

MEETING NOTES

Board Meeting 2016-01

Monday 25th January 2016, 6:30pm

Attendees

Elected Board Members

R Richardson (Interim Chairman)	✓	A Mills	✓
M Scott (Secretary)	✓	R Skelton	☒
A Hemingway (Treasurer)	✓	C Smith	✓
G Bielby	✓	Co-opted Board member	
R Harmer	✓	F Beill	☒

1. Apologies

Received from F Beill and R Skelton.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 9th November 2015 were agreed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

Mark Gretton announced his departure from the HCST Board during December 2015. The Board wished to place on record their thanks for his sterling efforts to guide the rebirth of the Trust, navigating it through the second name change campaign and the subsequent more positive work relating to the Asset of Community Value, Anlaby Road and Middle Child Theatre projects.

4. Anlaby Road Project

The initial application for Arts Council grant was not successful, because it did not propose sufficient interaction with the public. The Trust has been invited to reapply for a grant to incorporate these interactive features – an additional £3,000 has been added to the bid to allow for this, the bid is now for £10,000. C Huby is presently rewriting the bid document ready for submission. This has created a 6-8 week delay in the delivery programme. A further update will be presented at the AGM.

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 (8): G Bielby, R Harmer, A Hemingway (Treasurer), R Richardson (Interim Chairman), 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. HCST Board Director changes and the Annual General Meeting

It was confirmed that M Scott, R Skelton and R Harmer will be stepping down as Board Directors at the AGM on 20 February 2016. This signals the departure from the Board of all the original CTWD campaign group. All three have served their time and achieved a positive outcome for Hull City supporters. M Scott is willing to stay on as Secretary on a temporary basis pending appointment of a new Secretary (who will preferably not be a Board member).

The Board therefore has up to 5 vacancies that it can fill at the AGM, plus further Board members can be co-opted by the new Board. Efforts to elicit interest have so far identified 3 people that are willing to stand as new Board Directors, subject to ratification at the AGM. Further efforts will be made to identify further candidates.

M Scott will issue an email to all shareholders that sets out: how many vacancies have arisen; what being a Board member entails; and what details potential candidates will need to submit to the Election Management Group.

M Scott also updated the Board on the heritage group that has been convened amongst volunteer shareholders M Batchelor, C Douglas and C King. There has been little activity as yet, but the group is keen to crack on with tasks, hopefully stimulated by the forthcoming FSF meeting.

The potential clash between the AGM and an away FA Cup Fifth Round fixture on 20 February was raised. M Scott will keep a watching brief on this and amend plans for the AGM as required.

M Scott stressed the importance of compiling the Annual Report for the AGM, he will lead with financial inputs from A Hemingway and submit it to the Board for comments.

New Board posts (chairman, merchandise officer, press officer, membership officer) will be selected by the new Board, once elected.

6. Recruitment and Retention

Membership renewals will begin on 1st April 2016. M Scott is preparing a bespoke web page for this purpose, and an invitation email/letter.

M Scott undertook to order a new stock of membership cards, using the updated design provided by Nic Johnson.

The following renewal proposals were approved:

- > **A 12 month renewal** will cost £4 for shareholders (£2 for junior members), renewing members will receive a HCST car sticker with their membership card
- > **A 36 month renewal** will cost £10 for shareholders only (not available for junior members), renewing members will receive a HCST car sticker and a HCST pin badge with their membership card
- > **A lifetime renewal** will cost £40 for shareholders only, renewing members will receive the car sticker, the badge and their name will be listed on a Life Shareholders' page on the HCST website.

New members will also be offered the 12 month, 36 month and lifetime memberships, at the costs set out above plus £1 for the HCST share.

G Bielby is to prepare an updated 2016 welcome letter that stresses both the positive work that the Trust is now doing, and the importance to the Trust of its Founder Shareholders.

7. Communications Update

A Mills reported that website usage had stabilised at around 6,000 page views per month, while newsletter views are slightly down at 40% of email recipients. These represent good levels of shareholder engagement, although both can be improved upon by regular social media updates. Having a HCST rep as a regular contributor the RH Sportstalk and Amber Nectar podcasts will also be explored.



R Richardson is to receive instruction on posting blogs and pages on the HCST website, following M Scott's departure from the Board.

8. Middle Child Theatre Project

The sessions with fans are continuing and are proving successful. The actions all rest with MCT, HCST's enabling role in the preparation of the project groundwork is complete. Our role will begin again when the event is staged and publicity is required.

9. Action Plan Updates

- > R Richardson will be the new Trust rep on the Fans' Working Group – R Harmer will advise the club of this change.
- > M Scott will chase the developer looking at providing an online forum – in the meantime, opening up permissions that enable comments on blog posts will be investigated.
- > C Smith updated the Board on his discussions regarding the FSF Roadshow, which is scheduled for Saturday 2 April prior to the Bristol City home fixture. C Smith will approach FSF to agree details.
- > C Smith is also working up a proposal for an Ian Ashbee tribute night – early days but an ambitious evening event is proposed.

10. Board Updates

Finance

- > Current balances are £9,942 in current account (final transfer from Tigers Co-operative account has now been made) and £678 in the paypal account. Approximately £1,100 of this is share payments.

Membership

- > Current number of shareholders and junior members is 1,140.

Merchandise

- > R Richardson to clarify current status of merchandise stock with R Skelton.

11. Any Other Business

A response is awaited from SMC regarding ticketing issues.

The positive outcomes from the Football Expert Working Group were noted, the Trust will attempt to work with the club to put the recommendations in place.

12. Dates of next Board meetings

- > Saturday 20th February 2016 (AGM)
- > Monday 21st March 2016
- > Monday 23rd May 2016