



MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

Monday 14th September 2020

Present: Robin Causley (RC) – acting-chair, Nick Brodrick (NB), Rob Burkitt (RB), Rob Dickinson (RD), Rick Williams (RW).

Apologies: Ali Bryant (AB), Michel Thomas (MT)

20/54	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 17th August 2020 The minutes were tabled and approved.</p> <p>Minute 47(a) – MT had spoken to the Twitchin family about the proposal and they were happy with this. RW had sent notes of the meeting to Andy Walsh at the FSA and he had acknowledged the progress made.</p>	
20/55	<p>Torquay United and football matters</p> <p>(a) Meeting with TUFC representative There was a discussion about the Club’s response following the meeting with Dominic Mee (DM) on 13th August. A bulletin for members explaining the outcome of this meeting had been sent earlier in the month.</p> <p>It was disappointing that DM had indicated that he was unable to schedule the next meeting until at least October. It was decided that TUST should re-iterate its offer of assistance during the return of supporters to Plainmoor from 3rd October. In particular, the Matchday Ambassadors scheme has a lot to offer at no cost to the Club and volunteers could be found for any other tasks that would assist at this difficult time. It was agreed to write to the Club with this offer.</p> <p>Looking further ahead to the next meeting, it was agreed that we should make firm offers of ways in which TUST can support the Club. Proposals around the needs of disabled supporters was one area we could support. It was also agreed that we should express our concern at the perceived unwillingness of the Club to follow through on the positive tone of the initial meeting and also to seek a response to the draft Memorandum of Understanding and Structured Dialogue protocols which were provided following the August meeting.</p>	RW

<p>(b)</p>	<p>NB will seek to fix a date for the next meeting with DM before our October board.</p> <p>The new season At the current time it appears that the season will start with the home game against Stockport County on 3rd October. There is still uncertainty over how many supporters will be able to attend and whether those without season tickets will have the opportunity. The number of season ticket renewals is unknown but the Club is not currently selling any more STs. It is known that the Club has had extensive discussions with the relevant authorities to ensure supporter safety and clarification of the measures proposed is expected soon.</p> <p>The Club are to be congratulated on its streaming of the pre-season friendlies and it is to be hoped that this service will continue for league games. NB had conducted a survey of National League clubs and of those which had responded, 11 offered a streaming service of which 9 had made no charge for the friendlies.</p>	<p>NB</p>
<p>20/56</p>	<p>Media NB summarised his recent FanZone columns in the Herald Express. RB reported that social media was quiet at the moment but would pick up once the season started.</p>	
<p>20/57</p> <p>(a)</p> <p>(b)</p>	<p>Marketing & PR</p> <p>Business & networking meetings RW to attend the inaugural meeting of the Torbay Business & Chamber Networks via Zoom on 15th September.</p> <p>Promoting TUST at start of season It was agreed that it would not be practical to run a recruitment campaign at the start of the season given the exceptional circumstances and reduced attendances.</p>	<p>RW</p>
<p>20/58</p>	<p>Torquay United Community Sports Trust (TUCST)</p> <p>The board had been disappointed to learn of Jamie McInnes' decision to leave TUCST and had written to him thanking him for his excellent work over the past two years and his support for the partnership with TUST.</p> <p>MT had advised that he was still aiming to set up the proposed meeting with JM and the interim chair of the Official Supporters Club before JM leaves.</p> <p>There was still no news on the proposal to appoint a TUST representative to the TUCST board and it was suggested that MT should seek clarification on this.</p>	<p>MT</p>

20/59	<p>Devon Supporters Trust Group</p> <p>With the new Covid measures restricting groups to six, the planned meeting of the Group would be on hold. NB to suggest a virtual meeting.</p>	NB
20/60	<p>AGM & donations</p> <p>Following previous discussions, it was agreed that three or four proposals for spending surplus funds should be prepared for consideration by the membership at the AGM. These should include donations to specific projects for the benefit of the Club and its supporters such as facilities for those with disabilities. Other causes may include TUST's nominated charity, Rowcroft Hospice. There could also be a small fund for making modest one-off donations to deserving causes.</p> <p>The possibility of holding a virtual AGM or postponing it were discussed. RW to seek clarification from the FSA or FCA.</p>	ALL RW
20/61	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>There was no other business.</p>	

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Tuesday 20th October 2020 at 6.30pm. Venue to be decided.

Chairman's signature.....Date