

RED IMPS COMMUNITY TRUST (RICT)

Notes of the Board Meeting (BM) held via Zoom at 7.58pm on Thursday 4th June 2026

1 PRESENT

- a. RICT Board Members present were Chris Baldam (CB) – Events, Fundraising & Commercial Co-ordinator; Biff Bean (BB) – Community Engagement Team Leader; Rob Bradley (RB) – Fan Engagement Team Co-Leader (FETCL); Julian Buttery (JBU) – External Relations Director; Emma Crellin (EC) – FETCL; Phil Scafton (PS) – Fan-Elected Club Director (FECD); Mandi Slater (MS) – FECD (John O’Gaunts Club (JOGC)); Steve Tointon (ST) – Treasurer; and Claire Hunsley (CH).
- b. Also present were Observers Tom Baker (TB); Jonathan Battersby (JBa); Steve Freestone (SF); Ian Hodgson (IH); and Andy Porter (AP).
- c. Apologies for absence had been received from invited Observer Gavin Gordon (GG).

2 APPOINTMENTS, ELECTIONS AND CO-OPTIONS

- a. SF was appointed as RICT’s Company Secretary until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- b. Elected until the conclusion of the next AGM were RB as RICT’s Chair and MS as RICT’s Vice-Chair.
- c. Appointed until the conclusion of the next AGM were IH as RICT’s Membership Secretary, Tamyra Beeston and Tony Beeston jointly as RICT’s Social Media Secretaries and AP as RICT’s Minutes Recorder.
- d. Co-opted (by virtue of their specialist skills and experience considered to be of benefit to RICT) to RICT’s Board as external directors until the next AGM were:-
 - i. TB, representing the Lincoln City Foundation (LCF) Youth Board;
 - ii. JBa, representing the Club’s Fan Advisory Board (FAB);
 - iii. GG, representing the Lincoln City Former Players’ Association (FPA); and
 - iv. Lincoln City Foundation (LCF).

3 NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Notes of RICT’s BMs on 15/04/26 and 13/05/26 and of the RICT Directors’ Meeting on 13/05/26 would be published on RICT’s website, with their availability being announced via RICT’s social media channels.

4 FAN ENGAGEMENT

- a. Nominations had been requested for RICT’s Fan of the Season Award. The trophy had been ordered. **ACTION: A judging panel of EC, CH and IH would select the winner after 30/06/26, which was the closing date for nominations.**
- b. Work was ongoing for the production of a matchday guide pack (to include freebies and competitions) for young fans, in readiness for the Club’s first home game in the 2026/27 season, when some facilities would be different, due to the Club’s Imps Territory project. **ACTION: EC would liaise with the Club through Matt Robertson, the Club Services Executive, Jason Futers (JF), the Chief Growth and Innovation Officer, and Bobby Copping (BC), the Head of Commercial.**
- c. Topical news items continued to be published on RICT’s website, on which departure times and prices for Red Imps Association Travel Section coaches to away games up

to the end of September would be announced shortly after confirmation (due by 02/07/26) of the fixtures selected for television coverage.

- d. RICT's social media output continued to be well-received, including especially the video review of RICT's achievements during the 2025/26 season.
- e. The move of RICT's Pod to a new location in the south-east corner of the LNER Stadium concourse, where the Fan Village would be based under the Club's Imps Territory project, had not yet been completed.
- f. A regular update message had been sent on 16/05/26 to all RICT members for whom an email address was held, save for those who had unsubscribed.
- g. Articles about RICT continued to be published fortnightly in the Lincolnshire Echo.
- h. RICT Board Members were still being interviewed frequently on BBC Radio Lincolnshire, the most recent being EC on the "Breakfast Show" on 01/06/26.
- i. MS had arranged for members of the FPA to take the English Football League (EFL) League One Winner's trophy to the 100th birthday party of a fan of the Club. **ACTION: MS would arrange appropriate publicity after the event.**

5 CLUB ENGAGEMENT

- a. Ron Fowler, the Club's Chairman, had invested significant further funds in the Club through its holding company for infrastructure improvements at the Elite Performance Centre and for the Imps Territory project, which was on track, according to the project manager, Dan Collins of PolkeyCollins.
- b. Minutes of the FAB meeting on 03/04/26 had been published on the Club's website.
- c. Representatives of the Club, the FPA, LCF and RICT would share updates at a meeting on 25/06/26.
- d. The Club was one of 22 that had received a Gold Award under the EFL's Family Excellence Scheme.

