



MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

Monday 20th September 2021

Present: Michel Thomas (MT) – chair, Ali Bryant (AB), Rob Burkitt (RB), Robin Causley (RC), Rob Dickinson (RD), Rick Williams (RW), Bob Cole (BC - observer).
Nick Brodrick (NB) – attended via phone.

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| 21/44 | <p>Board membership MT welcomed Bob Cole who had expressed an interest in joining the board following the recent advert. MT introduced the members and described their roles.</p> | |
| 21/45 | <p>Minutes of the meeting held on 16th August 2021 The minutes were tabled and approved.</p> <p>RW asked if Kyle Cameron had confirmed receipt of the IT Trophy. RD to contact him.</p> | RD |
| 21/46 | <p>Relations with TUFC</p> <p>The agenda for the forthcoming liaison meeting on 20th September with Dom Mee was discussed.</p> <p>It was noted that the club had recently announced some changes to the ticketing policy with sales now being offered until 15 minutes before kick-off. However, there are still outstanding issues to be raised with the club.</p> <p>Other topics for discussion include streaming of matches, TUFC staff structure, TUST initiatives such as ambassadors and fan zones, community schemes such as kit recycling, the provision of female sanitary products in the ground and Andy's Man Club for mental health awareness. It was agreed to ask for an update on the 5 year plan and proposals for a new stadium and to exchange views on the Fan Led Review. A request for the club to reconsider adopting the Memorandum of Understanding and Structured Dialogue Agreement should be made.</p> | |

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| | <p>RW to prepare an agenda for consideration by the board including a request for Plainmoor to provide a venue for the AGM and a proposal for more frequent meetings in future. It was agreed that we should be asking specific questions and requesting a response within a given timescale. Also, that Dom Mee should advise of any TUFC business in advance and not under AOB.</p> | RW |
| 21/47 | <p>Partner organisations</p> <p>a) Community Sports Trust (TUCST) MT advised that he was waiting for confirmation of the availability of Boots & Laces for the relaunch of the Senior Gulls event.</p> <p>NB reported on the BBC local radio campaign 'Make the Difference' asking for good condition sports kit & equipment for children in need with the Plymouth and Exeter Community trusts participating but not Torquay's. TUST expressed surprise it wasn't involved.</p> <p>b) Supporters Club (TUSC) A date for the informal meeting with representatives of the TUSC was awaited.</p> <p>c) Women's Team RD reported on the positive start to the season. It was noted that publicity of the team and its results was low key and could be improved to generate more interest. RD to contact the manager.</p> <p>d) SW Supporters Trust Group NB advised that a meeting was due but it was not clear which trust would be hosting and whether it would be a virtual or face-to-face meeting. He would prompt the members.</p> | RD NB |
| 21/48 | <p>Football Governance</p> <p>RC reported that community ownership was back on the national agenda in light of the Fan-Led Review and wider politics. Other governance models were being debated and the time is ripe for a re-think of governance, particularly lower down the football pyramid.</p> | |
| 21/49 | <p>Media and PR</p> <p>NB and RB provided updates on recent press and social media coverage. It was particularly pleasing to see NB's contributions to articles in the Non-League Paper. He also agreed to contact the Torbay Weekly to see if greater coverage of TUST activities could be given.</p> <p>RB noted the club's unwillingness to engage on community initiatives such as those listed in minute 21/46 above. He had conducted his own Twitter poll on the On the Ball initiative which had indicated 93% support for the scheme from 147 respondents.</p> | NB |

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| (a) | <p>Marketing BC observed that TUST could do more to promote its own successes. It was agreed to review the past 5 years achievements at the next meeting with a view to publicising these to our supporters and the wider community.</p> <p>The merits of a membership campaign were discussed with different views on the timing of this. It was agreed to consider in more depth at the next meeting.</p> | |
| 21/50 | <p>Treasurer's report AB advised that the annual accounts for 20/21 had been completed by Andrew Fiderkiewicz and were currently with the Independent Examiner for review. The accounts would be presented to the next board for approval at which time consideration would be given to the budget for the current year including community initiative funding.</p> | |
| 21/51 | <p>AGM RW suggested potential dates for the AGM in late November but these were not suitable for all members. He will liaise via e-mail to find a date. It was agreed to ask Dom Mee if Boots & Laces or the Gulls Nest could host the event.</p> | RW |

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Monday 18th October 2021 at 6.30pm at the Chelston Manor.

Chairman's signature.....Date