

## MEETING NOTES

Board Meeting 2015-07

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015, 6:30pm

### Attendees

#### Elected Board Members

M Gretton (Chairman)	✓	R Kerr	✓
M Scott (Secretary)	✓	A Mills	✓
A Hemingway (Treasurer)	✓	R Skelton	✓
G Bielby	✓	C Smith	☒
C Cooper	☒	<b>Co-opted Board member</b>	
R Harmer	✓	F Beill	☒

### 1. Apologies

Received from C Cooper, C Smith and F Beill.

### 2. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record.

### 3. Matters Arising

Middle Child project is progressing with funding bids and creative discussion ongoing. The announcement yielded interest from the Hull Daily Mail and Radio Humberside. M.Scott will firm up the plans for the research interviews in November to ensure as much notice for HCST members and fans.

### 4. Hull City Name Change

An informal response to our "Reverse the rebrand" letter to Hull City was received but we await an official response we can pass on to members. R.Harmer is to chase J.Mooney.

The board discussed further actions on the issue depending on the club's response but agreed to give the club a chance to reply before deciding anything.

M.Scott will progress the season ticket sticker design with N.Johnson.

**Hull City Supporters' Trust** is the trading name of Tigers Co-operative Limited, a Community Benefit Society registration number 29021R.  
 The registered address is:  
 Hull City Supporters' Trust, **37a North Bar Within, Beverley, HU17 8DB.**

**Elected Trust Board Members (10):** G Bielby, C Cooper, M Gretton (Chair), R Harmer, A Hemingway (Treasurer), R Kerr, A Mills, M Scott (Secretary), R Skelton, C Smith.  
**Co-opted Trust Board Member (1):** F Beill

#### The Hull City Supporters' Trust Partners are:

Angel Beauty, Aspects Opticians, Brookes Menswear, Circle 87 Café, Co-op Energy, Cross Solutions, Dickens & Browne, Dinostar, EasyPeasyPrint, Essence Holistics, Finesse Internet, Grange Driving School, Harpers Fish & Chips (Beverley), Hemingway Bailey Ltd, Leasing for Business, Middle Child Theatre Company, Nudge Websites, One Stop Golf, Photo Express, Rob McFadyen ADI, TDN Automotive, Wine On-Line. **Full details can be found [here](#).**



## 5. FSF (Football Supporters' Federation) Twenty's Plenty Campaign

The FSF will provide us a banner in the Hull City colours for the national "Twenty's Plenty" campaign on October 3rd. HCST will let members know we're working with FSF for the game (away to Nottingham Forest) through the website, newsletter and social media and let members know how they can join in.

HCST board are not going to Sheffield Wednesday due to the very high ticket prices for Championship football (Up to £52 at Hillsborough). M.Scott will draft correspondence to members to poll their views on any widespread action HCST should take on the issue.

## 6. Action Plan Updates

- > Action 1/1: Continue pressing the FA to strengthen the rules concerning owners and heritage (Action owner: M.Gretton)

M.Gretton drafted a letter to G.Dyke that will be sent.

- > Action 1/2: Engage with FSF to develop their heritage campaign and help influence the FA (C.Cooper)

M.Scott will contact the FSF with a view to making a joint approach an approach to the Football Association via N.Prescott.

- > Action 1/3: Develop and implement a campaign against the "name change by stealth" of Hull City AFC (C.Smith)

See item 4.

- > Action 2/1: Establish a dialogue with Hull City Council (HCC) about the role the Trust can play (M.Gretton)

Meeting with HCC rescheduled for Friday 18th September 11am. M.Gretton, M.Scott & A.Hemingway attending.

- > Action 2/2: Represent the views of shareholders and the wider community at the Hull City FWG (Fans' Working Group) (R.Harmer)

No meeting scheduled but given to believe that the FWG will be continuing. R.Harmer will be attending the next meeting of the KC Stadium's Safety Advisory Group (SAG) in October.

- > Action 3/1: Support national initiatives pressing for legislation to reform football and include supporter representation on club boards (C.Cooper)

Meeting postponed until November.

- > Action 3/2: Develop ways to recruit members to the Trust (G.Bielby)

G.Bielby to draft "Recruit a friend" letter to be distributed with season ticket stickers.

