



## MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

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

**Apologies:** Ali Bryant (AB), Michel Thomas (MT)

<b>23/36</b>	<p><b>Minutes of the meetings held on 20<sup>th</sup> March and 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023</b>  The minutes of the meetings were tabled and approved. The latter agreed to be confidential.</p> <p>Minute 23/17 – NB reported that he had received an update from Dom Bryant on the Step One proposed partnership with the Club. There was no date yet for the first walk but the relationship was progressing with a commitment from both parties.</p> <p>Minute 23/24 – the £500 donation to the Travel club had received a positive response on social media. It was agreed that some clarification of how the Travel Club is operated would be required before any further donations are made. To be discussed with the organiser in due course.</p>	
<b>23/37</b>	<p><b>The Club's current position</b>  The run of five victories had given supporters fresh hope that relegation could be avoided and all agreed that the sole focus over the next fortnight should be backing the team.</p> <p>However, the underlying concerns about the future direction of the Club and the owner's plans remain and will be addressed as a priority once the season is over.</p>	
<b>23/38</b>	<p><b>Relations with the Club</b>  NB updated on the recent VIP Treats days which continued to attract interest from deserving families. The Club had advised that any remaining funds would be rolled over to next season.</p>	

	<p>No progress had been made in identifying a new community project but this would be considered over the Summer. It was noted that funds for such projects in the current financial year (to 30<sup>th</sup> June) had been fully committed.</p>	
20/39	<p><b>Strategy Team</b> BC advised that the meeting planned for 13<sup>th</sup> April had been postponed until 27<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>A virtual meeting with representatives of Crowdfunder and the Community Share Company had been arranged for 20<sup>th</sup> April.</p>	
23/40	<p><b>Partner organisations</b></p> <p><b>a) Community Sports Trust (TUCST)</b> TUST's commitment to supporting TUCST was confirmed. The funding implications of relegation were considered. TUCST faces strong competition from other organisations both in terms of attracting customers and retaining staff.</p> <p><b>b) Women's Team</b> RD reported on the previous day's tough game at Liskeard which had resulted in a 1-1 draw and a few serious injuries. RD to send a message of support to Sasha Mole who suffered a dislocated knee and best wishes to the team which needs a win in the last game at home to Royal Wotton Bassett (at Liverton's ground) to secure the title and promotion.</p> <p>RW suggested that TUST might consider sponsoring a Player of the Season or appearances trophy for the Women's Team next season. To be considered at next meeting.</p> <p><b>c) Partners networking opportunity – Flock of Gulls</b> It was agreed that this should now be arranged for June and the Chelston Manor was proposed as a venue. RW to share the draft invitation and list of invitees for comment and agreement on a suitable date. Details to be confirmed at the May meeting.</p>	<p>RD</p> <p>RW</p>
23/41	<p><b>Finance and Membership</b></p> <p><b>a) Quarterly financial report</b> RW confirmed that the funds invested with United Trust Bank in a 3 month bond had now been transferred back to the TUST bank account with £198 interest.</p> <p>AB had provided details of the account balances as follows; Forever Yellow Fund £60,000. TUST current account £2,460.64</p> <p><b>b) Membership</b> The recent influx of new members had resulted in current membership of 387..</p>	

<p><b>c)</b></p>	<p><b>Record systems and collection of subscriptions</b>  BC reported on a discussion he had held with a trust member at Hereford FC about the Hubspot record system but had concluded that this was not suitable for our requirements.</p> <p>There appears to be no system that is widely used by trusts for managing membership and the conclusion was that making the most of our present system is probably the way forward. BC, RB and AB are working to streamline the process as much as possible.</p> <p>RB was looking at ways to transfer details of multiple new members to Mailchimp but had problems accessing the Mailchimp account. RW to check login arrangements and advise.</p> <p>Another issue identified by RB is the problem faced by international members paying their subscriptions. This may be resolved by signing up to PayPal. RB to explore.</p> <p>Subscription rates to be considered at a future meeting.</p>	<p>RW</p> <p>RB</p>
<p><b>23/42</b></p> <p><b>a)</b></p> <p><b>b)</b></p> <p><b>c)</b></p>	<p><b>Media &amp; PR</b></p> <p><b>Away Player of the Season award</b>  BC had not heard from the organiser about arrangements for the presentation of the TUST sponsored trophy but a way of getting it to Altrincham would be found if that is where it will be held.</p> <p><b>Ian Twitchin Trophy</b>  Mark Halstead was likely to be the recipient of the trophy for most appearances in the season. He will need to be advised as soon as this is confirmed. It was agreed that an event for the presentation should be arranged after the season finishes. The Twitchin family wished to be involved. Boots &amp; Laces was the preferred venue. MT to be asked to organise.</p> <p><b>Liaison meeting with Club's Supporter Liaison Co-ordinator</b>  NB advised that the next meeting with Dom Mee was scheduled for 9<sup>th</sup> May and RC would join him.</p> <p>Proposed agenda items include the return of Fan Zones next season, details of the outcome of the VIP Treats events, the Step One partnership, potential new community initiatives, ticketing and pricing structures.</p> <p>He will also be seeking the Club's response to some of the recommendations of the football governance White Paper as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Owners to be more visible and accessible</li> <li>• Key decisions to be open and transparent</li> <li>• Improved levels of fan engagement</li> </ul>	<p>BC</p> <p>MT</p>

	<p>He would also be seeking clarification on the question of confidentiality of the meeting minutes. Clearly TUST needs to be able to share the outcome of the liaison meetings with its members.</p>	
<b>23/43</b>	<p><b>Governance</b></p> <p><b>a) Board membership policy</b> The policy was tabled for review and approved without amendment.</p> <p><b>b) New members</b> Requirements to be given further consideration at a future meeting.</p>	
<b>23/44</b>	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p><b>a) SW Supporters Trust Group</b> NB outlined a proposal from ECST and the Devon FA for the three county based trusts to sponsor a Devon Disability Tournament. Agreement was given in principle subject to more details.</p> <p>It had been noted that TUST was over represented at SWSTG meetings and it was therefore agreed that only two representatives should attend in future, normally NB &amp; BC.</p> <p><b>b) Mature Mascots</b> NB outlined a proposal for TUST to sponsor three senior citizen mascots for a match next season. The idea being to give deserving older fans the opportunity to be mascots if they had missed out in their younger days. Supporters could be asked to nominate suitable candidates.</p> <p>The idea was warmly welcomed and would be given further consideration in due course.</p> <p><b>c) FSA AGM</b> MT had previously circulated details of the event in Manchester on 24<sup>th</sup> June. Anyone interested in attending to let RW know.</p> <p><b>d) Board social</b> A social evening possibly involving bowls or skittles was agreed for the Summer with partners too if interested. Provisionally set for Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July as we don't normally have a meeting that month.</p> <p><b>e) Wrexham match – 29<sup>th</sup> April</b> Concern was expressed about the potential issues around the influx of thousands of ticketless Wrexham supporters for the final game of the season. NB had been advised that the policing costs for the Club inside the ground were significant, let alone the costs for wider area.</p> <p>It was suggested that, given the club's apparent wealth, a request should be made to Wrexham FC (via its supporters trust?) for a contribution towards TUFC's costs. NB to action.</p>	NB

f)	<b>Secretary</b> RW will be away for much of May and he asked for volunteers to cover some of his tasks. RD agreed to take minutes and RB will process the weekly members' bulletins.	RD/RB
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The date of the next meeting was fixed for Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 6.30pm.

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