

**Minutes of the Board of Society Meeting (Part A)****Venue:** Tribute Room, St James Park, EXETER**Date:** 21<sup>st</sup> May 2014**Members Present:**

Neil Le Milliere (NLM), Richard Clutterbuck (RC1), Bernadette Coates (BC), Andy Bratt (AB), Elaine Davis (ED), Peter Holding (PH), Laurence Overend (LO), Paul Farley (PF), Martin Weiler (MW)

**Officers Present:**

Andy Beer (AB1), Nick Hawker (NH)

**Absent:**

Anthony Smith

**i. Agenda (Part A)****A/01 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Alice Cooke and Roger Conway (NB: Roger had to leave during part B of the TB meeting).

**A/02 Minutes (Part A) of Trust Board Meeting – 21<sup>st</sup> May 2014**

Acceptance of the Minutes was:

Proposed by: Andy Bratt  
Seconded by: Peter Holding

For: 6  
Abstain: 3

**A/03 Matters arising from previous Minutes**

NLM requested that the changes he has asked to be made to the minutes were confirmed. NH said that he would check and confirm.

**A/04 Reports from Sub-Boards & Working Groups****i. Finance & Governance Working Group**

LO noted that there were no monthly accounts to present.

In respect of the Club Articles LO intended to put the matter of their acceptance to a vote but invited comments beforehand.

PH said that he was concerned that the Club only need to 'inform' the Trust and not 'gain consent' in relation to appointing Board members and that the Articles remove the right for the TB to have members on the Club Board. The Trust do not have the right to appoint BM's as appointments are subject to the CBAC on which the Trust do not have a majority. He also noted that the Finance Committee 'Terms of Reference' made no reference to the Trust's governance requirements.

PH referred to other concerns included in an e-mail distributed to the TB.

PF expressed concern at the role of the chairman and that there was no mention of 'community', only the inclusion of reference to 'Social Enterprise' status.

BC expressed concern that despite the shareholders 'reserved powers' how would they (we) know what was happening.

PH added that he had requested the documents 14 days in advance of the meeting. This wasn't met and so there had been little time for an adequate review. MW suggested that the TB needed to 'trust' the working groups. LO followed by saying ; "Why have the Working Groups if we're not going to accept their recommendations."

It was agreed that PH would summarise all concerns – folk had 10 days to submit these after which PH would provide a document after 14.

**Proposal to accept the Articles as presented:**

Proposed by: Richard Clutterbuck  
Seconded by: Laurence Overend

For: 2  
Abstain: 1  
Against: 6

**ii. Trust Ownership & Membership Working Group**

AB reported that:

Software had been acquired to identify members standing orders;  
Incentives to become a member included:

- Joining badge in progress;
- Free match-day tickets (not so sure);
- Andrew Howard will be invited to the next Ownership Group meeting.

There will be a Trust Stall at every performance of the play at the Northcott Theatre and would like volunteers;

Samba Party – is shaping up well with lots of help from Martin and Guy.

LO noted that the indicators suggested that joiners joined to 'be a part of the Trust'.

**iii. Trust Community Working Group**

PF informed that the Club Board had agreed that all of the Club documents would go to the Heritage Centre. He proposed that the Trust should agree to do likewise. All documents could be rated in terms of confidentiality.

**Proposal to store Trust documentation at the Heritage Centre**

Proposed by: Paul Farley  
Seconded by: Elaine Davis

For: 9  
Abstain: 0  
Against: 0

NH gave an update on the book 'Have You Ever Played Brazil?' and noted that a font size change had caused some delay in the production progress. A 'launch' date would be determined when it could be accurately proposed.

PF and MW referred to the documentation within the meeting pack for all other issues.

MW requested volunteers for the 'Respect Festival' over the weekend 31<sup>st</sup> May/1<sup>st</sup> June.

**iv. Trust Communications**

LO noted how impressed he was by the Trust FACEBOOK page.

AB1 informed that he had met with Toucan with regard to a redesign of the Trust WEB site. This was ongoing.

**A/05 Items for Discussion & Decision**

**i. Light Up the Park**

ED reported that posters had been produced (and shared them with the TB) and was requesting that they be positioned around the ground.

AB noted that there was still no absolute knowledge about the final cost but quotes were being pursued. PH stated that it was essential that we knew the cost. NLM said that there was no longer a need for stations. PF noted that there could be a bucket collection at the Northcott.

**ii. Articles of Association**

Not discussed further

**iii. Finance Committee Terms of Reference**

Not discussed further.

**iv. Financial Assistance for ECFC Ladies**

RC1 explained the reason for ECFC ladies requiring additional finance of £500 (minimum) to get through to the end of the season.

PH noted that since the Club doesn't support them then the Trust should.

MW suggested loaning them the money.

**Proposal to Loan ECFC Ladies £500 until 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2014**

Proposed by: Richard Clutterbuck

Seconded by: Martin Weiler

For: 9

Abstain: 0

Against: 0

**v. Financial Assistance for Ball Boy/Girl Tracksuits**

The Trust provided the ball boys/girls with their last kit back in 2012. AB thought that current sponsorship would cost circa £1300. He would obtain full requirements and costing's and the urgency surrounding the request.

**vi. Elections**

NH stated that he had e-mailed a suggested policy to TB members pre-meeting. There were a number of specific changes:

- All nominations would go to the returning officer and not the Secretary;
- Nominations could be made via E-Mail providing the E-Mail address corresponded with that held against the Members database;
- Board members of the Club and Trust should not make or support nominations;\*\*\*
- An on-line election forum would be created as well as the hustings being held;
- All on-line canvassing should be done via a Trust on-line account (FACEBOOK, TWITTER, Trust WEB site, etc.)

\*\*\* PF deemed this un-democratic.

The next TB meeting would discuss the TB elections in more detail as well decide on the number of candidates for this year's elections.

**vii. WW1 Memorial Plaque**

PF was asked to obtain additional quotes from stonemasons.

**viii. Group Lead Succession Planning**

BC noted that there was a need to consider how to structure the TB going forward, filling gaps left by leaving people and skill-sets. This was particularly pertinent to Trust Club Board appointees.

**ix. Supporters Summit and SD AGM**

NLM encouraged those who could to attend these meetings.

**Any other Business**

It was understood that PH would join the Finance & Governance Group.

**A/07 Date of next meeting**

9<sup>th</sup> July 2014