

RED IMPS COMMUNITY TRUST (RICT)

Notes of the Board Meeting (BM) held via Zoom at 7.20pm on Wednesday 12/08/26

1 PRESENT

- a. In attendance were Rob Bradley (RB) – Chair and Fan Engagement Team Co-Leader (FETCL); Mandi Slater (MS) – Vice-Chair and John O’Gaunts Club (JOGC) Members Liaison Director; Biff Bean (BB) – Community Engagement Team Leader; Julian Buttery (JBU) – External Relations Director; Phil Scrafton (PS) - Fan-Elected Club Director; Steve Tointon (ST) – Treasurer; Claire Hunsley (CH); Jonathan Battersby (JBa); Steve Freestone (SF) - Secretary; Ian Hodgson (IH) – Membership Secretary; Andy Porter (APo) – Minutes Recorder; and Anita Pritchard (APr) - Observer.
- b. Apologies for absence had been received from Chris Baldam (CB) – Events, Fundraising & Commercial Co-ordinator; Emma Crellin (EC) - FETCL; and Gavin Gordon (GG).

2 NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Notes of RICT’s BM on 04/06/26 and of RICT’s Directors’ Meetings on 08/07/26 and 30/07/26 would be published on RICT’s website, RICT’s social media channels announcing their availability.

3 FAN ENGAGEMENT

- a. Trophies had been received for RICT’s Fan of the Season Awards. **ACTION: Those trophies would be presented to the winners before the match on 22/08/26.**
- b. Prior to the BM, a cost proposal for 1,000 RICT Junior Fan Packs had been circulated to all RICT Board Members, towards which £400 had already been raised through the “RICT Community Team 2025” initiative. The ProAmpac Stadium Guides, to be included in those Packs, could not be printed until the Club’s Imps Territory infrastructure works were completed. **ACTION: RB would seek alternative quotations for the costs, while JBU would discuss possible further opportunities with Tom Baker and with APr.**
- 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 were shown for all away games up to 10/10/26, with the details being further updated whenever tickets went on and off sale.
- d. RICT’s social media output continued to increase in quantity and creativity. The first Man of the Match poll of the new season had been popular.
- e. The Club had suggested that RICT’s Pod location should be unchanged, with a new activity area being opened nearby. **ACTION: RB would confirm to Jason Futers (JF), the Club’s Chief Growth and Innovation Officer, that the location by the new activity area was agreed, provided that (i) an electricity supply would be available, (ii) tables, chairs and stalls for guests could be placed around the Pod when required and (iii) the situation would be reviewed in six months’ time.** Arrangements were in hand for the Pod to be emptied, cleaned and re-stocked in readiness for the new season, when internal access would be more closely controlled. RICT’s card payment device would be charged up and available for use. Plans for new initiatives at RICT’s Pod were well advanced. It was hoped that arrangements could be made for members of the Club’s Former Players’ Association (FPA) to visit the Pod at pre-advertised times.

- f. A regular update message had been sent on 04/08/26 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 “Red Imps Club” feature on 10/08/26.
- i. The eighth edition of the “IMPRESS” prog-zine would go on sale before the match on 22/08/26, with the ninth edition following before the match on 05/09/26.
- j. Stewart Millar (SM), the proprietor of Tension Twisted Realities (TTR), had indicated that he would give urgent attention to the provision of a headset, so that users in the new activity area at the ProAmpac Stadium could enjoy a virtual reality experience of a mascot walking out with the team before a home match.

4 CLUB ENGAGEMENT

- a. Following the announcement that Clive Nates had stepped down as the Club’s Co-Vice Chair, RICT had expressed its gratitude for his outstanding contribution to the Club’s success during his time on its Board of Directors. A message of appreciation had also been sent to ProAmpac (for which RICT had supplied heritage-related artwork, displayed in the Centre Spot Tavern throughout the 2025/26 season) for its acquisition of the naming rights for the Club’s stadium for a ten-year term.
- b. JBa and JBu would attend the next meeting of the Club’s Fan Advisory Board (FAB) on 13/08/26, when Louise Wade (LW), the Club’s Retail and Ticket Sales Manager, would discuss the Club’s approach to ticket allocations for away matches.
- c. Representatives of RICT, the FPA, Lincoln City Foundation (LCF), the FAB, the Club’s Disabled Supporters Association, the 1884 Collective and the Club had shared updates at the inaugural meeting (chaired by PS) of the Stakeholder Group (SG) on 06/08/26.
- d. The Club had announced that, as part of a series of changes agreed when Liquid Investments Inc acquired operational and financial control, the Club’s Board of Directors had been slimmed down and that JOGC Gold Legacy Members would no longer be represented on it by MS. They would however be represented, along with all other RICT Members, by PS on the Boards of Directors of both the Club and its holding company. MS’s role within RICT was accordingly re-designated as JOGC Members Liaison Director.
- e. RICT had provided content for the Club’s latest Fan Engagement Plan, which had been submitted to the English Football League.
- f. Fan engagement, ticketing, retail, digital, partnerships, marketing and communications would in future be overseen by Bobby Copping, in his new role as the Club’s Chief Commercial Officer.

5 CLUB HERITAGE PRESERVATION

- a. JBu had chaired the latest Heritage Committee meeting on 24/07/26.
- b. Since the RICT Directors’ Meeting on 08/07/26, thirty two more exhibits had been uploaded to RICT’s virtual museum, taking the total number of exhibits past five hundred.
- c. Fans’ recollections of the Club’s previous time in the second tier of English football had been filmed and those recordings would be published by the Club during the following week.

