



## MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

**Present:** Robin Causley (RC) – acting chair, Ali Bryant (AB), Bob Cole (BC), Rick Williams (RW) and Michel Thomas (MT) from agenda item 4.

**Apologies:** Nick Brodrick (NB), Rob Burkitt (RB), Rob Dickinson (RD), Sam Druiff(SD)

<b>22/59</b>	<p><b>Minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2022</b> The minutes were tabled and approved.</p> <p>Minute 22/51 – RW reported that he had raised the question of investment options for the contingency fund at the Strategy Team and the recommendation was to consider NS&amp;I investment bonds. AB agreed to look into this.</p> <p>Minute 22/51 – RW had also raised the increasing cost of Go Cardless with the Strategy Team and the conclusion was that any move to a different system would require the individual consent of every member with the risk of members not renewing their subscription. The potential losses arising from this were likely to outweigh any savings on fees. In the meantime, FSA guidance on what other trusts were doing had been sought.</p> <p>Minute 22/58 – it was noted that the TUST board WhatsApp group was working well.</p>	AB
<b>22/60</b>	<p><b>Relations with TUFC</b> In NB's absence, RW read a summary of his latest meeting with a Club director and representatives of Torbay Children's Services and Play Torbay regarding the TUST proposal to sponsor a scheme to give autistic children support and access to games. NB felt that the plan was progressing slowly and patience was required to bring it to fruition.</p>	

	<p>The board recognised the progress with the proposal and the reasons for recent delays but still expressed the view that the Club should be required to make a decision one way or another by the time of the next board meeting as various other initiatives were being held back pending the outcome of these discussions.</p>	NB
22/61	<p><i>MT joined the meeting at this point but RC continued as acting chair</i></p> <p><b>Strategy Team</b>  RW had circulated a summary of the actions arising from the ST meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> September and the allocation of tasks to various members was agreed. A list of enquiries had been sent to the Football Supporters' Association (FSA) and a reply had been promised this week.</p> <p>The next meeting of the ST was scheduled for 3<sup>rd</sup> November.</p>	
22/62	<p><b>Partner organisations</b></p> <p><b>a) Community Sports Trust (TUCST)</b>  MT had previously reported on his exchange with Matt Anthony (Manager of TUCST) regarding the TUST sponsored Junior Disability League. BC updated with details of his own conversation with MA. The board expressed its continuing concern that the JDL did not appear to be happening with the frequency originally proposed.</p> <p>It was agreed that any future contributions to TUCST or other bodies should be backed by a formal agreement setting out the terms and conditions of the funding. This should include a claw-back provision if the money is not spent or the service not delivered as planned. RC to provide a sample agreement for adaption. In some cases where deemed appropriate, TUST will pay invoices directly rather than transfer funds to the sponsored body.</p> <p>It was noted that TUCST had not appointed a new chair since the resignation of the previous one in June. It is understood that the charity is facing several challenges including rising costs, increasing competition from other providers and staffing shortages. Whilst TUST is keen to support TUCST and build on the good relationship we enjoy, the board expressed concern about its governance and strategic leadership. It was agreed to write to the remaining trustees expressing our concerns. RW to draft a letter for board approval.</p> <p><b>b) Women's Team</b>  MT reported that he had recently spoken to the team manager who had stated that the TUST sponsored tracksuits had been ordered through the Club shop but only half had arrived with the rest still awaited. As with the JDL above, the board expressed its frustration at the slow progress and RD is requested to keep pushing for the logos and photo opportunity we have been promised.</p> <p><b>c) South West Supporters' Trust Group (SWSTG)</b>  The next meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30pm to be hosted by Exeter City Supporters Trust.</p>	<p>RC</p> <p>RW</p> <p>RD</p>

<p><b>d)</b></p>	<p><b>Sport Torbay</b> Nothing to report.</p>	<p>NB RW RD</p>
<p><b>22/63</b></p>	<p><b>Membership survey</b> RW to ask FSA for any examples used by other trusts.</p> <p>Questions to be finalised at the next meeting so that the survey can be circulated in time for results to be considered at the November meeting and reported to the membership at the AGM.</p>	<p>RW</p>
<p><b>22/64</b></p> <p><b>a)</b></p> <p><b>b)</b></p>	<p><b>Media &amp; PR</b></p> <p><b>Press and social media</b> The board acknowledged and praised RB for his prompt and appropriate response to the announcement of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II.</p> <p>Paul Breen of Charlton Athletic Supporters Trust and a TUST member had met MT, RC and other members prior to a recent game. An published article by him about TUFC been previously circulated to the board. It was agreed that this excellent piece should be included in the next TUST newsletter.</p> <p><b>Ian Twitchin Trophy</b> Attempts are still being made to arrange the presentation of the trophy to Ben Wynter at the away game at Barnet.</p> <p>The Twitchin family have asked if the perpetual shield can be returned to them until next presented at the end of the season. MT to arrange.</p>	<p>MT/ RW</p> <p>MT</p>
<p><b>22/65</b></p>	<p><b>AGM</b> The date was set for Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Various venues were considered but it was agreed that Torquay Athletic Rugby Club had been a good choice for past events so MT would enquire about availability. It was agreed to provide refreshments and the opportunity for socialising after the meeting. The option for members to attend via Zoom would be provided.</p> <p>RW outlined the timetable for advance notice, invitations for motions and board member nominations and formal notice.</p>	<p>MT</p>

22/66	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p><b>a) Investment of funds</b> RC referred back to minute 22/59 above and the proposal to transfer the £50k contingency fund to NSI Investment Bonds. With MT now present the meeting was able to approve this proposal.</p> <p><b>b) TUST banner</b> It was proposed to seek reliable supporters who attend away games to take the banner wherever possible.</p> <p><b>c) Jack Leslie statue unveiling</b> This event will take place in Plymouth on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October. MT is unable to attend but NB, BC and RC have volunteered to do so on behalf of TUST. If any other board member wishes to attend they should let MT know.</p> <p><b>d) Chair</b> MT reported that he had only received one expression of interest in taking over the chair when he stands down at the AGM. This was from BC who confirmed his desire to fill the role if other board members supported this. No final decision is required at this time.</p> <p>RW proposed the procedure for making an appointment will require a decision to be made at the November board with the new chair introduced to members at the AGM and taking over at the end of that meeting.</p> <p>RC stated his intention to stand down as vice chair in due course but he was happy to continue in that role for the time being to provide continuity and to support the new chair.</p> <p>It was suggested that meetings should be arranged with Kevin Foster MP and council leaders to introduce the new chair after the AGM.</p>	<p>AB</p> <p>All</p> <p>NB/ RC/BC</p>
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The date of the next meetings were fixed for Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October and Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 6.30pm.

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