

RED IMPS COMMUNITY TRUST (RICT)

Notes of the Board Meeting (BM) held online starting at 8.20pm on Wednesday 12th November 2025

1 PARTICIPATION

- a. In attendance were Rob Bradley (RB) – Chair and Fan Engagement Team Co-Leader (FETCL); Chris Baldam (CB) - Events, Fundraising & Commercial Co-ordinator; Biff Bean (BB) – Community Engagement Team Leader; 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; Jonathan Battersby (JBA); Alice Carter, representing Lincoln City Foundation (LCF); Gavin Gordon (GG); Steve Freestone (SF) – Company Secretary; Ian Hodgson (IH) – Membership Secretary; and Andy Porter (AP) – Minutes Recorder.
- b. Apologies for absence were received from Mandi Slater (MS) – Vice-Chair and FECD - John O'Gaunts Club (JOGC); Tom Baker (TBa); Kirsty Hackney (KH); Claire Hunsley (CH); Tamyra Beeston (TaB) – Social Media Co-Secretary (SMCS); and Tony Beeston (ToB) – SMCS.

2 NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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

3 FAN ENGAGEMENT

- a. The invoice from Ruddocks for printing 1,000 leaflets promoting RICT's Youth Survey had been settled. The deadline for receipt of survey responses in order to be included in the draw for a signed shirt had been extended to 06/12/25, in view of the limited opportunities to hand in hard copy forms, there having been only one home match in a six week period. **ACTION (1): RICT's Media Group would arrange further publicity through its website, social media channels and email communication facility. ACTION (2): RB would hand out leaflets at RICT's Pod in the University of Lincoln Fan Village (FV) at the LNER Stadium on future matchdays, when EC would distribute them around the Stadium. ACTION (3): RICT members would liaise in the production of supporting video vox pops footage before the match on 15/11/25.**
- 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 arrangement of the match at Salford City and the re-arrangement of the match at Bradford City.
- c. TaB and ToB were doing really good work in generating RICT's social media output.
- d. Many fans had visited RICT's FV Pod for discussions and advice before the only home match played since the previous RICT BM. It had been very busy, with the usual freebies (predominantly pens and RICT notepads) for youngsters, sales of enhanced teamsheets and sales of Club-related publications.
- e. Conor McGrandles had won RICT's polls for the Player of the Month in both September and October. He had been presented with the September award before the match on 18/10/25 and would be presented with the October award before the match on 15/11/25.

- f. A regular update message had been sent on 29/10/25 to all RICT members for whom an email address was held, save for those who had unsubscribed.
- g. Two more articles about RICT had been published in the Lincolnshire Echo.
- h. Feedback on the first edition of the “Impress” prog-zine, produced independently of RICT by two of its members, Mel Tointon and Phil Bradley, had been very complimentary. As all copies had been snapped up very quickly by fans before the match on 18/10/25, re-prints of that edition would be on sale from RICT’s FV Pod before the match on 15/11/25, with the second edition going on sale from the Pod before the match on 29/11/25. **ACTION: RICT’s Media Group would organise appropriate publicity.**

4 CLUB ENGAGEMENT

- a. MS and PS would attend the Club’s next Strategy BM on 11/12/25.
- b. Minutes of the Club’s Fan Advisory Board (FAB) meeting on 04/10/25 had been published on the Club’s website. JBa and JBu would attend the next FAB meeting on 15/11/25, the agenda for which was not yet in the public domain.
- c. RICT had issued a press release about (i) the £8,500 fine incurred by the Club following two instances of sectarian chanting during the match on 03/05/25 and (ii) the Football Association investigation into alleged homophobic chants during the match on 23/09/25. English Football League Supporter Sanctioning Guidance, issued in conjunction with the FSA, applied to the action taken by the Club against the people alleged to have been involved. It took a holistic approach to negative spectator behaviour, with education and restorative justice supplementing traditional punitive actions.
- d. The Club’s retail and ticket sales staff had been commended for their proactive response to an issue that had been raised with RICT. RB and PS would meet Jason Futers, the Club’s Chief Growth and Innovation Officer, on 13/11/25 for a general review of operational matters and wider issues affecting RICT and the Club.
- e. RB and GG, as members of the Club’s Mental Health First Responder Team, would attend a two-day refresher training course at Grimsby Town FC in December.
- f. An online Club Fans’ Forum on 19/11/25 would discuss maintaining and developing welcoming atmospheres at the LNER Stadium. **ACTION: EC and JBu would register their interest in attending.**

5 CLUB HERITAGE PRESERVATION

- a. Two more exhibits had been uploaded to RICT’s virtual museum since the previous RICT BM.
- b. Canvass images of RICT’s three landmark plaques had been displayed at RICT’s FV Pod before the only home match played since the previous RICT BM.
- c. Rob Noble, the Club’s Head of Club Services, had acknowledged the superb heritage preservation work undertaken by RICT.

