

RED IMPS COMMUNITY TRUST (RICT)

Notes of the hybrid Board Meeting (BM) held on Wednesday 08/10/25

with attendees present either online or in person

in the Main Conference Room (MCR), Greetwell Place, 2 Lime Kiln Way, Lincoln LN2 4US

starting at 7.03pm

1 PARTICIPATION

- a. Attending in person were Rob Bradley (RB) – Chair and Fan Engagement Team Co-Leader (FETCL); Julian Buttery (JBU) – Football Supporters' Association (FSA) Engagement Director; Emma Crellin (EC) – FETCL; Phil Scrafton (PS) – Fan-Elected Club Director (FECD); Steve Tointon (ST) – Treasurer; Steve Freestone (SF) – Company Secretary; and Andy Porter (APo) – Minutes Recorder.
- b. Attending online were Mandi Slater (MS) – Vice-Chair and FECD - John O'Gaunts Club (JOGC); Chris Baldam (CB) - Events, Fundraising & Commercial Co-ordinator; Jonathan Battersby (JBa); Claire Hunsley (CH); Ian Hodgson (IH) – Membership Secretary; and Observers Tom Baker (TBa) and James Hunsley.
- c. Apologies for absence were received from Biff Bean (BB) – Community Engagement Team Leader; Gavin Gordon (GG); Tamyra Beeston (TaBe) – Social Media Co-Secretary; Tony Beeston (ToBe) – Social Media Co-Secretary; and Observer Anita Pritchard (APr).

2 NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a. Notes of RICT's BM on 13/08/25 had been published on RICT's website, with their availability being announced via RICT's social media channels.
- b. Notes of RICT's BM on 10/09/25 would be published on RICT's website, with their availability being announced via RICT's social media channels.

3 FAN ENGAGEMENT

- a. RICT's Youth Survey had been launched prior to the Club's Grassroots Day match on 04/10/25, both by EC and APr roaming around the LNER Stadium and at RICT's Pod in the University of Lincoln Fan Village (FV). TBa had been connected with all parties concerned. Copies were being handed out in the Club's Shop/Ticket Office and had been left in the Club's hospitality areas. The deadline was 15/11/25 for responses to be received in order to be included in the draw for a signed shirt. RICT would be able to send emails highlighting the youth survey to its members under 18 years of age, subject to the safeguarding protections in section 10 of its [Handbook of Data Protection Procedures](#). **ACTION (1): RICT's Media Group would arrange publicity through its website, social media channels and email communication facility. ACTION (2): RB would (i) ask a RICT member to prepare supporting video vox pops footage before the match on 18/10/25, (ii) seek publicity from other supporter groups, such as the Lincoln City 617 Squadron and (iii) request publicity through Lincoln City Foundation (LCF), including at its Half-Term Holiday Clubs. ACTION (3): TBa would highlight the initiative at LCF's Youth Club session during the following week.** An invoice had been received for the printing of 1,000 leaflets promoting the survey, including a QR code link to an online version. **ACTION: RB would pass that invoice to ST for payment.** BB was thanked for confirming that £200.00 from the funds raised by the 2024/25 RICT Community Team initiative could be used towards that expenditure.
- b. Topical news items continued to be published on RICT's website, which was also updated when departure times and prices were confirmed for Red Imps Association Travel Section coaches and whenever tickets for those coaches went on and off sale, including because of the postponement of the match at Bradford City.
- c. TaBe and ToBe were doing really good work in generating RICT's social media output, the following of which was growing.

- d. RICT's FV Pod remained very active before home matches, with the usual freebies for youngsters, sales of enhanced teamsheets and sales of Club-related publications. A public address system had been installed, enabling increased awareness to be generated of the items available. Imptoons had been hosted in a pop-up stall prior to the match on 04/10/25.
- e. Arrangements had been agreed with the Club for the presentation of the trophy to the winner of RICT's website poll for September's Player of the Month, Conor McGrandles (CM), before the match on 18/10/25.
- f. A regular update message had been sent on 01/10/25 to all RICT members for whom an email address was held, save for those who had unsubscribed. Tension Twisted Realities (TTR), RICT's main sponsor, had provided complimentary feedback about such messages.
- g. Two more articles about RICT had been published in the Lincolnshire Echo.
- h. EC had been interviewed about RICT on BBC Radion Lincolnshire. From the middle of November, SF would include Club and RICT updates when presenting on Lincoln City Radio on Fridays, in addition to during his show every Thursday between 10am and 1pm.

