



**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

**Present:** Michel Thomas (MT) – chair, Nick Brodrick (NB), Ali Bryant (AB), Rob Burkitt (RB), Robin Causley (RC), Rick Williams (RW).

**Apologies:** Simon Baker (SB), Matt Carpenter (MC), Rob Dickinson (RD), Jon Gibbes (JG)

<b>19/54</b>	<p><b>Minutes of meetings held on 5<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August 2019</b> The minutes were tabled and approved.</p> <p>Minute 19/46(c) – MT reported on the successful Ian Twitchin Trophy event held at Boots and Laces on 8<sup>th</sup> September which saw the presentation of the inaugural award to Liam Davis. He had written to the Club to thank all involved for their assistance.</p>	
<b>19/55</b>	<p><b>Partnership with Torquay United Community Sports Trust (TUCST)</b> MT reported that he, RC and AB had met that morning with representatives of TUCST and Torquay United Ladies Team. All parties were keen to promote and develop the partnership.</p> <p>TUCST produced a paper setting out areas where it needed financial support without suggesting the amounts required. These included out-reach events, kit for the TQ1 Club for young supporters, clothing for the community coaches and any help for the ladies team.</p> <p>There was support in principle for a season-long commitment to fund these groups, possibly contributing 50% of membership fees, net of expenses. This would require further consideration and budgeting and reference to the TUST's financial regulations. Any proposals to then be taken to members for discussion and direction at the AGM.</p> <p>As an immediate gesture of support to meet priorities it was agreed to contribute £500 to the TQ1 Club for the purchase of shirts for competitions and £500 to the ladies team for tracksuits. TUCST would also be invited to submit a budget request for the coaches training tops. In all cases the clothing would carry the TUST name or logo as sponsors. MT to write with offer.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">RW</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MT</p>

<p><b>19/56</b></p>	<p><b>Liaison</b></p> <p><b>(a) Meeting with George Edwards and newsletter</b> The board reflected on the newsletter reporting the meeting with GE and the various responses on social media.</p> <p><b>(b) Torquay United Supporters' Club</b> The proposal for the launch of a new supporters' club initiated by the Club was discussed. The board were keen that the two bodies should work collaboratively but concerned that there could be duplication of roles. An approach had been made to Andrew Candy, appointed by the club to oversee the formation of the TUSC as an independent body and he shared this view.</p> <p><b>(c) Meeting with Media and Supporter Liaison Co-ordinator</b> All agreed that the appointment of Dominic Mee to this role was a positive step and early dealings with him had been very encouraging with an indication that he was keen to work with TUST. NB had arranged a meeting with him on 21<sup>st</sup> September and possible items for discussion were considered.</p> <p>In the meantime, NB tabled the results of a survey that he had carried out of all National League clubs to establish which ones had a Supporters' Liaison Officer. 50% of those clubs which responded did have such a role.</p> <p><b>(d) Politicians</b> MT updated on his meeting with various councillors on 14<sup>th</sup> August.</p> <p><b>(e) Football Supporters Association</b> Details of the FSA's proposals for improving the regulation of professional football clubs had been circulated prior to the meeting and were supported by the board. These to be forwarded to the club owner and directors for their information, as requested of us by the FSA.</p> <p><b>(f) Links with other supporters' trusts</b> MT reported on the informal meeting that he and several of the board had enjoyed with members of the Hartlepool United Supporters' Trust prior to the game on 31<sup>st</sup> August. It had been a most helpful discussion and HUST had subsequently provided details of its plan for a phoenix club which it had narrowly avoided having to implement in 2018.</p> <p>Further consideration of promoting links with other trusts to be undertaken at a future meeting as an action arising from the Strategic Plan. NB to research which National League clubs have supporters trusts. It was suggested this could include invitations to meet representatives informally before games.</p> <p><b>(g) Business networking and new brochure</b> AB reported that there were four new corporate members. She had started work on drafting an updated TUST brochure and invited contributions from other members.</p>	<p>NB</p> <p>AB</p>
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	<p>MT advised that he had attended last month's local Devon Partnership meeting and that he has been invited to make a presentation on TUST's work to the Preston Rotary Club on 15<sup>th</sup> October. He invited another member of the board to join him if anyone was available.</p> <p>RW enquired about the TUST pop-up banners that had been previously discussed and AB advised that she had these for use at events</p> <p><b>(h) Social media</b> RB updated on recent social media activity which continued to be positive and supportive of TUST's activities.</p>	
<p><b>19/57</b></p> <p><b>(a)</b></p>	<p><b>Strategy Team report</b></p> <p>RW introduced the draft Strategic Plan which had been prepared by the Strategy Team. It had been circulated with the agenda, setting out the details of how the board proposed to deliver TUST's objectives. A number of the proposals would be considered in more detail by the board over the course of the next few meetings and were included in an action plan as an appendix.</p> <p>It was agreed to present the Plan to the membership at the AGM for approval.</p>	<p>RW</p>
<p><b>19/58</b></p> <p><b>(a)</b></p> <p><b>(b)</b></p> <p><b>(c)</b></p>	<p><b>AGM – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30pm</b></p> <p><b>Event details</b> The venue was confirmed as Torquay Athletic Rugby Club and the AGM would be followed by a social evening open to all. Teams from various bodies would be invited to participate and funds would be raised for our partner charity, Rowcroft Hospice. RW would be sending all members advance notice of the meeting shortly and a flyer would be prepared by AB &amp; RB for wider circulation.</p> <p>The AGM required the attendance of at least 5% of the membership for a quorum. The agenda and associated papers would be sent by the Secretary at least 14 days in advance.</p> <p><b>Election</b> RW advised that the terms of office of MT, AB and MC were due to end at the AGM. MT and AB will offer themselves for re-election. MT to contact MC and establish whether he wishes to stand. Co-optee RD will also stand for election. The notice of the meeting invites any other nominations from the membership as well as suggestions for motions to be submitted by 4<sup>th</sup> October.</p> <p><b>Annual accounts</b> AB tabled the accounts for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019 as reviewed by Independent Examiner, Andrew Fiderkiewicz. The balance sheet showed current assets of £44,428, turnover of £15,933 including membership fees of £9,419 and 'profit' for the year of £5,938. The accounts were recommended for approval by the members at the AGM.</p>	<p>RW AB/RB  RW</p>

	It was agreed that AB should seek guidance from the previous Treasurer on options for investing the cash balance.	AB
<b>19/59</b>	<b>Any other business</b> There was none.	

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 6.30pm at Endeavour House, Torre.

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