



MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

Monday 16th October 2023

Present: Nick Brodrick (NB) – chair, Ali Bryant (AB), Rob Burkitt (RB), Robin Causley (RC), Bob Cole (BC), Rob Dickinson (RD), Sam Druiff (SD), Michel Thomas (MT), Rick Williams (RW).

23/76	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 18th September 2023 The minutes of the meeting were tabled and approved.</p> <p>Minute 23/64 (e) - NB confirmed that two Step One men's walks had taken place so far with four attendees at each.</p> <p>Minute 23/72(a) – RW advised that advance notice of the AGM and invitations for board nominations and motions would be issued the following day. The venue had been booked and the Independent Examiner's report on the accounts had been received.</p> <p>Minute 23/75(b) – BC updated on his progress in documenting the TUST history.</p>	RW
23/77	<p>Relations with the Club The increasing unrest among the fan base in recent weeks was noted. This has been prompted by poor performance on the pitch, the apparent lack of funds or intent to improve the situation and the usual absence of any communication on these matters from the Club.</p> <p>There had been calls for protests at the next game on 21st October including a call on Facebook for fans to go on to the pitch at half-time. The board unanimously condemned any form of illegal protest.</p> <p>There was a discussion about the issues that concern the board and the views and suggestions received from a number of fans were considered.</p>	

	<p>The board concluded that now was the appropriate time for a Fans Forum and as the Club had declined all requests for such a meeting it was down to TUST to organise. Potential dates, venues and guest speakers were considered and it was agreed to move plans forward via the usual WhatsApp group. BC & MT volunteered to visit potential venues. SD will contact possible guests and RW will invite the FSA. Once arrangements are confirmed the Club would be invited to send representatives.</p> <p>NB will draft an open letter to Clarke Osborne setting out the key concerns that supporters have and advising him of the Forum and requesting a response before the meeting.</p>	<p>BC/MT SD RW</p> <p>NB</p>
23/78	<p>Strategic Plan RW had circulated an updated version with the amendments proposed at the previous meeting. This was approved with a few minor changes.</p> <p>The Plan provides clarity on TUST's objectives and how these are to be achieved and can be cross-referenced to the Q&As. The final version will be put on the website and members made aware of it should they wish to read it.</p>	RW
23/79	<p>Flock of Gulls Final arrangements for the FoG meeting of organisations associated with TUFC to be held the following evening were discussed and agreed. An attendance of up to 20 was expected.</p>	
23/80	<p>Partner organisations</p> <p>a) Community Sports Trust (TUCST) A proposal to sponsor the Walking Football team kit was suggested. It was agreed that BC would invite TUCST to submit an application if it wanted this to be considered.</p> <p>b) Women's Team RD updated on progress including the team's first win of the season.</p> <p>c) SW Supporters Trust Group NB summarised the meeting held on Wednesday 27th September. Topics covered included; the Saturday 3pm TV blackout, the Sky TV contract and ways in which Trusts supported their communities. These included donations of season tickets or match tickets to needy cases, selling old or surplus kit for charity, provision of sensory packs for autistic children and partnering with local employers for community out-reach.</p> <p>d) Kitmas One particular scheme supported by Frome Town Trust was Kitmas which provided free club kit to a number of deserving children at Christmas. It was agreed that this was worth exploring further and the first step would be to contact Torbay Childrens' Services to see if they felt there would be a demand.</p>	<p>BC</p> <p>NB</p>

23/81	Media & PR Recent activity was noted including podcasts involving TUST board members.	
23/82	Any other business	
a)	RW reported on his role as independent Returning Officer for the Exeter City Supporters Trust elections. One of the candidates runs a podcast and had offered TUST an opportunity to appear on this once the elections are concluded.	
b)	RD offered to take on the preparation of a scenario flow-chart from BC	RD
c)	BC offered to take on the role of Membership Secretary if AB wanted assistance. BC, AB and RW to meet to discuss in due course.	BC/AB RW

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Monday 20th November 2023 at 6.30pm.

Chairman's signature.....Date