



## MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

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

**Apologies:** Robin Causley (RC)

<b>22/69</b>	<p><b>Minutes of the meetings held on 19<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022</b> The minutes of both meetings were tabled and approved.</p> <p>Minute 22/62 – RW reported that RC had provided a template grant agreement which he would adapt for future donations</p> <p>Minute 22/64(b) – it was agreed that if nobody is identified to take the ITT trophy to the Barnet away game to present to Ben Wynter, it will be posted with a request for him to take a selfie or video with the trophy.</p> <p>Minute 22/66(c) – BC &amp; NB reported on their attendance with RC at the unveiling of the Jack Leslie statue at Home Park. The event had been well attended and the TUST representatives had been made very welcome.</p>	<p>RW</p> <p>RD</p>
<b>22/70</b>	<p><b>Children VIP Treats</b> Since the special board meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> September, NB had held further discussions with club director, Mel Hayman (MH). With regard to the conditions suggested by the board, it was proposed with MH;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That it was not advisable for TUST representatives to attend non-matchday events with the children given their special needs.</li> <li>2. The project will be reviewed after each event</li> <li>3. The full sponsorship of £2,600 will be required in advance</li> <li>4. Press releases to be approved by all parties (NB to do first draft)</li> <li>5. TUST would be able to approach the Football Supporters Association for a contribution.</li> </ol>	

	<p>The proposals had been discussed by the board via e-mail and it had been agreed to proceed on this basis with one abstention. The payment had subsequently been made.</p> <p>NB reported that he had spoken with MH at the game on 15<sup>th</sup> October and she had confirmed that the project would start at the next home game as planned despite issues communicating with Play Torbay. He had provided the Club with his draft press release and this had been passed to Dom Mee (Supporter Liaison Co-ordinator) for review. He had also made arrangements with the FSA for a £500 contribution.</p>	
22/71	<p><b>Relations with TUF C</b></p> <p>There was growing concern among supporters about the performance of the team on the pitch and lack of communication from the Club's owner. NB had asked MH whether the Club would consider holding a Fans' Forum. The answer was a firm 'no'. There was then some discussion about the possibility of TUST holding its own Fans' Forum. It was decided to keep this under consideration for early in the New Year.</p> <p>Following a request for some background information about TUST's involvement at the time of the last change of ownership, it was proposed that MT &amp; RC would draft a documented history of this period for consideration at the next meeting.</p>	MT/RC
22/72	<p><b>Partner organisations</b></p> <p><b>a) Community Sports Trust (TUCST)</b></p> <p>MT had spoken with Matt Antony (TUCST Manager) and he had confirmed dates for the next three TUST sponsored Junior Disability Leagues.</p> <p>RW tabled a draft letter to TUCST trustees as requested at the previous meeting but it was decided not to send this at the present time but wait until after their next board meeting.</p> <p><b>b) Women's Team</b></p> <p>RD reported that he, MT and BC had attended the game against Exeter City the previous day when photos had been taken with the team in their TUST sponsored tracksuits. The TUST logos had yet to be added to the clothing which had only recently arrived. RD to draft a press release to go with the photo.</p> <p><b>c) South West Supporters' Trust Group (SWSTG)</b></p> <p>All those who had attended the Zoom session with Alex Pollock of Swindon Town Supporters Trust agreed that it had been a very informative meeting with many lessons which could be useful to our future situation. NB stated that Alex had also suggested some questions for a members' survey (minute 22/75)</p> <p>The next meeting of the SWSTG is on 19<sup>th</sup> October and the agenda items were noted.</p>	RD

