



<b>MEETING</b>	LINCOLN CITY FOOTBALL CLUB SUPPORTERS' BOARD MEETING
<b>LOCATION</b>	LNER Stadium
<b>DATE</b>	27 SEPTEMBER 2022
<b>TIME</b>	19:00

## MEETING #32 MINUTES

### PRESENT:

Tony Smith (Chair) (TS)  
Jonathan Battersby (JB)  
Charlie Beeston (CB)  
Marcus Burton (MB)  
Sam Kendall (SK)  
Chris Laming (CL)  
Rob Noble (RN)  
Liam Scully (LS)  
Roy Thomson (RT)  
Jon Clack (JCI)  
Andy Helgesen (AH)

### APOLOGIES:

Jackie Atkins (JA)  
Toby Freestone (TF)  
Jay Wright (JW)

### CLERK:

Jen Coulson

#	ITEM	ACTION:
<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting Admin</b>	
	A. APOLOGIES	
	Apologies were received from Jay Wright and Jackie Atkins.  TS noted that Jane Chamberlain has stepped down from the Board with immediate effect. He thanked Jane for her contribution.	
	B. ESTIMATED OR REQUIRED TIME OF MEETING CLOSE – 20:00	
	Noted.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes/Actions From Last Meeting – 05 07 22</b>	
	All items have been actioned or are covered elsewhere on this Agenda.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Safeguarding</b>	
	Nothing to report.	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Health &amp; Safety</b>	
	Nothing to report.	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Equality, Diversity &amp; Inclusion</b>	
	Nothing to report.	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Cost of Living Crisis</b>	
	i. Matchday Initiatives	
	LS informed the meeting that energy bills for the Club are expected to rise by over six figures. Although the Club is looking into the initiatives on offer from the Government, they do not look like they are available to the Club.  He further noted that it is becoming evident that fans are tightening their belts. Whilst attendance appears steady, secondary spend on items such as 50:50 is significantly down.	
	ii. Early Kick Offs	
	AH asked what the current thinking was on the idea of earlier kick off times to save on energy costs.	



<b>MEETING</b>	LINCOLN CITY FOOTBALL CLUB SUPPORTERS' BOARD MEETING
<b>LOCATION</b>	LNER Stadium
<b>DATE</b>	27 SEPTEMBER 2022
<b>TIME</b>	19:00

	<p>LS noted that the EFL will discuss this idea at a meeting later in the week although he remains to be convinced. It could lead to some fans being unable to attend and a higher spend on hotels for visiting teams, which may be required if we are to bring the kick-off time forward.</p> <p>MB asked if the cost of living crisis would have an effect on the catering provision. LS informed the group that the Club and Elinor are likely to be hit by a second increase in beer prices this season but as it stands, are not planning on passing these on to the fans. LS suggested that we will need to make a thorough assessment of new behaviours before making any drastic changes to the catering offering. However, fans need to appreciate that some changes will need to be made. For example, opening the Fan Village earlier to service a very small number of fans, is not cost-effective.</p>	
<b>4.</b>	<b>SW Development</b>	
	<p>Following a Board meeting last week, an updated version of the plans was agreed and the plans will be resubmitted for Planning Approval.</p> <p>The revised plans will be for a two-tier development only as the second floor (proposed hospitality) has not proved viable. The stand will be something to be proud of and we hope to begin building in January.</p> <p>As well as the facilities offered by the build, water supply issues to the stadium will also be addressed in the early stages.</p> <p>Some rail seating will be incorporated into the build. LS noted that we are under pressure from the SGSA to end persistent standing and that we are also looking at bringing safe standing into Upper 7. Strategies to alleviate the high cost of seat repairs needed in this area were discussed.</p>	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Fan Led Review</b>	
	<p>TS informed the group that an introductory meeting about the FLR had taken place with Jim Lord.</p> <p>JB noted that the Government is showing signs of a U-turn on the FLR. LS stated that this is a very serious issue and should be a red flag for the lower leagues, as with no regulator in place, the PL will have little motivation to review their distribution model and Clubs such as ours will struggle to continue to operate at a circa £2m+ loss every year.</p> <p>Discussion about how to motivate fans around this was had. LS encouraged the group to keep up to date with information and to share with others where possible.</p>	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Crypto/NFT Sponsorship</b>	
	<p>CB asked if we have a policy on engaging with this type of sponsorship. LS stated that we are not actively engaging in any conversations of this ilk.</p>	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Kit Manufacturer</b>	
	<p>LS informed the group that we intend to sign a long-term contract with EPS as our retail partner. This does not tie us into a particular technical partner (manufacturer) for the duration. We are currently reviewing all options.</p>	
<b>8.</b>	<b>AOB</b>	
	<p>The group asked if Elinor had improved in service levels since the beginning of the season. LS state that there have been significant improvements but that the partners fully appreciate there is still work to be done.</p>	
<b>9.</b>	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>	
	<p>12<sup>th</sup> November pre-Plymouth game, LNER Stadium.</p>	

**MEETING CLOSED AT 20:05**