



## MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019

**Present:** Robin Causley (RC) – Vice Chair, Nick Brodrick (NB), Ali Bryant (AB), Rob Burkitt (RB), Rick Williams (RW).

**Apologies:** Simon Baker (SB), Matt Carpenter (MC), Jon Gibbes (JG), Michel Thomas (MT).

<p><b>19/0</b> <b>1</b></p>	<p><b>Minutes of meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018</b></p> <p>The minutes were tabled and approved.</p> <p><b>Minute 18/36 (a)</b> – In MT’s absence, no approaches had yet been made to the ‘legends’ regarding life membership.</p> <p><b>Minute 18/37 9b)</b> – RW reported that TUST had submitted it’s response to the Supporters Direct consultation on the ‘Protection of football stadia’ and this had been used in its submission to the FA.</p> <p><b>Minute 18/38 (b)</b> – There was no further news on the future of the Junior Gulls following the demise of the Official Supporters Club. It was suggested that TUST and TUCST may work together to provide an alternative going forward. Informal discussion to be held with TUCST and the Club.</p>	<p>MT</p> <p>RC</p>
<p><b>19/0</b> <b>2</b></p>	<p><b>Recent events at TUFC</b></p> <p>As it had been an eventful couple of months since the last meeting, the Chair summarised events on and off the field including the ticketing arrangements for the Boxing Day match, the crowd trouble caused by a small minority at Bath, the proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the Club and Torbay Council (which had now been rescinded) and the failure of the Club to liaise with TUST or support joint initiatives.</p>	
<p><b>19/0</b> <b>3</b></p>	<p><b>Report of the Strategy Group</b></p>	

<p><b>(a)</b></p>	<p>RW had provided a written summary of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January and highlighted the key points and proposed actions as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It is considered unlikely that the owner will suddenly withdraw his interest in the foreseeable future.</li> <li>● TUST should strive to build its reputation and gain the trust of the directors of the Club as a fundamental step towards its goals of ensuring community involvement and the sustainability of the Club.</li> <li>● TUST could consider funding some positive projects for the Club as an incentive for the directors to engage.</li> <li>● The trust's objectives need to be clarified. There are many variations in the way in which these are expressed and the priority they are given across various documents including the Rules, our website, the brochure etc. In addition, views expressed by some fans in person or on social media indicated misconceptions about what TUST stands for. RW to draft proposals for the next meeting on which the membership would subsequently be consulted.</li> <li>● Wider membership must be encouraged as a priority, possibly by reducing subscriptions or even removing them completely. Particular consideration to be given to the possibility of junior membership (see minute 19/01(c) above). RW to prepare report.</li> <li>● Seek to identify TUST members who may be willing to make significant financial contributions in the event of it being required.</li> <li>● Explore other potential means of raising funds if required such as crowd funding.</li> <li>● Seek advice from similar clubs which have had to re-launch as phoenix clubs as part of a plan to be prepared for the worst case scenario.</li> </ul>	<p>RW</p> <p>RW</p>
<p><b>19/04</b></p>	<p><b>Liaison with TUFC</b></p> <p>The board were concerned with the apparent unwillingness of the Club to engage with TUST in any way. A lengthy letter had been sent to GE at the beginning of the year setting out TUST's wish to work with the Club and offering constructive views on the ticketing arrangements and other aspects of the administration of the Club. No response had been forthcoming despite a further request. A number of other matters had been awaiting a response from the club including our own proposed MoU. There is also a lack of support for some of the joint initiatives such as the Matchday Ambassadors and Fan Zones.</p> <p>Suggestions for addressing this issue were agreed including face to face contact with representatives at the Club.</p>	

<b>19/0 5</b>	<p><b>Communications / Social Media Team</b></p> <p>RB reported that Luke Hunter was working on updates to the website including a section in which board minutes could be posted.</p>	
<b>19/0 6</b>	<p><b>Premier League Fans Fund</b></p> <p>RC reported on the latest Fan Zone held in Boots on 8<sup>th</sup> December which had again been successful. Next dates would be 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> February but it had been agreed with the bar manager that the speed goal would be moved outside in future as it took up too much space.</p> <p>However, it was also reported that GE did not wish the Fan Zone to continue in Boots as he wished to create an adult sports bar environment and did not think the presence of children was appropriate. This raised further concerns about the lack of support for younger fans and it was questioned whether this and apathy towards the Junior Gulls indicated the ownership's lack of long term interest in the Club.</p> <p>RC reported that plans were being made for future outreach events at Paignton Sports Academy, Great Parks Community Centre and KEVICS. Discussions were also being held with Teignbridge and South Hams councils.</p> <p>There was a final tranche of grant due and consideration would need to be given to the future of the equipment purchased after the current project finishes to ensure its legacy is retained.</p>	RC
<b>19/0 7</b>	<p><b>Finance and membership report</b></p> <p>(a) AB presented the quarterly update indicating TUST account balances of £37,052.06 and the PLFF account of £133.84.</p> <p>(b) Current membership stood at 366 including 9 corporate members. AB reported that she was looking at the possibility of using a marketing professional to promote TUST to potential corporate members.</p> <p>(c) RW reported that the AR30 annual return to the Financial Conduct Authority and accompanying accounts were ready for signing and submission.</p>	RW
<b>19/0 8</b>	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p>There was no AoB.</p>	

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 6.30pm.

Chairman's signature.....Date .....