

MEETING NOTES

Board Meeting 2018-05

Monday 23rd July, 6:30pm

Attendees

Board Members Present

G Bielby (GB), Chairman
 P Fleming (PF), Treasurer
 G Cannon (GC)
 S Pye (SP)
 S Dyson (SD)
 R Mathers (RM), Secretary

Board Members Absent

R Richardson (RR), Vice Chairman
 I Bunton (IB)
 D Johnson (DJ)

I. Apologies

Apologies had been received from RR, IB (*holidays*) and DJ (*work commitment*) in advance of the meeting. Minutes of the previous meeting

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meetings held on 9th May were reviewed and accepted as a true record.

Outstanding actions are:

GB still waiting to hear from local media contacts in relation to a candidate for a media & communication role to support the Board – UPDATE: Kathryn Batte to be invited to the next Board meeting

RM to continue exploring options for a change of registered address for HCST – UPDATE: RM has submitted relevant documentation to FCA and is awaiting confirmation of the requested change

GB suggested that HCST should look to produce their own beer mats which could include the William Gemmill and possibly sponsorship opportunities for Trust partners. The idea was agreed by the Board. **ACTION – DJ to enquire with a drinks industry contact to establish potential costings – CARRIED FORWARD**

Hull City Supporters' Trust is the trading name of Tigers Co-operative Limited, a Community Benefit Society registration number 29021R.

The registered address is

HCST, Suite 2, 117-119 Walkergate, Beverley, HU17 9BP.

Elected Trust Board Members (9): G Bielby (Chairman), R Richardson (Vice Chairman), P Fleming (Treasurer), G Cannon, S Dyson, S Pye, I Bunton, D Johnson

Trust Secretary: R Mathers

The Hull City Supporters' Trust Partners are:

Aspecs Opticians, Brookes Menswear, Co-op Energy, Cross Solutions, Dinostar Experience, Dutton Moore, Essence Holistics, Felicity Hats, Finesse Internet, Frank Pullan Butchers (Cottingham), Frying Farmer Fish & Chips (Aldbrough), Fudges Den (Filey), Hemingway Bailey Ltd, Hornsea Town Walking Football, Hull City Ladies FC, Hull Kingston Radio, IT Forward, Leasing for Business, Nudge Websites, Photo Express, Rob McFadyen ADI, Ska & Soul, Skin Deep, Wags & Whiskers, William Gemmill Social Club, Wine On-Line. **Full details can be found [here](#).**



GB advised that Richard Garden (Southern City Supporters group) was working on a book about the Club and was looking for financial support from local businesses. **ACTION – Trust Board to explore opportunities CARRIED FORWARD**

3. Matters Arising

It was noted that the HCST social media channels had not been active enough during the close season period

4. Club Situation

A fan has contacted HCST in relation to the current level of wheelchair space availability at the K.Com Stadium since the closure of the Upper West stand. His concerns relate to congestion in some of the allocated viewing areas for wheelchair users. **ACTION - RM to write to Peter Curry (Safety & Emergency Planning Manager – Hull City Council), to request advice and ascertain if any concerns have been raised formally?**

SD raised a Hull City 'Policy for Children Attending Matches' (*dated August 2017 and due for review in August 2018*), which states:

Home Matches

Babies/toddlers under the age of 2 years old will not be admitted to the stadium as they are not deemed able to occupy a seat which compromises the stadium's safety certificate.

It was discussed that the players were able to bring babies/toddlers under the age of 2 into the stadium for the final home game of the 2017/18 season, (*evident by the walk of gratitude post the game*). It is unclear if this is an SMC policy, therefore



applicable to Hull FC home games and other events held at the stadium? **ACTION - RM to include in communication to Peter Curry**

5. FSF & Supporters Direct (SDr)

GB gave an overview on the SDr & FSF AGM meetings that he is attending with RM on Saturday 28th July

During the meetings, a vote is to be taken on whether the 2 organisations should merge.

It is understood that some organisations with SDr, (ie. Rugby League), may miss out financially if the proposed merger was approved.

It is also understood that the Football Foundation who control available funding would prefer 1 organisation.

The Board confirmed how they would like the HCST vote to be cast which will be placed by GB at the meeting

ACTION – GB & RM to follow up on an outstanding request from Deborah Dilworth at SDr on a brief interview on film explaining HCST and its business partners scheme

6. HCST Potential Sponsorship / Partnership Opportunities

Hull City Ladies (HCL) – **ACTION – RM to send a written proposal to the contact at HCL on a player sponsorship package, (inc a review of last season's sponsorship from a HCST perspective and written confirmation from HCL on any future support given by HCST)**

Hull Boys Sunday League (HBSL) – **ACTION – RM to discuss with IB and establish if/how monies previously donated by the Co-operative Group can be utilised. The costs supplied by HBSL for new sponsorship in 2018/19 are beyond a level that HCST could support.**

FanaticHull – It was agreed that any HCST advertising by HCST in the publication will be on an 'as required' basis and be used to try and generate a membership increase.

MIND (HEY) – GB has confirmed MIND (HEY) are keen to form a Community Partnership with HCST. (Further details tbc) **ACTION – RR to arrange for references to 'Blokes United' to be removed from the HCST website.**

Dementia Friendly East Rising (DFER) – IB is finalising details on a Community Partnership with DFER and will advise once confirmed.

