p>Minute 19/39(d) - RB reported that he understood several approaches had been made by various individuals to the Club for assistance with the Torbay Holiday Helpers' Network but no response had been received.</p>	
19/44	<p>Liaison</p> <p>(a) TUFC MT reported that George Edwards (CEO) had arranged a meeting at the Club on Friday 9th August. It was agreed that he and RW should attend.</p> <p>There was much discussion about the objectives for the meeting and how it should be approached. In summary it was concluded that we should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Praise GE and the Club for the many positives over the past year including the 1899 branding and quality of video presentations. • Seek agreement for ongoing dialogue, preferably with GE himself. • Promote TUST as a positive organisation and seek to understand GE's perception of it. • Explore practical ways in which TUST can support the Club including financial sponsorship of the Community Sports Trust (TUCST). • Highlight the benefits of voluntary initiatives TUST has delivered such as the Matchday Ambassadors and Fan Zones and seek clarification on the future of these. • Promote the benefits of supporter and wider community engagement and ways in which TUST can support this, particularly with young fans in mind. • Explore ways in which TUST can work with the Club on its longer term plans and the potential value of TUST's input. 	

	<p>(b) Press and media NB reported that he had contacted Dave Thomas at the Herald Express regarding the Club's decision to discontinue the Matchday Ambassadors scheme. DT had said he would look in to this but NB had heard nothing further.</p> <p>(c) Politicians MT reported that a briefing session with the Lib Dem and Independent councillors had been arranged on 14th August at the Town Hall. He and RC to attend and other board members welcome to join them.</p> <p>Rumours of further meetings between the Club and Torbay and Teignbridge planners were noted.</p> <p>(d) Exeter City Supporters' Trust MT reported that he, RD and RW had met the Chair and two other board members of ECST for an informal chat ahead of the friendly between the sides on 27th July. Whilst the circumstances of the two trusts and the issues they face differ considerably, it was useful to exchange thoughts and ideas. It was agreed that it would be beneficial to develop an ongoing relationship between the two bodies and also noted that there was a proposal to establish a Devon group involving the Plymouth Argyle trust too. RD expressed an interest in representing TUST on the group.</p>	
19/45	<p>Finance report</p> <p>AB reported that she had completed the year end accounts with assistance from Matt Gorman, the previous treasurer, and these were currently with Andrew Fiderkiewicz for independent review. They would be presented for consideration by the board at the next meeting.</p> <p>MT thanked AB, MG and AF for their excellent work on this.</p>	AB
19/46	<p>New season</p> <p>(a) Membership AB reported that membership was stable at around 360.</p> <p>(b) Corporate membership and networking RB reported that there were now fourteen corporate members, an increase of six in recent weeks. AB tabled the new promotional leaflet aimed at potential corporate members.</p> <p>MT & AB had attended a recent networking breakfast where contact had been made with a representative from Rowcroft Hospice. As a consequence it was proposed by AB, seconded by RB and unanimously agreed to offer Rowcroft free corporate membership and the advertising opportunity that includes. RB suggested that TUST could adopt Rowcroft as its 'charity of the year' and seek to raise funds on its behalf, perhaps by way of a bucket collection at the ground, subject to the Club's consent.</p>	RB

	<p>MT advised on forthcoming dates for networking meetings at Paignton Chamber of Commerce (8th Aug) and the Devon Partnership Torquay Business Network (2nd Sept) and invited any available members to attend.</p> <p>The publication of an updated TUST brochure was discussed and it was agreed this could coincide with the AGM in October. We now have the existing template to update.</p> <p>(c) Ian Twitchin Trophy MT presented the perpetual trophy and the player's version for the board to see. He had been in discussion with the Twitchin family and a preferred date for the presentation had been suggested as Sunday 8th September. He would seek confirmation of this from the Club as soon as possible. It was proposed to hold the event in the Gulls Nest and use the remaining donations to fund a buffet. The event would be open to all members, corporate and individual, and the management and players would be invited. Proposed by SB, seconded by RB and unanimously agreed.</p> <p>(d) Match / ball sponsorship It was agreed to return to the possibility of individual members sponsoring a match at a later date.</p>	<p>AB</p> <p>MT</p>
<p>19/47</p>	<p>PLFF future and legacy</p> <p>(a) Fan zones and outreach events While TUST is keen to support TUCST in providing Fan Zones and Outreach events for the coming season, it will depend on the full co-operation of the Club. Members are happy to volunteer their time at such events.</p> <p>(b) Support for TUCST / TQ1 Club SB updated the board on TUCST matters and MT had maintained contact with Jamie McInnes. It is still proposed that he will make a presentation on behalf of TUCST at the next board meeting outlining what type of assistance it requires so that TUST can consider an appropriate level of sponsorship. It was agreed that this must include appropriate recognition of TUST's contribution.</p> <p>RC suggested that TUST's loan of the Speed Goal and other PLFF funded items to TUCST ought to be subject to a formal agreement. MC to be asked to assist with drafting something appropriate.</p> <p>The success of the TUCST led Senior Gulls was noted and it was suggested that TUST members might be able to offer assistance with future meetings if required.</p>	<p>MT/MC</p>
<p>19/48</p>	<p>Strategy Team RW reported that the team was due to meet on 7th August to consider a draft of the proposed strategy. This would then be tabled for consideration at the next board meeting before the key points are presented to the membership at the AGM.</p>	

	<p>MT enquired about the Asset of Community Value (ACV) registration. The date when it expires needs to be checked and consideration given to renewing it (<i>subsequent to meeting date of expiry confirmed as 31 March 2020</i>). He said his conversations with representatives of other trusts had indicated that they often considered ACVs to be very important. It was agreed that some clarification on the merits of ACVs on leaseholds and freeholds was needed. FSA to be consulted.</p>	RW
<p>19/49 Any other business</p> <p>(a) Meeting room MT proposed that a donation should be made for the use of the TCDT offices for monthly board meetings. It was unanimously agreed that a donation of £50 be made.</p> <p>(b) AGM It was proposed that the AGM should be held during the second half of October and include a social evening to encourage attendance. SB suggested this should be held at an independent venue. MT to approach Torquay Athletic Rugby Club. MT had two match tickets which would be donated as a prize at the event.</p>	AB	

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Monday 16th September 2019 at 6.30pm at Torbay Community Development Trust.

Chairman's signature.....Date