6 CLUB HERITAGE PRESERVATION

- a. A report was given on the inaugural meeting of the Heritage Committee on 22/05/26. **ACTION (1): JBu would ensure that, before the next RICT BM, all RICT Board Members received a presentation about the progress made. ACTION (2): BB would consider how the work of the 1884 Collective could complement the support already provided by LCF, the FPA and RICT to people with dementia.** JBu would attend the next Heritage Committee meeting on 24/07/26.
- b. Since the previous RICT BM, twenty more exhibits had been uploaded to RICT's virtual museum.

7 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- a. Attention had been drawn on RICT's website to a new venue for Fit Imps sessions (for people wanting to lose weight, get fitter and lead a more active life) organised by LCF, RICT's permanent charity partner.
- b. The Suicide Prevention Awareness Bench would be installed at the LNER Stadium once the Imps Territory project had been completed. Publicity of the initiative had attracted interest in a further bench being installed elsewhere.
- c. RB had been a guest speaker at the "More than a Game" function on 23/05/26 (following LCF's Community World Cup 6-a-side tournament), under the Re-imagining

Lincolnshire" banner, organised with assistance from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

- d. RICT had been selected as a Lincolnshire Co-op Community Champion. Fundraising would take place at the Lower High Street branch over the following few months.
- e. Further joint ventures with the Golden Eagle and Millers Arms public houses were under consideration. Support for several projects was being considered, using the money raised by the "RICT Community Team 2026" initiative and by Tyla Rose Hall, the landlady of the Golden Eagle.
- f. Publicity would be given to Hartsholme Community Trust's Summer Festival (including a 65-year Lincoln Sunday Football League Reunion Party) on 23/08/26 at Hartsholme Sports & Social Club, Ashby Avenue, Lincoln LN6 ODY.

8 EXTERNAL RELATIONS

- a. Prior to the BM, details had been circulated to all RICT Board Members of the motions submitted for consideration at the Football Supporters' Association (FSA) AGM, which JBu would attend, including the workshops on fan engagement and on the Independent Football Regulator. The next FSA Network Meeting that he would attend would be for representatives of supporters' trusts associated with Championship Clubs, rather than those in Leagues 1 & 2.
- b. RB had represented RICT at a meeting on 29/05/26 at Northampton Saints Rugby Club of representatives of various supporters' trusts, Kevin Rye of Think Fan Engagement and some members of the press.

9 EVENTS, FUNDRAISING AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

- a. The agreement under which Tension Twisted Realities (TTR) was RICT's main sponsor had been extended most recently in May 2025. **ACTION: CB would discuss arrangements for ongoing sponsorship with Stewart Millar, TTR's proprietor.**
- b. Refinements to RICT's Red and White Membership Scheme packages were being finalised. **ACTION: EC would agree a proposal with CB, JF and BC for inclusion in RICT's Membership Policy 2026/27.**

10 MEMBERSHIP

- a. A new Data Sharing Agreement between RICT and the Club had been signed, covering the year to 31/07/27, and published on RICT's website. Louise Wade, the Club's Retail and Ticket Sales Manager, would be RICT's point of contact at the Club on membership issues in future, as Rob Noble, the Club's Head of Club Services, was about to transfer to another employer.
- b. The JOGC partnership between RICT and the Club had been discussed between MS, ST and Liam Scully, the Club's Chief Executive Officer. They would meet again in July, along with David Lowes, the Club's Fan Engagement Director, after RICT had informed its JOGC Gold Legacy Members of the revised benefits that the Club would be providing in future.

11 GOVERNANCE

- a. RICT was required to submit an Annual Return to the Financial Conduct Authority by 31/07/26. **ACTION: SF would submit the Return.**

- b. The governance structure flowchart on RICT's website required updating. **ACTION: AP would make the necessary changes.**
- c. All RICT Board Members were reminded that, in addition to seeking any necessary support from SF and AP, they could access free online training from the FSA at <https://thefsa.org.uk/fan-resources/fsa-training-courses/> and, at <https://learn.englishfootball.com/courses/safeguarding/safeguarding-for-all>, from The Football Association on safeguarding.

12 FINANCES

- a. RICT's annual accounts to 31/12/25 had been accepted at RICT's AGM earlier on 04/06/26. **ACTION: RB, ST and SF would sign those accounts.**
- b. A financial update, covering the period since 01/01/26, would be sent to all RICT Board Members before the next RICT BM. **ACTION: ST would convey to Sarah Campbell, LCF's Business Support Manager, the appreciation of RICT Board Members for all her work in preparing such updates.**

13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next BM would be held via Zoom at 7.00pm on Wednesday 08/07/26.

14 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Issues to be addressed by a RICT Strategy Working Group had been identified at RICT's BM on 15/04/26. **ACTION: RB would consult with the relevant RICT Team Leaders on those issues.**
- b. There being no further business, the BM closed at 8.45pm.