Hull Kingston Radio, IT Forward, Dutton Moore and Felicity Hats are welcome new partners to HCST **ACTION – RR to arrange for Harpers Fish & Chips (Beverley) & Circle 87 to be removed from the partners listing on the website**

It was agreed that HCST partners should be split into separate 'Community' and 'Commercial' listings. **ACTION – RR to arrange**

It was agreed that 1 x Community and 2 x Commercial partners will be highlighted in each weekly newsletter going forward. **ACTION – GC/SP to include in newsletter content**

It was agreed that the same partners are promoted via HCST social media channels on the Tuesday post the Friday newsletter **ACTION – RR/GC/SP to arrange on a weekly basis**



7. Data Privacy Policy

HCST members need to 'opt-in' to continue receiving newsletters and communications as part of the requirements for the revised General Data Protection Regulations that are being implemented from May 25th **ACTION – RM/GC to arrange for e-mails to be sent to all current members ACTION – Revised policy needs adding to HCST website (RR to arrange)**

8. Membership Growth Sub-Group

RM gave an overview of the sub-group meeting on Monday 4th June where several proposed ideas have been documented for exploration. **ACTION – Sub-Group to arrange follow-up meeting prior to next Board meeting**

9. HCST Website Sub-Group

No update from the sub-Group who are yet to hold their first meeting.

SD asked for clarity on what the sub-Group was aiming to initially achieve. It was confirmed that the scope of this sub-Group should be to Review current content of the HCDST website, Plan and Documents proposed changes and then agree actions & timings for the changes to be made.

The HCST partner listings should also be re-structured in line with the comments in section 5

RR's Slack message re some of these requirements being potentially achievable through Wordpress was noted

ACTION – Sub-Group need to confirm meeting and actions prior to next Board meeting

10. ART Project Update

GB advised that no further progress has been made relating to the Player Plaques being erected outside the K.Com Stadium.

11. Board Updates

Chairman

– GB had no further updates other than what he had already covered. A minor grammatical error was noted in point 3 of the HCST 'Aims & Objectives 2018/19' documented. *(Amended in the version below)*

Treasurer

- The Board wished to place on record their appreciation of the tenacity shown by PF in resolving a recent issue with PayPal and the HCST account held with them
- PF to provide an update on the current balances for Trust accounts at the next Board meetings

Merchandise

- SP confirmed that good stock levels remained for all merchandise items and that the weekly newsletter offers would continue during the 2018/19 season

Secretary

- RM advised that there are currently 902 HCST members, (119 x Lifetime / 562 x 3 year / 205 x 1 year / 16 x Junior) This represents an increase of 23 members since the previous Board meeting and an increase of 166 members year to date.
- RM also advised that this figure included 68 x 1-year renewals that have expired and awaiting response **ACTION – RM to forward an updated Membership listing to GC / ACTION – GC to arrange for membership reminder e-mails to be sent to the relevant members**

RM advised that all new & renewed memberships had been completed and posted out



12. AOB

Quest/TPF have contacted RM and have requested HCST involvement in the new Football League highlights programme being hosted by Colin Murray in 2018/19

The weekly HCST newsletter will commence from Friday 3rd August **ACTION – All Board members to forward content to GC/SP as required for weekly publication**

Next meeting

Monday 10th September – 6.30 pm start (William Gemmell Social Club)



HULL CITY SUPPORTERS TRUST AIMS & OBJECTIVES 2018/19

Short-term objectives

(1) Bring about the return of concession tickets for the young, old and disabled Campaign to bring back proper concessions with no restrictions and fair prices across the board. This will be a big step towards Hull City becoming a happy club again and in the long-term could make a huge difference to the club's future support.

(2) Restore the use of the club's proper name. Push for the consistent use of only Hull City, Hull City AFC or The Tigers by the club. The use of incorrect names is something that we know angers supporters and needs to be remedied in order to move forward.

(3) Engage in continued meaningful dialogue with Hull City. Maintain a relationship with the club to consult on matters which affect supporters. This can prevent major, disruptive issues such as the concessions situation and associated fallout, but also quickly address more minor issues in calmer times.

Medium-term objectives

(4) Strengthen FA heritage rules Engage with the FA to implement rules protecting the heritage of clubs to prevent future unwanted name change attempts or similar.

(5) Support national supporter initiatives This includes pressing for legislation to reform football and including supporter representation on club boards as well as the campaign for safe standing and the 'Twenty's Plenty' ticket price initiative.

(6) Anlaby Road Tribute Project Develop a lasting tribute to the original Anlaby Road ground and potentially some of the players who played there.

Long-term objectives

(7) Giving supporters a voice on the Board In football things can change fast and we need to be ready. This isn't about grabbing power for the sake of it, this is about ensuring that fans become positively involved with the Club and exert influence at the highest level.

(8) Bringing benefits to community assets Hull City is more than a football club, it is part of the community. It is part of the city's soul, and in the Stadium, it is part of the city's infrastructure. We want to explore how we can ensure supporters get a say in how these community assets are managed and developed in the future.