4 CLUB ENGAGEMENT

- a. MS and PS would attend the Club's next Strategy BM on 11/12/25. A summary of its previous Strategy BM had been published on the Club's website.
- b. JBa and JBu had attended the meeting of the Club's Fan Advisory Board (FAB) on 04/10/25, the agenda for which had been published on the Club's website, although the Minutes of which were not yet in the public domain. RICT would be willing to assist in educating supporters about the consequences of discriminatory chanting, two recent instances of which were expected to result in substantial fines being incurred by the Club, which had initiated disciplinary action against the people alleged to have been involved.
- c. Representatives of the Club, its Former Players Association (FPA), LCF and RICT had exchanged updates at a meeting held on 18/09/25.
- d. Independently of RICT, two of its members were leading the production of a monthly "Impress Prog-Zine", sales of which at £2 per copy were expected to begin from RICT's FV Pod before the match on 18/10/25. There would be 16 pages, advert-free, in the first edition. All details had been agreed with Luke Thornhill (LT), the Club's Head of Marketing and Communications.
ACTION: SF would secure the "Impress" domain name and email address.
- e. TTR had offered to create a virtual reality experience of a mascot walking out with the team on a home matchday. **ACTION: RB would arrange a meeting to pursue the matter between TTR's Stewart Millar, LT and Rob Noble, the Club's Head of Club Services.**
- f. RB and GG, as members of the Club's Mental Health First Responder Team, would attend a refresher training course in December.

5 CLUB HERITAGE PRESERVATION

- a. Eight more exhibits had been uploaded to RICT's virtual museum. **ACTION: SF would notify TaBe and ToBe whenever museum-related social media items were posted, so that they could be re-tweeted by RICT.**
- b. Canvass images of RICT's three landmark plaques had been displayed at RICT's FV Pod before recent home matches.
- c. An appreciative email received from Ben Webb, Lincoln Cathedral's Commercial Director, had been circulated to all RICT Board Members. Arrangements had been made to deliver to Clive Nates, the Club's Chairman, the canvass image of him that had been displayed in the exhibition of heritage items curated by RICT in the Cathedral's Chapter House. The display's canvass image of the Jabara family, key investors in the Club, would be presented to them when they next attended a home match. £212.50 had been donated to the Cathedral, being one half of the total sum of £425.00 raised at the date of the previous RICT BM from the sale

of the remaining canvasses. A further £50.00 had subsequently been received from such sales.

ACTION: ST would send a further donation of £25.00 to the Cathedral.

- d. Ernie Wright's scrapbook had been displayed at RICT's FV Pod once again before the match on 04/10/25.
- e. Club history and heritage had been discussed at the FAB meeting held on 04/10/25. **ACTION: RB would work up a possible RICT heritage strategy, including proposals for an official archive of old matchday programmes, for discussion with FAB members and with the Club.**

6 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- a. LCF, RICT's permanent charity partner, would launch an appeal prior to the match on 29/11/25 to support local foodbanks, with RICT's FV Pod being one of the dropping-off points for donated items. Another £185.00 had been raised from the sale from the Pod of Club shirts donated by RICT members. **ACTION: RB would present that sum prior to the match on 18/10/25 to Brittany Bell, LCF's Operations Leader, along with profits of £500.00 from the sale of his book, "Imposter".** Attention had been drawn on RICT's website to an extra venue in Nettleham being used for LCF's Seated Chair Exercise Classes. 20 of the 40 display stands purchased for the exhibition at Lincoln Cathedral would be donated to LCF.
- b. Discussions were ongoing with participants in the "RICT Community Team" initiative about renewing it for the new season.
- c. Attention would be drawn to the NHS Bowel Cancer Screening programme by some of its staff at RICT's FV Pod before the match on 15/11/25.
- d. Work was ongoing to arrange further coffee mornings, at which presentations would be given about RICT and its partners.
- e. A location in the Bailgate area of Lincoln had been agreed with City of Lincoln Council for the installation of a Suicide Prevention Awareness Bench, in conjunction with the Legend on the Bench charity founded by Micky Hazard (a former Tottenham Hotspur player) and a private donation by a RICT member. **ACTION: BB would organise an opening ceremony, to be held once the bench was installed, and would also offer to arrange the installation of a similar bench at the LNER Stadium if a suitable location could be agreed.**
- f. Donations of new toys and treats for local families in need would be sought in due course at RICT's FV Pod in support of the Bridge Church Christmas Sack Appeal.

