



MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

Monday 17th August 2026

Present: Nick Brodrick (NB) – Chair, Ali Bryant (AB), Rob Burkitt (RB), Robin Causley (RC), Bob Cole (BC), Rob Dickinson (RD), Clive Hayward (CH), Michel Thomas (MT), Joe Uglow (JU), Danni Wyatt (DW), Rick Williams (RW) – Secretary

26/46	Minutes of meeting held on 20th July 2026. The minutes of the meeting were tabled and approved. Minute 32/26 (c); NB updated on the plans for additional handrails in The Family Stand with the preferred contractor about to drill test holes in the stand before manufacturing the rails. Current quote is £1,016 subject to the testing.	
26/47 (a)	TUST/TUFC Partnership Report of TABMs NB and DW reported on the Club board meeting with Jimmy Ball on 6th August when preparations for the season, tactical strategy and playing budget had been discussed. A further meeting of the board had been held on 11th August and items covered included the FA's perimeter wall requirements. Alternative solutions to this problem were being considered and funding may be available from the Premier League Stadium Fund. RB pointed out that he had provided details of the soft-impact surrounds to the Club last year when the issue was first raised. The Club board had also reviewed feedback regarding shortcomings at the opening game of the season such as the substandard Fan Zone and long queues in Boots and Laces. Michael Westcott (MW) and Tim Herbert (TH) had joined the TUST board for an informal discussion prior to this meeting and had provided assurances that improvements would be made starting at the next home game on 18th August. The need for an upgrade to the PA system has also been recognised and will be prioritised.	

(b)	Equity conversion proposal Further to minute 26/41(c), NB reported that Sam Barnes (SB - TUAFC Director) had provided a draft letter proposing a commitment by the Club to convert funds provided by TUST since 1st July 2025 in to shares when a share issue is next made. This had been circulated to the board members before the meeting. A Zoom meeting had been held with SB attended by NB, RW, Jon Gibbes and Matt Gorman to discuss the details of the proposal. Several amendments to the draft had been agreed including a deadline for the share issue of 30th June 2027 (end of financial year). The board approved the proposal and RW will write to SB with the revised letter and a schedule of payments to be included currently totalling c£25k. Upon signing of the agreement TUST will transfer the first of the Forever Yellow funds to the Club. It was agreed that the first tranche will be £20k based on current FY subscriptions of £85k per annum. The current account balance stands at £38.5k. The Club will be required to provide details of how the money is spent in line with members' expressed preferences. Future quarterly payments will be subject to the receipt of such reports and amounts will be reviewed as FY income grows.	RW
(c)	Inclusivity Group RC advised that a second meeting of the Group will be held on 29th August with representatives from the Club and TUST members. MT has joined the Group to represent disabled supporters. Member Rob Dyer will make a presentation to the Group on 'Building Communities Through Gaming for Good'.	
(d)	SAG representation As previously reported by CH, the FSA are encouraging Safety Advisory Groups to include supporter representation in line with recommendations first made in the Taylor Report in 1989. An approach had been made to Torbay's SAG and it had agreed to consult the Club on whether to allow a TUST representative to attend the next meeting. If so, it was suggested that Paul Bastard, as Supporter Liaison Officer, would be an appropriate representative.	
(e)	Fan Zones As noted above, there had been a disappointing turn out of providers at the Fan Zone on 8th August and subsequent low attendance. This was largely attributed to the short notice of less than a week. TH had advised that a revitalised FZ would be held before the Weston game the following evening and the game on 29th. TUST were unable to provide representatives for the former at short notice but would be at the latter. Thereafter the board will agree a rota for attendance and will also seek volunteers from among the wider membership to assist.	

