



## MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

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

<b>22/78</b>	<p><b>Minutes of the meetings held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022</b> The minutes of the meeting were tabled and approved.</p> <p>Minute 22/69 – IT Trophy to be posted to Ben Wynter via Barnet FC</p> <p>Minute 22/74(c) – RW advised that the cost of renewing the Zoom contract was £120 + VAT which was approved.</p>	RD
<b>22/79</b>	<p><b>Children VIP Treats</b> NB updated on progress on the initiative as follows; The intended launch at the Altrincham game on 22<sup>nd</sup> October had been deferred as no children had been identified in time. The rearranged launch at the Chesterfield game on 12<sup>th</sup> November had been postponed for the same reason. It had now been agreed to launch at the Gateshead game on 26<sup>th</sup> November and if Play Torbay can't provide attendees Torbay Children's Services will. It is likely that up to 10 children will participate in each event rather than the six originally intended. A joint press release had been agreed and would be issued in advance. It was noted that the release did not state that funding for the scheme was mostly provided by TUST.</p>	
<b>22/80</b>	<p><b>Strategy Team</b> RW had circulated a summary of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. The Football Supporters' Association (FSA) had been very helpful in providing advice and offering future assistance using its wide experience of supporting trusts through difficulties at their clubs.</p>	

	<p>Among the topics discussed had been examples of phoenix clubs, governance structures for a community owned club and the level at which it might play.</p> <p>Other tasks being undertaken were identifying current club sponsors, potential venues for a fans forum, relationships with other TUFC fan groups, draft press statements and PR generally.</p> <p>NB reported that he, RC, BC and RW had held a very useful meeting with the leader of Torbay Council and his deputy the previous Saturday. Topics covered had included the club's continuing search for a new site, TUST's development of a strategy for sustaining the club's future if circumstances change, safeguarding the future of Plainmoor and developing its potential, opportunities for apprenticeships at the club and progress of the Fan Led Review.</p> <p>RW reported that further consideration had been given to identifying an interest bearing savings account for the TUST contingency fund. Some examples of providers had been given by the FSA but another option identified by Matt Gorman was favoured. The United Trust Bank (UTB) currently offer gross interest of 2% on a 3 month access account. It was unanimously agreed to open such an account and to transfer the current £40k balance with the new chair and vice chair as signatories together with the treasurer and secretary (any two to approve transactions). For the time being the previous decision to transfer an additional £10k from the current account to the savings account would be put on hold to ensure sufficient funds are readily available if needed.</p> <p>It will also be necessary to obtain a new mandate for the Lloyds Bank accounts when NB and BC take over their new roles after the AGM.</p> <p>BC will be taking over the chair of the Strategy Team and its next meeting is scheduled for 12<sup>th</sup> January 2023.</p>	<p>RW/AB</p> <p>RW/AB</p>
<p><b>22/81</b></p>	<p><b>Membership</b></p> <p><b>a) Survey</b> RW reported that the survey had closed on 10<sup>th</sup> November and approximately 150 responses had been received which was impressive. He had hoped to have initial results back from the FSA in time for this meeting but they had not arrived. When received he will share with the board with a summary and a presentation will be made to members at the AGM.</p> <p><b>b) Membership records</b> A social media post by SD promoting TUST had resulted in 18 new members joining. The board thanked him for this and discussed other ways of encouraging new members.</p> <p>AB reported that she had carried out a review of the membership list and had identified a number of lapsed members or outstanding subscriptions. She was in the process of chasing these and had reviewed the procedure for identifying future cases.</p>	<p>RW</p>

	<p>The Strategy Team had already identified the need to automate the membership system and the FSA have suggested MemberMojo as a provider used by many such groups.</p> <p>RW had looked at their website and believed they could meet our requirements. He will investigate further and liaise with AB to produce a report for the next meeting.</p>	RW/AB
<p><b>22/82</b></p>	<p><b>Governance</b></p> <p><b>a) National Game network meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October</b>  MT had attended this virtual meeting and had previously circulated a summary of the discussion which included such topics as environmental campaigning, the FSA awards, TV coverage of live games, its cost of living survey, a review of National League strategy, support for replays in cup competitions and the government's recent stated aims to complete the legalisation of the Independent Fan-led Review</p> <p><b>b) FSA training sessions</b>  Nicola Cave is currently running a series of four on-line training sessions on various aspects of Community Benefit Societies.</p> <p>BC has attended two of these on 'Governance &amp; Your Board' and 'Planning &amp; Purpose' and intends to do the other two sessions. Useful lessons included;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new FCA Mutuals Section registration portal for CBSs. It's for registration rather than regulation and enables those registered to easily make changes to rules &amp; info.</li> <li>• Nicola Cave can review trusts' rules</li> <li>• A skills gap audit template is available</li> <li>• External board members - rules allow board members to be co-opted in addition to the max number in the rules. They must be given a specified role and term.</li> </ul> <p>RW had attended the session on 'AGMs and Elections'. This had been useful and confirmed that TUST procedures were mostly consistent with best practice. He will review the Election Policy for consideration at a future meeting.</p> <p><b>c) Vice Chair</b>  Further to minute 22/74(b), there had been no other expressions of interest and it was unanimously agreed to appoint BC to serve as joint vice chair with RC.</p> <p><b>d) AGM arrangements</b>  RW will send a reminder to members on 21<sup>st</sup> November.  Board to arrive at TURFC at 6pm (RW &amp; RD at 5.45pm if possible to set up equipment).  MT has drinks vouchers and has arranged pasties.  BC &amp; RW to bring banners etc  Each board member to give an update on their area of interest</p>	RW

	NB has been given a signed ball from the 1999/2000 season and it was agreed to offer this as a raffle prize with free entry for all those attending the AGM.	
<b>22/83</b>	<p><b>Partner organisations</b></p> <p><b>a) Community Sports Trust (TUCST)</b> There was still no news on a new chair for TUCST. BC to seek an update and if nothing decided TUST will consider writing with its concerns.</p> <p><b>b) Women's Team</b> RD reported on recent performances including progress to the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of the FA Cup.</p> <p><b>c) South West Supporters' Trust Group (SWSTG)</b> NB reported on the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> October where topics had included live streaming of matches, early kick-offs and the Fan Led Review. It had been agreed to invite Bath City and Weymouth Town's supporters trusts to join.</p> <p><b>d) Sport Torbay</b> BC had attended the latest meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> October. One item of interest had been the shortage of all-weather playing surfaces in Torbay, particularly following the decision of Torquay Girls' Grammar School to end public use of its facilities.</p>	BC
<b>22/84</b>	<p><b>Media &amp; PR</b> RB reported on recent activity on Twitter, Facebook and the forums.</p> <p>Following the presentation by Dom Bryant at the previous meeting, AB reported that Step One had received more interest via TUST media than any other source.</p> <p>MT summarised a documented history of TUST that he had prepared with assistance from RC, the previous chair and treasurer. He will circulate the draft when completed for comment.</p>	MT
<b>22/85</b>	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p><b>a)</b> There was no other business.</p>	

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Monday 12<sup>h</sup> December 2022 at 6.30pm.

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