**MEETING #37**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:**

Tony Smith (Chair) (TS)

Charlie Beeston (CB)

Marcus Burton (MB)

Chris Laming (CL)

Rob Noble (RN)

Liam Scully (LS)

Roy Thomson (RT)

Andy Helgesen (AH)

Jon Clack (JCl)

Rob Noble (RN)

Rick Lalka (RL)

**APOLOGIES:**

Jonathan Battersby (JB)

Jay Wright (JW)

Jackie Atkins (JA)

Toby Freestone (TF)

Sam Kendall (SK)

**CLERK:**

Jen Coulson

**CHAIR’S NOTES:**

A change of name for the Supporters Board, interesting details for Imps fans of the new EFL TV deal & alternatives for the club's matchday programme were amongst the varied items discussed at the latest Supporters Board meeting held virtually on 14th June, details of which can be found within our minutes shown below.

Following the issuing of the government's White Paper on football governance, the club's Fan Led Review Working Party forming in September 2022 & consisting of representatives from the club's various supporters organisations including ourselves, David Lowes from the Club Board & Jim Lord as facilitator proposed to build on the excellent fan engagement that we already have in place at Lincoln City by going above & beyond the minimum standards of the White Paper in order to future proof our fans' involvement in our club.

Ahead of the new season the Supporters Board will be transitioning into the Fan Advisory Board (FAB) embracing the recommendations of the government's White Paper on football governance & more whilst continuing to  provide a broad representation of our diverse & inclusive fanbase with the opportunity to have your views considered as part of the club's decision making process & your questions relating to key off-field matters answered by the club's hierarchy.

As shown by the graphic below with a Memorandum Of Understanding in place with the club together with our upgraded constitution & evolving election process  we can look forward to continuing to be informed & consulted on significant non football matters including business plans, major changes of club ownership or control, major sponsorship deals, stadium developments & heritage items whilst ensuring the our fans' perspective is heard at the highest levels of our club.

Minutes & agendas from our meetings together with details of current Supporters Board members can be found on our web pages within the "fans" section of the club's website.

Many thanks to our fans who contacted us recently by emailing sbchair@theredimps.com regarding the midweek Stagecoach service introduced last season for the south of the city which unfortunately did not operate for the rearranged Burton & MK Don's fixtures. We sympathise with those fans who were affected & have raised the matter with the club who are actively investigating a solution for the forthcoming season.

Please get in touch with us if you have any questions or items which you would like us to discuss with Liam & senior club directors at our next meeting at the beginning of the season.

The Supporters Board send our best wishes to Mark & the team ahead of the new season.

UTI
Tony Smith
Chair of the Lincoln City FC Supporters Board

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| **#** | **ITEM** | **ACTION:** |
| **1.** | **Meeting Admin**  |  |
|  | A. | Apologies |  |
|  |  | Noted above. |  |
|  | B. | Estimated or required time of meeting close – 20:30 |  |
|  |  | Noted. |  |
| **2.** | **Minutes/Actions From Last Meeting – 19 04 23** |  |
|  | All items have been actioned or are covered elsewhere in this Agenda.Minutes were agreed and accepted. |  |
| **3.** | **New EFL TV deal** |  |
|  | LS gave a verbal update noting that the EFL provided a full update shortly after the announcement.He explained that each club will have a minimum of two and maximum of 4 televised games per season from 24-25, with selected weekend fixtures screened over a four-day period between Thursday evenings and Sunday. The new deal is significantly more beneficial to the club in comparison with previous TV deals.We will be informed well in advance of televised games, except towards the end of the season when we will have a minimum of 4 weeks’ notice. TS asked about streaming options. LS informed the meeting that games will either be broadcast on main channels or via a new app, yet to be finalised. LCFC games will still be available on Radio Lincolnshire going forwards. |  |
| **4.** | **Matchday programme update** |  |
|  | Subject to board approval, the programme will be replaced with a Teamsheet + to include, for example, Manager’s Notes.A season annual idea has also been proposed which will be a collector’s item. |  |
| **5.** | **SW development update** |  |
|  | Building works have begun and everything is currently on schedule.Barriers in U7 are being installed in July and an additional 28 seats have been added in row A, U7. |  |
| **6.** | **Matchday transport** |  |
|  | It was noted that the Stagecoach service had not run for the rearranged Burton and MK Dons games. RN will look into this. | **RN** |
| **7.** | **Fan Led Review update** |  |
|  | TS provided an update to the SB prior to the meeting on the government white paper. He noted that the club is committed to going further than the government paper suggests. The FLR working group are holding regular meetings. TS informed the group that as part of the process the Supporters Board will be transitioning to a newly named Fan Advisory Board ahead of the new season which will include an updated constitution, election process and MOU with the club. TS thanked those members who have signed NDAs and the remaining ones would be shared imminently. |  |
| **8.** | **EFL Owners and directors test (OADT)** |  |
|  | LS noted that the EFL has toughened up OADT disqualification procedures. This is seen as a positive step in the right direction. |  |
| **9.** | **AOB** |  |
|  | RN thanked CB and others for their hard work in bringing together a Disabled Supporters Association.The new shirt has been well received. Skybet has also released a sleeve which we can sell to sponsors for increased commercial income. Gold membership sales are tracking slightly behind the figures for last year. This is not wholly unexpected due to the cost of living crisis and it is expected sales will catch up by the time of the seat swap deadline.  |  |
|  | **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** |  |
|  | TBC |  |

**MEETING CLOSED AT 20:05**