26/48 (a) (b) (c)	Forever Yellow Membership Scheme Update JU presented an update on progress with projected income now standing at £85k per annum. He set out a campaign strategy to get from the present level to the £100k target over the next month. This included greater promotion by the Club now that season ticket sales were no longer the priority. The board approved the strategy. In the meantime, the recent Platinum members 'Meet the Manager' event had been very successful. Plans were now being made for the Open Training Session and an Exiles' Fan Zone at an away game. Another suggestion was a quiz night with players and Club representatives. MT showed the board the trophies for the FY Player of the Month and Goal of the Month awards. JU would be organising voting from a short-list. Junior Gulls JU reported that there had been 30 sign-ups so far and it was hoped to reach 100 in the first few months. The training session with the players would be arranged once the hot weather relented and the 'welcome packs' would be prepared. BC advised that he had been working on a Safeguarding Policy based on one provided by TUCST. He would table this for approval shortly. Corporate Gulls Nothing further to report at this stage as the focus has been on the launch of the Junior Gulls. <i>(AB and RB left the meeting at this point)</i>	JU BC
26/49 (a) (b)	Governance Report RW provided a timetable for actions required over the Autumn. Review of Strategy The Strategic Plan will be reviewed and updated over the next few months culminating in member approval at the AGM. This will include a statement of TUST's core values, the Forever Yellow initiative and funding priorities. It was agreed to start with a Zoom meeting of the Strategy Group open to all board members. RW to provide a discussion document. TUST Appointed Board Members (TABM) RW set out the implications of the TABM Policy as NB's two year term is due to end at the AGM and DW's in February 2027 (they can stand for re-appointment). It was agreed that it would be preferable if the vacancies were staggered so one was filled at alternate AGMs to reflect the policy timetable. Options for achieving this were considered and it was unanimously agreed, as a one-off, to extend DW's current term to Autumn 2027.	RW

(c)	DW expressed the view that two years was too short a time for TABMs to become fully conversant with the requirements of the role and proposed an extension to three year terms in future. NB stated that this view was supported by the Club board. There was a lengthy discussion of the pros and cons of the longer term resulting in a proposal to retain the existing two year term which was carried with five votes in favour and three abstentions. Secretary In the absence of any other interest, RD confirmed his willingness to act as Secretary for at least an interim period. RW & RD to meet to arrange a handover during the Autumn.	RW/RD
26/50 (a) (b)	Partners Community Sports Trust RW advised that a letter had been received from the Chair of TUCST to test TUST's appetite for sponsorship in the 2026/27 season. The challenging financial circumstances faced by TUCST were recognised by the board but it was agreed that the sole focus for TUST following the Forever Yellow launch was on providing funds for the Club. This position may be reviewed once the £100k target is reached. RW to advise TUCST. RD said there is a trustee meeting on 20th August. TUCST had also requested a meeting to discuss the partnership for the delivery of the Junior Gulls benefits. JU to liaise. The option of using Junior Gulls subscriptions to support TUCST had been suggested previously and this would be considered once membership numbers increase. Using TUCST to promote the Junior Gulls in schools was suggested. RD noted that he would probably have to stand down as a TUCST trustee when he takes on the Secretary role. Before leaving the meeting earlier, RB advised that he had again been in contact with TH, Luke Maker and now Ryan Perks to push for a date on a meeting with the kids' team coaches and parents that had come to him over a year ago because they want to get their own kit sponsorship. It's been raised a number of times with the club in person and via email. RB had been keeping the coaches and parents updated with the communications but they are now rightly becoming frustrated and possibly feel not listened too which has resulted in negative responses on the fans survey. Women's team The team had been devastated by Roxy Thomas' recent brain tumour diagnosis. DW was able to provide an update and the board requested that a card be sent on its behalf.	RW JU DW

26/51	Media & PR	
(a)	Exeter City Supporters' Trust BC and RC provided feedback from discussions with the ECST guests at the pre-season game. The importance of strong governance and financial control were emphasised. Communication is key.	
(b)	Heritage project BC advised that the need for a storage facility for heritage items had been raised with MW and he was keen to help find a solution.	
26/52	Any other business	
(a)	Beacon CRM data breach Following the cyber attack on Beacon RW had notified the Information Commissioner's Office as required by law. He had received a reply acknowledging they were aware of the issue and that further contact with TUST is unlikely.	

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

Chairman's signature.....Date