



MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

Monday 15th November 2021

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

Apologies: Ali Bryant (AB)

21/60	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 18th October 2021 The minutes were tabled and approved with no matters arising that were not on the agenda for this meeting.</p>	
21/61	<p>Relations with TUFC Following the previous meeting MT had sent a letter to the Club explaining how a misunderstanding had arisen at the liaison meeting with Dom Mee on 30th September and offering a personal apology to him if any offence had been caused.</p> <p>A reply had been received from Dom and circulated prior to the meeting. Whilst he accepted MT's apology, the directors did not accept the explanation and had decided that the club would not meet with TUST again this year but would review their position in the New Year. They had also requested the draft minutes of the meeting which RW would send via Dom.</p> <p>In the meantime, the questions for the directors raised at the meeting with Dom remain unanswered. The board expressed its continuing frustration that the Club would not engage in meaningful dialogue with TUST. It was agreed that the situation should be reported in full to our members at the forthcoming AGM.</p>	RW
21/62	<p>Partner organisations</p> <p>a) Community Sports Trust (TUCST) Since the previous meeting the Club had launched its own Retro-Gulls group which appeared to fulfil a very similar role to the Senior Gulls. MT had attended the inaugural meeting and had made this point. TUCST had not been consulted about the launch of this alternative group.</p>	

	<p>As reported at the previous meeting, TUCST had received £5k in grant from the Return of Supporters Fund and MT stated that they had asked TUST for any suggestions on how this could be spent to provide new initiatives. An issue for TUCST was its capacity to deliver additional schemes.</p> <p>MT reported that Sam Balsdon still had c£1.5k in his fund raised from sponsored events. This had been intended to provide a roof for the away disabled section but the Club had carried out this work. He was happy for this money to also be used to support joint TUST/TUCST projects involving disability groups eg. the Inspirations teams.</p> <p>b) Supporters Club (TUSC) It appears that there is no current plan to move this forward.</p> <p>c) Women's Team RD to contact TUWFC for an update.</p> <p>d) Travel Club Recent reports of the Travel Club struggling to provide its service for away games had been noted and discussed prior to this meeting. A suggestion to subsidise a coach for one game had been floated and would be given further consideration in the New Year. RW noted the need to be clear that such a subsidy conformed with TUST objectives.</p>	RD
21/63	<p>Football Supporters Association NB & RW had attended a National Game Network meeting via Zoom on 25th October and had previously circulated notes of the meeting.</p> <p>The FSA AGM is to be held on 19th November at 6.30pm via Zoom. MT to attend and RW to book his place.</p>	MT/ RW
21/64	<p>PR</p> <p>(a) Media RB noted that the recent article on events at the Wrexham game had attracted the greatest number of website views ever at nearly 1,000. Also, a Tweet about the #HerGameToo campaign had been widely viewed.</p> <p>SD spoke about his Talking Torquay podcasts and his desire to include regular TUST updates in future editions. All present said they were willing to provide interviews if required. He also mentioned plans for a further legends evening following the success of the Buckle Era event. He would be seeking sponsorship for this and would give TUST first option with all proceeds going to charitable causes selected by the players involved. The board supported the idea of sponsoring such an event in principle, subject to costings.</p> <p>(b) Marketing MT had previously circulated a list of TUST's achievements over the past three years which other members had added to. The latest version was approved and it was proposed to add illustrations to some of the examples.</p>	

(c)	<p>RB volunteered to look into this. In the meantime, the list would provide a prompt for promoting TUST's successes at the AGM and at other opportunities. BC suggested adding some specific examples to some of the achievements.</p> <p>NB had fine tuned the membership poster that he originally tabled at the previous meeting. It was approved subject to one minor amendment and NB would now arrange for this to be circulated and posted on social media.</p> <p>BC had reviewed the TUST website and submitted some proposals for improving it. These would be discussed more fully at the next meeting.</p> <p>Networking MT proposed to arrange meetings with local council leaders, the MP and the editor of the Torbay Weekly to brief them on TUST's recent activities and concerns. This was agreed and BC volunteered to be involved with others offered the opportunity if available.</p>	<p>RB</p> <p>RW</p> <p>NB</p> <p>MT</p>
21/65	<p>AGM RW reported that there were no motions proposed by members for the AGM and that the number of candidates nominated to the board was less than the places available. No elections would be necessary and current co-optees, BC and SD would therefore be appointed to the board at the AGM.</p> <p>MT outlined arrangements for the AGM to be held at the Rugby Club and a hire charge of £100 was approved. It was agreed to provide refreshments for attendees and this would be publicised in a reminder to be sent by RW. A Zoom link would be available for those unable to attend in person.</p>	RW

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Monday 13th December 2021 at 6.30pm at the Chelston Manor.

Chairman's signature.....Date