- d. RB, JBa, JBu, EC and GG had been interviewed for the BBC Radio Lincolnshire “Secret Lincolnshire” series about the 1884 Collective.

6 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- a. An appeal has been made on RICT’s website for volunteers to raise funds for LCF, RICT’s permanent charity partner, by running for it in the Lincoln Half Marathon on 04/10/26 or to steward at that event. RICT’s profile would be raised by the display of its branding on an inflatable football pitch that LCF would buy for use at community events away from the ProAmpac Stadium. RICT would raise funds towards the cost, £300 having been pledged already from the “RICT Community Team 2026” initiative. RICT had supported an “Imps Day” at Torksey Golf Club, at which funds were raised for LCF.
- b. A location had been agreed in principle with JF for the installation, following completion of the Imps Territory project, of a Suicide Prevention Awareness Bench at the ProAmpac Stadium.
- c. Following RICT’s selection as a Lincolnshire Co-op Community Champion, Fundraising was ongoing at the Lincolnshire Co-op Lower High Street branch.
- d. Some of the funds raised by the “RICT Community Team 2025” initiative had been used for a barbecue at the Risby Green retirement housing complex.
- e. Discussions were ongoing with Leon Stokes, a director of Pals Battalion Community Interest Company and a former Grenadier Guard, about support that RICT could offer to military veterans.
- f. RB would investigate opportunities for collaboration with other organisations in the local community voluntary sector, by attending the next Lincoln Voluntary Sector Forum organised by CVS Lincolnshire.

7 EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Prior to the BM, Licensing Guidance (including provisions about fan engagement and consultation) issued by the Independent Football Regulator (IFR) had been circulated to all RICT Board Members. Supervisors were being appointed by the IFR for all clubs under its jurisdiction. **ACTION: JBu would ascertain from Liam Scully, the Club’s Chief Executive Officer, the name of the Club’s supervisor.**

8 EVENTS, FUNDRAISING AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

- a. The agreement under which TTR was RICT’s main sponsor had been extended most recently in May 2025. **ACTION: CB would discuss arrangements for ongoing sponsorship with SM.**
- b. A commercial@redimpstrust.co.uk email address (to which CB and EC had access) had been set up. Prior to the BM, flyers (which had been uploaded to RICT’s LinkedIn account and sent to Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce (LCoC)) had been circulated to all RICT Board Members, advertising RICT’s 2026/27 Red and White Membership Scheme packages. **ACTION (1): Tamyra Beeston and Tony Beeston, RICT’s Social Media Co-Secretaries, would highlight the packages via RICT’s social media channels, devising a rolling programme of regular reminder posts. ACTION (2): PS would request an update from Simon Beardsley, LCoC’s Chief Executive, and also contact Alex Bavin, LCF’s Director of Growth.**

9 MEMBERSHIP

- a. After working through its waiting list for new Gold Memberships, the Club had launched the sale of its Silver, Bronze and Junior Imps Membership packages. RICT membership was an automatic benefit of all those schemes, with a right to opt out. LW had indicated that the necessary details would be shared with RICT by the end of August 2026. Around 650 Silver Memberships had been sold by 11/08/26.
- b. Feedback from members of the JOGC Gold Legacy scheme had been shared with LS. Dates for those members' meetings had been agreed and those members would also be invited to a tour of the Gen2 Energy Elite Performance Centre.

10 FINANCES

- a. RICT's annual accounts to 31/12/25, accepted at RICT's latest Annual General Meeting, (AGM) had not yet been signed. **ACTION: RB, ST and SF would sign those accounts on 22/08/26.**
- b. Everything was running smoothly. **ACTION: ST would send to all RICT Board Members before the next RICT BM a financial update, covering the period from 01/01/26 to 31/08/26.**
- c. Prior to the BM, a summary forecast of RICT's income and expenditure during 2026/27 (based on information provided by RICT's Team Leaders) had been sent to all RICT Board Members. Funds should be available from RICT's reserves to support future initiatives. **ACTION: ST would provide at the next RICT BM an estimate of the sum available.**
- d. ST had answered all queries raised about the maturity from September 2026 of RICT Stacey West Investment Bonds bought for five-year terms. Peter Mellows, the Club's Director of Finance, would contact the relevant holders directly about repayment or reinvestment.

11 GOVERNANCE

- a. RICT's latest Annual Return had not yet been filed with the Financial Conduct Authority. **ACTION: SF would submit that Return on 22/08/26, after RICT's annual accounts had been signed.**
- b. As there were currently ten elected RICT Board Members in post, plus four RICT Board Members who had been co-opted under rule 65 of RICT's constitution, two more RICT Board Members could be co-opted under rule 64, to fill the remaining casual vacancies for Board Members without portfolio. APr (who was welcomed to the BM) was co-opted until RICT's next AGM, to fill one of those vacancies. **ACTION: APo would make the necessary changes on RICT's website to the governance structure flowchart and to the biographical details of RICT Board Members.**

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next BM would be held via Zoom at 7.00pm on Wednesday 09/09/26, MS giving her apologies for absence in advance.

13 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Progress was being made in updating RICT's documented strategy. **ACTION: RB would submit draft revisions at a future RICT BM.**
- b. There being no further business, the BM closed at 8.31pm.