

## MEETING NOTES

Board Meeting 2019-02

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March, 6:30pm

### Attendees

#### Board Members Present

G Bielby (GB), Chairman  
 P Fleming (PF), Treasurer  
 S Pye (SP)  
 D Johnson (DJ)  
 D Batte (DB)  
 R Anson (RA)  
 R Mathers (RM), Secretary

#### Board Members Absent

G Cannon (GC)  
 I Bunton (IB)  
 B Hadgraft (BH)

#### Guests

I Tullock

### 1. Apologies

Apologies were received in advance of the meeting from IB, GC and BH

### 2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes from the previous Board meeting on January 14<sup>th</sup> were reviewed and accepted as an accurate record.

Actions carried forward were: A 'Timeline' of key Club statements, (website, press, social media etc), is to collated **ACTION – GC to collate ACTION – RR to forward or share with GC any quotes on the Google drive from the '#AskEhab' campaign – CARRIED FORWARD**

HCST policy on data retention as part of the revised General Data Protection Regulations has been updated by RM & GC **ACTION – Revised policy needs adding to HCST website (RR/RA to arrange) – CARRIED FORWARD REVISED ACTION – RM to forward all HCST revised Policies & Procedures to RA once the amendments approved at the AGM have been completed so that all are uploaded to the website at the same time.**

- Details of a proposed 'Blue plaque' for 'Burnsy's Bin' need to be finalised. **ACTION – RA to confirm wording, costs and potential location considerations. ACTION – RA to tweet Alterna Heritage re the proposed plaque**

**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, 280 Ings Road, Hull East Yorkshire HU8 0LZ

**Elected Trust Board Members (9):** G Bielby (Chairman), P Fleming (Treasurer), G Cannon, S Pye, I Bunton, D Johnson, R Anson, D Batte  
**Trust Secretary:** R Mathers

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

**COMMUNITY** – Dementia Friendly East Riding, Hull & East Yorkshire MIND, Hull City Ladies FC  
**RETAIL** - Aspecs Opticians, Brookes Menswear, Co-op Energy, Dinostar, Dutton Moore Accountants, EasyPeasyPrint, Essence Holistics, Finesse Internet, Frank Pullen Butchers (Cottingham), Frying Farmer Fish & Chips (Aldborough), Fudges Den Holiday Cottage (Filey), Hornsea Walking Football Club, Hull Kingston Radio, IT Forward, Leasing for Business, Nudge Websites, Photo Express, Rob McFadyen ADI, Ska & Soul, Skin Deep Aesthetics, Wags & Whiskers, William Gemmill Social Club, Wine On-Line, Zip Dry Cleaners.



- Sub-group Google document has been shared with Board members. All sub-groups need to include a 'mission statement' to their individual tab **ACTION – Sub-groups to agree mission statement content and insert by January 31<sup>st</sup>**  
**CARRIED FORWARD – Revised deadline March 31<sup>st</sup>**

- GB & GC gave an update of conversation they had with members of the 'Spirit of Shankly' (SoS) Liverpool fans group back in November when attending Football Supporter Federation and Supporters Direct meetings. GC and Goronwy Brookes (SoS Secretary), discussed the possibility of engaging and challenging all professional teams on the M62 corridor to embrace the partnership link between MIND (Mental Health charity) and the English Football League (EFL)

**ACTION – Board members to forward suggestions to GB & GC for events to support this initiative ACTION – GB & GC to liaise with SoS, EFL, United Football Supporters Organisation (UFSO) and local media as required.**  
**CARRIED FORWARD**

- PF enquired if HCST were due for an external audit due to legislative changes. RM stated that nothing had been received from FSF or SDr to state this was the case. **ACTION – PF to forward a list of questions to GB. ACTION – GB to raise with SDr/UFSO for clarity CARRIED FORWARD**

### **3. Matters Arising**

None

### **4. AGM Review**

It was agreed the meeting went well although the attendance possibly below expectations.

'Live tweeting' feedback has been very positive and edited video content will be produced by PF over the coming weeks

Suggestion to entice members next year could be to tag an event on to the meeting. (i.e. Former player Q&A etc)



## 5. HCST Leadership Roles

RM reminded the Board of the Trust Rules relating to the required structure of the Board and that the first meeting post the AGM included proposed changes to individual roles etc.

No Directors nominated themselves for the Chairman role so GB will remain in place uncontested

A conversation followed relating to the need for the Vice-Chairman role and if it was still required. The Board decided to defer any decision until the next meeting when all Board members will present.

PF confirmed that he was happy to continue as Treasurer for the next year.

## 6. HCST Sub-Groups

GB gave an overview of the key role of Sub-Groups going forward.

4 Sub-Groups are currently in place but at differing stages of progress. All need to follow the template and communication updates produced by the Membership sub-group since its formation.

GB proposed that a 'Leaders' was nominated for each Sub-Group ultimately to ensure the projects are progressive and documented whilst reporting findings into GB as Trust Chairman in between Board meetings. The 'Leader' will also be responsible for updating the Google sheet and the Board at meetings.