<p>d)</p> <p>e)</p>	<p><b>Step One</b> Dom Bryant of Step One had made a presentation on the charity's work with mental health prior to the meeting. The board agreed that TUST should promote the charity and in particular a proposal for a new 'walk and talk football' initiative. NB said that he had provided details of Step One to the Club's directors and he was hopeful that it would also support the charity.</p> <p><b>Sport Torbay</b> The next meeting is on 27<sup>th</sup> October at Paignton Sailing Club. BC volunteered to attend.</p>	<p>BC</p>
<p>22/73</p>	<p><b>Finance</b> AB presented the accounts for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022 as prepared by Andrew Fiderkiewicz. These showed slightly reduced income of £9,359 and expenditure of £6,533, an increase of £4,667 on the previous year due to increased activity after the pandemic and increased administrative costs.</p> <p>The balance sheet shows assets of £58,304, an increase of £2,827.</p> <p>RD proposed and NB seconded approval of the accounts which was agreed unanimously. RW would incorporate the figures into the formal report for the AGM and also draft a Directors' Report for prior board approval.</p> <p>AB had enquired about opening a NS&amp;I savings account but this was not an option. An alternative account to be sought. RW to consult the FSA.</p> <p>AB provided a finance update as at 30<sup>th</sup> September showing account balances totalling £59,548.</p>	<p>RW</p> <p>RW</p>
<p>22/74</p> <p>a)</p> <p>b)</p>	<p><b>Governance</b></p> <p><b>Meeting with Kevin Foster MP</b> BC reported that he and RC had recently met with KF at his request. He had provided reassurance that he continued to support the proposals for changes in football governance resulting from the Independent Fan Led Review and would write to the minister accordingly. It had also been an opportunity to discuss the owner's recent confirmation that he was seeking to relocate the Club.</p> <p><b>Chair</b> Since the previous meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> September when NB had declared his interest in taking over the chairmanship when MT stands down in November, BC had withdrawn his own interest.</p> <p>NB addressed the meeting with a summary of his background and what he thinks he can bring to the role, principally providing continuity whilst recognising the challenges that may lie ahead. He thanked MT for his five years in the chair which had seen TUST advance considerably and all present echoed his sentiments.</p>	

	<p>BC proposed and AB seconded NB's appointment as chair with effect from the AGM and this was unanimously agreed.</p> <p>MT advised that RC and BC had discussed the possibility of being joint vice-chairs for a period. It was agreed that this should be considered at the next meeting to give other members the opportunity to express an interest in the role if they wished.</p> <p><b>c) AGM</b> MT confirmed that the rugby club is booked for the event. A budget of £300 was approved for hire and refreshments. It was also agreed to renew the TUST Zoom subscription in the sum of £120 and virtual attendance will again be offered.</p> <p>RW explained the timetable for giving advance notice, requesting nominations and motions and issuing formal notice of the meeting. He will also draft a Directors' Report for the accounts and circulate for board approval.</p> <p><b>d) FSA Training</b> The FSA are offering free training in four core elements of running a Community Benefit Society covering; Governance &amp; Your Board, Planning &amp; Purpose, Finance and AGMs &amp; Elections.</p> <p>BC said that he intended to do all four and RW will attend the AGM &amp; Elections session. Any other member can sign up on line if interested.</p>	<p>RW</p> <p>BC/RW</p>
<p><b>22/75</b></p>	<p><b>Membership survey</b> RW tabled a report on a very useful discussion he had held with Garreth Cummings at the FSA. They were able to run the survey on our behalf and produce a report of the results.</p> <p>In addition to the suggested questions in RW's report, other areas to cover were improvements to the matchday experience, music for goal celebrations, half time entertainment and money raising opportunities for Plainmoor.</p> <p>RW explained that the FSA had indicated that they could produce the survey within a few days which would enable results to be collated in time for the next board meeting and the AGM. With this in mind it was proposed to send members a TUST newsletter around 24<sup>th</sup> October including a link to the survey, advance notice of the AGM, news of NB's appointment as chair and other updates.</p>	<p>RW</p> <p>MT/ RW</p>
<p><b>22/76</b></p>	<p><b>Media &amp; PR</b> RB reported on recent activity on Twitter, Facebook and the forums.</p> <p>NB noted that the recent article in the Torbay Weekly about Clarke Osborne's investment in the Club and the fact that there had been no reaction to this on the forums. There was a discussion about the various interests of Toklon, Gaming International, Riviera Stadium Ltd and his other companies</p>	

<b>22/77</b>	<b>Any other business</b>	
<b>a)</b>	There was no other business.	

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 6.30pm.

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