7 FSA ENGAGEMENT

- a. TBa was willing to join the FSA Youth Forum. **ACTION: JBu would make the necessary introduction.**
- b. RICT had arranged a meeting at Grantham Town FC on 16/10/25 of representatives of Supporters' Trusts from clubs in the East Midlands area, which Kevin Rye of Think Fan Engagement would also attend, along with representatives of a Supporters' Trust linked to Fulham FC. RB, PS and JBu would represent RICT.
- c. JBu was monitoring FSA communications about consultations led by the Independent Football Regulator (IFR), of which David Kogan had been appointed Chair, with Richard Monks as Chief Executive Officer. A hybrid meeting (with people attending either in person at the MCR or online) would be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 12/11/25 between RICT Board Members and Martyn Henderson (MH), the IFR's Chief Operating Officer, with all FAB members also being invited. It was anticipated that the meeting would last for about an hour, opening with a PowerPoint presentation by MH, followed by his answers to pre-submitted questions and then further questions/discussion. Prior to the BM, a draft briefing note had been circulated to all RICT Board Members and all FAB members, giving background information about RICT, the Club and the FAB, with suggested structured questions. **ACTION: Subject to any modifications that might be requested by RICT or FAB members by 12/10/25, JBu would send the briefing note to MH.**

- d. JBu would attend the next FSA Leagues One and Two Network Meeting on 29/10/25.

8 EVENTS, FUNDRAISING AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

- a. RICT had publicised on its website and through its social media channels the Lincolnshire Football Programme Fair, which would be held on Sunday 19/10/25 at Ruston Sports & Social Club.
- b. Consideration would be given to refining RICT's Red and White Membership Scheme packages, in order to attract more businesses that did not belong to the Club's sponsorship and partnership schemes. **ACTION: CB and RB would meet to review the opportunities.** PS and EC offered any further assistance that might be required. **ACTION: MS would add CB as an Admin of RICT's LinkedIn account.**

9 MEMBERSHIP

- a. RICT's membership at 19/08/25 (excluding purchasers of the Club's various hospitality packages and members of the FPA) had increased to 6,058, including 1,067 people under 18 years of age. **ACTION: IH would check with Louise Wade, the Club's Retail and Ticket Sales Manager, whether the latest data included people who had joined RICT through the Club's Bronze Membership Scheme.**
- b. A JOGC Gold Legacy scheme member had renewed their membership for a further five-year term. Liam Scully (LS), the Club's Chief Executive, had requested headline details of that scheme, with a view to setting up a Working Group to discuss possible modifications to both that scheme and the Club's JOGC scheme. **ACTION: APo would send those details to MS, to be forwarded to LS.** EC, SF and IH indicated their willingness to join any such Working Group.

10 GOVERNANCE

- a. TBa was co-opted as an external director of RICT, selected by virtue of his specialist skills and experience considered to be of benefit, due to his interaction with the younger element of the Club's fanbase. TBa was wished well in his new role. **ACTION: TBa would discuss potential RICT youth projects with the LCF Youth Committee at its meeting on 09/10/25.**
- b. No guidance had been issued since the previous RICT BM by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) on the Data Use and Access Act 2025. **ACTION: APo would continue to monitor ICO guidance and highlight anything requiring attention.**

11 FINANCES

- a. Prior to the BM, a financial update had been sent to all RICT Board Members, showing that everything had been running smoothly during the period from 01/01/25 to 30/09/25.
- b. The first RICT Stacey West Investment Bonds with five-year terms would start to mature in September 2026. **ACTION: RB and SF would liaise to ensure that all information required by bondholders was accessible on RICT's website.**
- c. RICT's credit/debit card payment device had malfunctioned on occasions due to remote connectivity issues at RICT's FV Pod. **ACTION: ST would endeavour to resolve those issues before the match on 18/10/25.**

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next BM would be held in a hybrid format on Wednesday 12/11/25 at 8.00pm (or at such later time as RICT's meeting with MH on that date might finish), with RICT Board Members attending either the MCR in person or remotely via Zoom.

13 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, the BM closed at 8.40pm.