



MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

Monday 19th February 2024

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

24/0 9	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd January 2024 The minutes of the meeting were tabled and approved.</p>	
24/1 0	<p>Relations with TUAFC NB reported that he had received no response to his e-mail to the CEO asking for further details of the Supporters' Steering Group. It was agreed that if the selection process is not transparent and members appear to be cherry-picked we will raise objections with the club, FSA and other relevant bodies.</p> <p>In the absence of guidance, RC will complete an application as the TUST representative. Another board member is applying in his own right and others said they were considering doing so.</p> <p>Members shared their knowledge of the club's recent presentation to the council of proposals for a new stadium. A good understanding of the pros and cons had been established from various sources. The current press coverage of Swindon council's dispute with Clarke Osborne over his failure to meet planning conditions was noted. NB to contact the leader of the council for further information.</p>	NB
24/11	<p>Protests Since the Zoom meeting the previous week with representatives of other supporter groups, plans for a united campaign of protests had gathered momentum and were now well advanced.</p>	

	<p>Summary of progress to date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Initial objective to call for communication from the owner, preferably an open fans' forum. ● Format of protest at Aveley game agreed. ● Statements issued explaining proposals and reasons. ● Yellow card design agreed and 1,000 printed. ● Daily issue of yellow card icons with reasons to protest. ● Press releases issued to local press and TV stations. ● Avoid the use of TUAFC at all times. We are TUFC. <p>Decisions made at this meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Plans for positioning of volunteers to hand out cards agreed. ● This will be the first protest in an escalating campaign leading up to a main event on 23rd March at the home game with Hampton & Richmond. ● Campaign slogan agreed - #OneClub #OneProtest. ● A small number of yellow cards to be taken to the following evening's game at Farnborough as a photo opportunity to publicise the protest. ● TUST will order professionally made banners – wording and number to be confirmed after Saturday's protest. ● Future protests would include away games. ● NB to update the FSA on protests. ● NB to respond to an approach from Daniel Storey of iNews who is writing an article on the TUFC situation. ● Guy Kilty of the Price of Football podcast to be kept informed of progress with a view to a future feature. <p>Decisions to be made after Saturday's protest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Proposals for the nature of future protests to be agreed with the wider group. ● Seek wider coverage including national and football press. ● Call on fans of other clubs for support. ● Contact the trusts of our opponents. ● Consider an open letter or advert. ● Use the various TUFC related podcasts to promote the campaign. ● Enlist support from known sympathisers including celebrity fans, supporters with influence in the political and business communities, ex-players etc. 	<p>AB</p> <p>NB</p> <p>NB</p> <p>RW</p>
<p>24/1 2</p>	<p>Strategy Team A meeting has been scheduled for 6th March to review the existing contingency plans and consider potential scenarios as the season draws to an end.</p>	
<p>24/1 3</p>	<p>Membership and subscription collection software Further to minute 24/04, clarification had been provided by Fan Base to queries raised but RW had not had time to prepare a report.</p>	

<p>24/1 4</p>	<p>Finance and community fund AB advised that current bank balances stand at £19,995 and £50,000 investments (Forever Yellow fund). Membership is 497 as a few had not renewed their memberships at the start of the year.</p> <p>There is potentially a budget of £1,200 available for community initiatives this financial year but it was agreed to retain these funds in present circumstances unless an exceptionally deserving cause arises.</p>	
<p>24/1 5</p> <p>a)</p> <p>b)</p> <p>c)</p> <p>d)</p>	<p>Partner organisations</p> <p>Community Sports Trust (TUCST) A personal meeting with the chair of TUCST to be arranged.</p> <p>Women’s Team RD reported on the recent game against Southampton which he, MT and RW had attended to promote TUST’s sponsorship of four members of the squad.</p> <p>The TUST sponsored derby against Exeter City is scheduled for 22nd February at Brixham and board members are encouraged to support the team if they can (<i>match subsequently switched to Exeter’s Cliff Hill ground</i>).</p> <p>SW Supporters Trust Group NB summarised the discussions at the virtual meeting held on 24th January with particular reference to the new Taunton Town Supporters Trust.</p> <p>‘In confidence’ meetings with individuals There was a discussion around how to deal with offers of confidential information from individuals and how and when this should be shared with the board. It was suggested that a protocol might be needed but after a good discussion it was agreed that board members should use their own discretion in such circumstances.</p>	<p>RW</p>
<p>24/1 6</p> <p>a)</p> <p>b)</p> <p>c)</p>	<p>Media & PR</p> <p>The Story of TUST BC had circulated the latest draft and this was approved subject to a few minor amendments. Once made the story will be posted to the website.</p> <p>PR Team SD has set up a PR group with RB and two other supporters who have experience in the field. The group will help to co-ordinate PR and distribute communications in a professional way.</p> <p>Website It was agreed that the TUST website is in need of a review. A plan to do this will be on the agenda for the next meeting.</p>	<p>BC</p>

24/1 7	Any other business There was no other business.	
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The date of the next meeting was fixed for Monday 18th March 2024 at 6.30pm

Chairman's signature.....Date