6 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- a. LCF, RICT’s permanent charity partner, would launch an appeal prior to the match on 29/11/25 to support the Lincolnshire Co-op Foodbank, with RICT’s FV Pod being one of the dropping-off points for donated items. Sales from the Pod of Club shirts donated by RICT members were ongoing, with another £185.00 raised from such sales and other donations having been presented to Brittany Bell, LCF’s Operations Leader, prior to the match on 18/10/25, together with £500.00 raised from sales of RB’s “Imposter” book. Attention had been drawn on RICT’s website to LCF’s vacancies for sessional/casual staff and volunteers,

along with work experience opportunities. **ACTION: Any nominations for RICT's 2026 charity partners should be submitted to SF before the next RICT BM.**

- b. TBa had contacted Selina Lewis, LCF's Youth Mentor, about possible new activities that could be supported with the funds raised by the "RICT Community Team 2025" initiative that had been ringfenced for youth initiatives. **ACTION: An update would be provided at the next RICT BM.**
- c. Action was being taken to recruit 13 businesses, each contributing £100, to form a "RICT Community Team 2026", which would raise £1,300 for good causes in the local community.
- d. A coffee morning had been planned at Lincoln's Risby Green retirement housing complex, at which presentations would be given about RICT and its partners.
- e. 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.
- f. An unveiling ceremony, involving representatives of RICT, City of Lincoln Council (CoLC) and the Legend on the Bench charity founded by Micky Hazard (a former Tottenham Hotspur FC and Chelsea FC player), had taken place on 23/10/25 for the Suicide Prevention Awareness Bench that had been installed in the Bailgate area of Lincoln, thanks to a private donation by a RICT member.
- g. 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.
- h. Edison's Light (EL), a local charity supporting families bereaved due to the death/loss of babies, had been introduced by RICT to CoLC, from which it was anticipated that funding would be available. **ACTION: BB would invite representatives of EL to raise its profile by visiting RICT's FV Pod before a future home match.**

7 FSA ENGAGEMENT

- a. TBa had been connected to the FSA's main Youth Forum contact.
- b. RICT had organised a meeting, held at Grantham Town FC on 16/10/25, between representatives of supporters' trusts from Fulham FC, Leicester City FC, Northampton Town FC and Scunthorpe United FC, together with Kevin Rye of Think Fan Engagement, RICT being represented by RB, PS and JBu. Discussion centred on the impact that the new Independent Football Regulator (IFR) would have on such trusts.
- c. A briefing paper with structured questions had been sent to Martyn Henderson (MH), IFR Chief Operating Officer, in advance of his online meeting earlier on 12/11/25 with RICT Board Members and with the FAB's Chair, Tony Smith. **ACTION: JBu would agree with MH the wording of a report of that meeting (which would be discussed in detail at the next RICT BM) for publication on RICT's website.** JBu would continue to monitor IFR consultations. The deadline for responses to the its Licensing Scheme Consultation Paper was 08/12/25. **ACTION: JBu would circulate that Paper to all RICT Board Members and respond to it on behalf of RICT, having regard to the observations made before that date by such Members.**
- d. JBu had attended the FSA Leagues One and Two Network Meeting on 29/10/25, at which the topics discussed had included the IFR, discriminatory chanting and the National League's campaign for three promotion places.
- e. Hamish Falconer, Member of Parliament for Lincoln, had accepted an invitation to visit RICT's FV Pod before the match on 15/11/25.

8 EVENTS, FUNDRAISING AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

- a. CB had posted articles on RICT's LinkedIn site, reaching out to businesses, and had encouraged over 200 contacts to follow it, CB having been added as joint Admin by MS. **ACTION: AP would update RICT's Handbook of Data Protection Procedures (HoDPP) accordingly, all personal data being protected by the model contract clauses used by corporations based in the United States of America.**
- b. Consideration would be given to refining RICT's Red and White Membership Scheme packages, in order to increase RICT's income by attracting new businesses that did not belong to the Club's sponsorship and partnership schemes, although this would increase the workload of RICT's Media Group. **ACTION: CB, EC and PS would meet to consider the opportunities.**

9 MEMBERSHIP

- a. Louise Wade, the Club's Retail and Ticket Sales Manager, had been asked whether the membership figures reported at the previous RICT BM included everyone who had joined RICT through the Club's Bronze Membership Scheme.
- b. Payment had been made to the Club of the money due to it under RICT's JOGC Gold Legacy scheme. **ACTION: MS would report at the next RICT BM on progress made by the Working Group set up to discuss possible modifications to that scheme and to the Club's JOGC scheme, details of both of which were confirmed in RICT's 2025 Membership Policy.**

10 GOVERNANCE

- a. The RICT's website governance structure flowchart had been updated to show TBa's appointment. **ACTION: JBu would arrange for biographical details and a photograph of TBa to be published on RICT's website.**
- 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: AP 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 31/10/25.
- b. All information required by owners of Stacey West Investment Bonds had been published under a new tab on RICT's website, the previous standalone Urbansoul Design (UD) website for bondholders having been closed. **ACTION: AP would delete the references to the UD website from RICT's HoDPP.**
- c. No problems had been experienced when using RICT's credit/debit card payment device before the match on 18/10/25. **ACTION: That device's charger would be connected to the electricity supply in RICT's FV Pod before all future home matches, to ensure that an adequate charge was always available whenever required.**

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next RICT BM would be held on Wednesday 10/12/25 at 7.00pm.

13 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. A RICT Board Members' WhatsApp Group had been set up, so that updates about RICT matters could be shared in between BMs.
- b. There being no further business, the BM closed at 8.50pm.