



MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

Monday 21st February 2022

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

Apologies: Sam Druiff (SD)

22/08	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 17th January 2022 The minutes were tabled and approved.</p> <p>BC confirmed that he had contacted the drummer but had received no response. He also updated on plans to attach TUST sponsorship stickers to the TUCST goals.</p>	
22/09	<p>Relations with TUFC NB confirmed that he had received no response to several requests to the Club asking what TUST had to do to re-establish a dialogue.</p> <p>Council leaders had recently met with George Edwards (GE) and had raised questions about the lack of engagement with TUST and TUCST. They expressed surprise that the Club was unwilling to consider regular meetings.</p> <p>After some discussion around personalities, it was agreed that NB should try a personal approach to GE at the following evening's match to request a face-to-face meeting for himself and a few other TUST board members.</p>	NB
22/10	<p>Politicians</p> <p>a) Sport Torbay MT reported on his attendance at the virtual meeting held on 26th January. It had been stressed that the initiative was about supporting all sporting activities in the area, including football, and encouraging participation in one way or another.</p>	

<p>b)</p>	<p>Local councillors</p> <p>It was reported that council leaders had met with Club officials to discuss potential sites within Torbay for new facilities. Nothing substantial had come from these discussions at this time. It is understood that the Club may also be considering sites in Teignbridge. Enquiries to be made of that authority.</p> <p>In a separate meeting, the Leader had asked RC if TUST would consider fronting a funding bid for a community project. RC to seek more details.</p>	<p>RW</p> <p>RC</p>
<p>22/11</p> <p>a)</p> <p>b)</p>	<p>Partner organisations</p> <p>Community Sports Trust (TUCST)</p> <p><u>Junior Disability League</u> On behalf of Matt Anthony (who had been unable to attend in person due to coaching commitments), RW presented a proposal for TUST to sponsor a new Junior Disability League. The idea is to run four league seasons from March to September, probably at Coombe Pafford school pitches. They would be open to all and targeted at 10 to 15 year olds. MA anticipates attendance of 20-25 players.</p> <p>MA had provided a budget estimate to launch the scheme which had been tabled for the board. If successful, the scheme would become self-financing beyond this year.</p> <p>It was unanimously agreed to use the £1,500 left in the Sam Balsdon disability fund to sponsor the proposed Junior Disability League. TUST would require appropriate publicity and attendance at a launch event. RW to notify MA of our decision and also inform Sam Balsdon.</p> <p><u>Return of Supporters Fund</u> MA had also provided further details of TUCST's proposal for spending the £5k grant from the RoSF. It is proposed to re-launch the match day Fan Zones. MA and his team will be making the arrangements but will require volunteers to help deliver the events on the day, as TUST board members had in the past.</p> <p>It was agreed that TUST would be happy to provide such support but with the proviso that helpers would need to leave by 2.45pm to attend the match. RW to advise MA.</p> <p>RW noted that the TUCST website and Facebook pages carried details of its partner organisations but that TUST was not included. Given the level of sponsorship and close working relationship developed over recent years it was agreed that we should ask to be included. RW to request TUCST add TUST.</p> <p>Women's Team RD reported that it had been decided to purchase the TUST sponsored tracksuits for the new season. He noted how successful the team currently is on the field. It has reached the Devon FA Cup Final to be held at Coach Road, Newton Abbot on 22nd April. It had been agreed prior to this meeting to jointly sponsor the match with the Exeter City Supporters Trust.</p>	<p>RW</p> <p>RW</p> <p>RW</p>

	<p>c) SW Supporters' Trust Group The next meeting is being hosted by ECFC Supporters Trust and had been re-scheduled for 2nd March. NB and RD to attend and possibly BC if available.</p> <p>d) Football Supporters Association feedback MT provided details of his recent discussion with Andy Walsh at the FSA. This had covered the Fan-Led Review and TUST's relationship with the Club. As always, AW had been very supportive.</p> <p>e) Fair Game Campaign Attention was drawn to the Fair Game Campaign. This is a club-led initiative aimed at changing football governance and levelling up the funding structure to ensure sustainability. There are currently 33 member clubs including four from the National League Premier division with others actively planning to join.</p> <p>Many of the aims and objectives of the campaign are similar to those of the Fan-Led Review but the relationship with the FSA is less clear.</p> <p>It was agreed that the values and objectives of the campaign were unlikely to be shared by the Club and at this time details of the campaign were for information only.</p> <p>f) Fan-Led Review (FLR) Details of the forthcoming visit to the House of Commons on 8th March to see Tracey Crouch MP to discuss the FLR were finalised. It will be an hour long meeting and suggestions for questions were discussed. A schedule will be drafted by MT who will also consult the Council leadership and FSA about this. Questions will be allocated to each of the five delegates. Final details to be confirmed during the train journey.</p> <p>NB has made arrangements for the Non-League Paper to cover the visit and photos will be taken. A TUFC scarf or similar will be presented. MT will liaise with Crouch's secretary about final arrangements.</p>	MT
22/12	<p>Membership campaign</p> <p>NB updated on the Devon Live on-line advert and Palm Radio advert. RB advised that he was not getting much response from the Torbay Weekly regarding the proposed advert.</p> <p>AB reported that five new members have joined so far. BC suggested that it would be useful to try and find out whether our advertising attracted these new members.</p> <p>It was agreed to offer 50% commission to anyone responsible for recruiting new corporate members. It was also agreed to offer Palm Radio complimentary corporate membership for a year as they had declined to charge TUST for the advert.</p>	AB NB

	<p>RB has matched archive photos to the list of achievements. Some of these are to be included in the weekly Fan Zone bulletins to members.</p> <p>MT updated on the previous proposal by a couple of TUST members to award an exiles' player of the season award. The board confirmed its agreement in principle to sponsor such an award but requested further details of the criteria for the award and a response from the Club to the members' recent request to present the trophy at the last home game of the season.</p>	<p>RB/RW</p> <p>MT</p>
<p>22/13</p> <p>(a)</p>	<p>Media & PR</p> <p>Media MT reported on his recent meeting with Jim Parker, editor of the Torbay Weekly. He welcomed TUST putting forward items about its community outreach achievements for inclusion.</p> <p>RW complimented RD on his presentation on behalf of TUST on the Torquay Talk podcast. The board thanked SD for providing this opportunity.</p>	<p>MT</p>
<p>20/14</p>	<p>Strategy Team RW advised that the team would be meeting on 3rd March. It was his intention that there should be a meeting for the full board and strategy team in the Summer to consider possible change scenarios and rehearse how TUST might respond.</p>	
<p>22/15</p>	<p>Any other business</p> <p>BC raised the fact that the Club do not publicise its support for any Equality and Diversity campaigns such as Kick It Out. There have been alleged incidents of racist behaviour at Plainmoor this season. It was agreed that this should be raised when we next meet with the Club.</p> <p>RB asked whether the Club should be considering cash on the gate now that Covid restrictions were receding. It was felt that this was unlikely but card readers at the turnstiles was a reasonable compromise. This too would be raised with the Club.</p>	

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Monday 21st March 2022 at 6.30pm at the Chelston Manor.

Chairman's signature.....Date