- > Action 3/3: Grow the Trust membership through recruiting Partners offering benefits to members (A.Hemingway)

A.Hemingway has not come across any suitable businesses during recent networking.

A.Mills developing a "partner of the week" section of the website to further reward partners.

R.Harmer has approached Hull City about HCST sponsoring a player as previously announced in the newsletter. The board expressed a preference for sponsoring a young, local player but they were either taken or believed to be heading out on loan. Check we'd get pro-rata rebate or can swap a player. The board unanimously agreed to go ahead with sponsoring Sone Aluko.

- > Action 3/4: Grow the Trust membership through the development of merchandise attractive to members (R.Skelton)



We received very positive feedback on the embroidered version of the new kit.

Latest T-Shirt design was returned to the manufacturer due to poor quality and we are awaiting a refund/replacement. Two ideas for new T-Shirts are in place but R.Skelton is looking for a new manufacturer.

- > Action 4/1: Develop the content of the Trust's website to provide upto-date information about the Trust and the club (A.Mills)

A.Mills submitted information on views and traffic sources for the website and newsletter. The site averaged almost an article a day in August. Schedule for the match reporting team has been extended to the end of October.

A.Mills will add roles and action plan responsibilities to the board member's biographies on the website.

- > Action 4/2: Establish a members' forum on the website (M.Scott)

This is progressing but is delayed due to the time constraints on the much appreciated volunteer.

- > Action 4/3: Develop an on-line Hull City museum (A.Mills)

Nothing further to report.

- > Action 4/4: Plan and deliver a series of events for members (C.Smith)

No update.

- > Action 4/5: Completed
- > Action 4/6: Engage with the City of Culture 2017 in order to set up heritage and arts projects (A.Hemingway)\*

See item 7.

- > Action 5/1: Support and publicise national campaigns such as Safe Standing, Twenty's Plenty (C.Cooper)

See item 5.

- > M.Scott brought potential actions for board discussion suggested by shareholders and message board posts.

a. Use a street trader license to sell HCST merchandise on matchdays: there is no volunteer available to facilitate this, a new trader license would need to be obtained by any volunteer from the membership will to trade merchandise on matchdays.

b. Create HCST football teams (Adult, junior and disabled): from experience of two Board members, it is clear that this would require a large number of volunteers from outside the Board to be effective. R.Kerr expressed an interest in entering a HCST 5-a-side team in a local league and will progress.

c. Contribute to a Hull City supporters' groups' conference: we remain open to working with other Hull City supporters organisations and have taken steps to open a dialogue.

d. Create an online "wordsearch" to encourage people to access the website: no one with suitable skills was available to take this on, M.Scott will ask our web design friends if they could assist in setting something up.

## 7. Anlaby Road Art Project

Project facilitator C.Huby has undertaken a site visit and attended the Hull City vs. Preston North End match as a guest of A.Hemingway to get a feel for the way in which the site is currently used and also the dynamics of the journey along the footway between Argyle Street and the South-East corner.



The first draft of the project plan will be ready for consideration by 2nd October. Once the plan has been agreed and any amendments made, the artist brief can be written. This should be completed by mid-November and will be ready to send out for recruitment in early 2016.

## **8. Board Updates**

### *Chairman*

- > No further update.

### *Secretary*

- > M.Scott sent the change of address application to FCA (Financial Conduct Authority). Expect a five week turnover..

### *Treasurer*

- > A.Hemingway reported the current balances are Barclays £9.95 and Unity Trust £6,030.41 plus an amount to be validated in the Tigers Co-operative's old Co-operative bank account

### *Membership*

- > Current number of shareholders and junior members is 1,132.

### *Merchandise*

- > No further update.

## **9. Any Other Business**

R.Skelton to contact the Village Hotels group regarding an offer they made to assist football supporters' groups with meeting venues.

## **10. Dates of next Board meetings**

The Board decided to meet every two months from now on, on the last Monday of the month. Any more immediate issues can be resolved through email discussions and emergency board meetings as appropriate.

Next meeting dates are therefore:

- > Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015
- > Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2016
- > Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016 (to avoid Easter Monday)
- > Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2016