The proposed Leaders for each Sub-Group are:

- **Communications – RA** (Supported by GB/GC/DJ/DB/BH)
- **Membership – RM** (Supported by /IB/SP/DJ)
- **Finance – PF** (Supported by GB/PF/IB/RM)
- **Community – GC** (Supported by GB/PF/IB/RM)

**ACTION – Each Sub-Group Leader to arrange for a meeting and project documentation to be produced and shared on the relevant Google sheet prior to the next Board meeting**

## 7. Aims & Objectives 2019

The existing Aims & Objectives need to be individually allocated to a Sub-Group to take ownership on approach, actions etc

**ACTION – Each Sub-Group to review the Aims & Objectives prior to the next Board meeting and confirm which they are prepared to take forward. Confirmed allocation will be made at the meeting**

## 8. Club Situation

RM questioned if HCST were being active enough on raising issues on behalf of members and the wider fan base to the Club, despite the current 'informal communication channel' offered by the 'Club Senior Management' **ACTION – RM to forward**



**recent concerns raised to the Club to gauge the level of response despite written communication from HCST being ignored since August 2018.**

## **9. HCST Opportunities**

The Board discussed opportunities for HCST involvement in 2 forthcoming book launches. (*Potentially May & August*). Details and potential venues are currently being confirmed. It is hoped that copies of each will be made available to HCST to offer as competition prizes.

It was noted that positive feedback had been received from members and other Hull City supporters following RM, DB & BH's appearance on Radio Humberside Sports Talk programme on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Radio Humberside have also feedback they were delighted with the programme and it is hoped to arrange a similar opportunity for HCST involvement in the future.

PF gave an update on his recent involvement and broad understanding of the Emmaus charity and suggested HCST explored ways to support them with initiatives going forward. **ACTION – PF to liaise with Emmaus on the use of a potential financial donation from HCST.**

GB is a trustee of MIND Health and suggested there are both male and female groups that HCST could look to support **ACTION – GB to liaise with MIND Health on potential opportunities and tying up with a Community partnership relationship.**

DB suggested writing to publishers of football books not necessarily related to Hull City where HCST could help raise publicity and awareness in return for promotional copies that could be used as prizes or giveaways from members **ACTION – DB to research publishers and write to them on behalf of HCST**

## **10. General**

The Board discussed the worrying evacuation messaging and confused situation during the half time interval at the Birmingham City home game last Saturday **ACTION – RM to write to the Club and Peter Curry at Hull City Council to raise concerns about the training of matchday staff and safety of all supporters inside the ground ACTION – HCST to issue a statement confirming that the Club have been contacted**

DB raised the possibility of producing a HCST podcast. It was agreed to explore this proposal further and understand the requirements involved. RA advised that it could involve a lot of set-up work. **ACTION – PF to investigate potential requirements with view to a podcast from the book launches mentioned above.**

DB suggested that as part of the website update works, ways to engage better with members should be proactively considered **ACTION – Membership sub-group to suggest potential ideas and feedback to the Board.**

DB highlighted some potential partner opportunities that have previously been involved with the Club. **ACTION – DB to make initial enquiries to gauge potential interest in supporting the book launches mentioned above**

## **11. Board Updates**

### **Chairman**

– No further updates

### **Treasurer**

- PF updated that there was approximately £3,500 in the HCST PayPal account and £9,500 in the Unity bank account

### **Merchandise**

- SP confirmed

### **Secretary**

-RM advised that there are currently 963 HCST members, (136 x Lifetime / 621 x 3 year / 186 x 1 year / 20 x Junior) This is an increase of 14 YTD



-RM also advised that due to the large volume of potential 3-year membership renewals between March – May, he may not have the capacity to process all the requests. **ACTION – SP offered support if required. RM to advise**

## 12. AOB

- RM asked the Board for any feedback on the Club Collect system presentation that he had forwarded following the Supporters Direct webinar in January. It was decided not to proceed with the offer due to a manageable level of current members and the potential Club Collect fees **ACTION – RM to inform Club Collect of the decision**

- RA confirmed that BH now had access to Slack and that a HCST e-mail address has been arranged.

- RM raised a request from Hornsea Walking Football Club who have challenged HCST to a walking football games of 2 x 30 minutes in June. It was agreed to arrange a team of 10 to play the game. **ACTION – RM to confirm acceptance to Hornsea Walking FC ACTION – GB to request loan of HCST sponsored football shirts previously used by Men United ACTION – Potential players to be agreed at next Board meeting**

- RM to re-forward e-mail from the Alzheimer's Society re a request for 'Football Supporter Memories'

- RM raised the e-mail received from Middle Child Theatre Company about a request for scarves and Hull City shirts for a forthcoming production at Hull Truck Theatre. **ACTION – RM to contact Middle Child about a donation of HCST scarves ACTION – RM to forward details of the requested shirts to the Board to enable social media and newsletter requests**

## Next meetings

- **Board Meeting – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April**



## **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.