



MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

Thursday 4th July 2019

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

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

19/37	<p>Minutes of meeting held on 20th May 2019 The minutes were tabled and approved. There were no matters arising that were not covered by the agenda for this meeting.</p>	
19/38	<p>Liaison</p> <p>(a) TUFC It had been reported prior to the meeting by MT via e-mail that he had received a call from Mel Hayman (director) a few weeks previously. She was concerned to hear from various sources that TUST were not receiving any response to communications with the Club. She had requested further details and the Secretary had written to her on 12th June. MH subsequently advised MT on 28th that she had raised TUST's letter with George Edwards and he was going to get in touch to arrange a meeting with some of the TUST board members.</p> <p>At the time of this meeting nothing had been heard from GE despite the fact that MT had bumped in to him and MH at the Club shop during the past few days and reminded him we were waiting to hear. The board were hopeful that a meeting would be offered shortly so that TUST and the Club can establish a positive relationship and work collaboratively on initiatives such as the Matchday Ambassadors and Fan Zones to prepare for the new season.</p>	
(b)	<p>Press release NB reported that a press release summarising TUST's achievements during the season (previously circulated) had been sent to representatives of the local press and after some chasing by him, articles by Dave Thomas had appeared in recent editions of the Herald Express.</p>	

	<p>(c) Politicians RC reported that MT had maintained a dialogue with the MP and local politicians. The new leader and deputy leader of the Council had expressed interest in a briefing from TUST and this would be arranged when they were ready.</p> <p>(d) Football Supporters' Association MT had attended the recent AGM of the new merged organisation and RC tabled some of the reports that had been presented. The Bill tabled by Chris Matheson, MP for Chester, proposing statutory scrutiny of clubs in crisis had been passed unopposed and would now go through the legislative process to become an Act. This would create an independent regulator with the powers to undertake forensic audits of clubs' financial activities where sufficient concern has been expressed and to report to the FA with recommendations for action.</p>	
<p>19/39</p>	<p>New season</p> <p>(a) Ian Twitchin Trophy MT had purchased a perpetual trophy and a smaller version that the winner, Liam Davis, could keep. A balance of the donations received for this remained and MT would discuss this with the two donors to see what they would like to do with it. There had been no response from the Club to requests to set a date for the presentation at a pre-season game but efforts would continue.</p> <p>RC said that he hoped the trophy would be recognised and form part of the Club's end of season awards evenings in future.</p> <p>(b) Membership campaign It was agreed that pre-season would not be a good time to launch a membership campaign. With such a positive vibe around the Club at present and continuing improvements on and off the pitch, it was unlikely that many new members would be recruited. AB reported that only a few members' subscriptions had lapsed and it was pleasing to note that numbers were holding up well.</p> <p>It was suggested that if a positive relationship could be established with the Club, small cards or flyers could be handed out at the entrance to the ground as a way of encouraging recruitment.</p> <p>RD mentioned that he had been approached by a potential new Matchday Ambassador. He wasn't sure if he was a TUST member but it was agreed that this wasn't necessary for the role.</p> <p>There was a discussion about membership fees and whether lower charges might increase numbers. Two important considerations were the amount required to be held on account for a 'rainy day' and the funds that would be needed going forward for such initiatives as supporting the Community Sports Trust and TQ1 club. RW stated that these issues were being considered by the Strategy Team and would be incorporated in to its report to the board in due course. The aim was to have the TUST strategic plan ready for presentation to the membership at the AGM in October.</p>	<p>MT</p> <p>RW</p>

	<p>(c) Business sponsors and networking RC reported that TUST had joined Paignton Chamber of Commerce as a further means of networking and encouraging business involvement with the Club. MT and others continue to attend TUFC Breakfast Club.</p> <p>RB reported one new corporate member. The promotional leaflets had not yet been produced so it was agreed that he would send the design to AB who would arrange printing.</p> <p>(d) Match / ball sponsorship The previous proposal for members of the board to sponsor a match or match ball from their own pockets was discussed. RC provided details of the costs from the TUFC commercial brochure. It was felt that the increase in cost of sponsorship and advertising packages was excessive and may price some supporters out of the market. RB gave examples of different increases being applied to different advertisers. It was agreed that RW would circulate indicative costs for the match ball sponsorship package for various numbers of guests and individual members would let MT or RC know if they were interested in participating. If there is sufficient interest a game will be chosen and other TUST members invited to participate.</p> <p>NB suggested that he would feel more inclined to sponsor something that had a benefit more aligned to TUST's objectives. A few match tickets for use by the Torbay Holiday Helpers' Network was suggested as a deserving cause. This group offer breaks to children and their families with serious illnesses or who have suffered bereavement and a number of tourist attractions in the area offer free tickets to the network. It was agreed that a request should be made to TUFC to consider donating some match tickets if a dialogue can be established.</p>	<p>RB/AB</p> <p>All</p> <p>MT</p>
<p>19/40</p> <p>(a)</p> <p>(b)</p>	<p>PLFF future and legacy</p> <p>Fan zones and outreach events RC reported that there were no firm plans for Fan Zones yet as the fixtures had only been released the previous day but it was anticipated that a few would be run throughout the season.</p> <p>The speed goal and other attractions had been offered to Glasdenbury and Marldon Apple Pie Fair but the former had not responded and confirmation was awaited from the latter. Other opportunities were being sought.</p> <p>Support for TUCST / TQ1 Club With the Strategic Plan in mind (minute 19/39b), it was agreed that a firm proposal from TUCST for any financial support it requires is needed sooner rather than later. RW proposed to e-mail SB for an update and to request Jamie McInnes and the team to make a proposal for consideration.</p>	<p>RW/SB</p>

<p>19/41</p>	<p>Name change SB had suggested at the previous meeting that TUST may wish to consider changing its name to avoid confusion with TUCST. Various thoughts on this matter had been made via e-mail exchanges in the following days with several suggestions for alternative names being proposed.</p> <p>However, on reflection, the meeting agreed that this would be an expensive and time consuming exercise and now was not the time for such a fundamental change. It is something that may be revisited in future but TUST will retain its current identity for now.</p>	
<p>19/42</p> <p>(a)</p>	<p>Any other business</p> <p>The AGM is likely to be held in October and the need for some kind of social event to attract sufficient numbers was noted. Ideas are sought and the date to be agreed at the next meeting.</p>	<p>All</p>

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Monday 5th August 2019 at 6.30pm at Torbay Community Development Trust.

Chairman's signature.....Date