

In attendance: Andy Roberts (AR, Chair), John Morgan (JM, Acting Secretary), Bob Souster (BS), Bob Clarke (BC, Treasurer), Keith Buckby (KB), Bhyll Stephenson (BSt), Rob Duncan (RD), Derek Krajewski (DK), Kevin Simons (KS)

Apologies: Heidi Green (HG), Ian Atkins (IA)

1.	Welcome
	AR welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2.	Minutes of meeting – 7 September 2023
	Agreed as a correct record pending a fuller Treasurer’s report for September which will be circulated to board members – proposed by BSt, seconded by BS.
3.	Matters arising
	As note on Treasurer’s Report above.
4.	Resignation from board
	Jeffrey Roy has tendered his resignation from the board for personal reasons. On behalf of the board, AR wished Jeffrey well and thanked him for his contributions to the board during the last six months.
5.	NTFC items
A	<u>Sixfields stand and land update</u> There is presently no update on the proposed East stand and land deal at Sixfields stadium and we await further information from Northampton Town Football Club and West Northamptonshire Council.
B	Hospitality for Ukrainian families living in the Northampton area
	RD and KS have agreed to lead on this for the board and hope to arrange a meeting with the resettlement programme organisers and report progress to the November meeting. KS suggested that maybe former board member Stefan Krywawych, a native Ukrainian, could be included in the invitation.
C	Community Trust disabled group away travel
	HG is taking forward a suggestion by IA that money raised from vintage training gear could be used to arranging transport for the Community Trust disabled group to attend an away game in the near future. It was suggested that an approach be made to Russell Lewis at NTFC Community Trust. Again to update at the November meeting.

6.	Governance – size of the Trust board and election policy
A	<p>Jeffrey Roy’s departure prompted discussion on the optimum size of the Trust board – there are presently ten full board members, with the Trust’s model rules stating that a maximum board size of 15 directors is permissible.</p> <p>The size of the board is at the discretion of board members and, after much discussion, it was decided to make a maximum of 12 places available to members at the next Annual General Meeting.</p>
B	<p>JM said that he would review the Trust’s existing election policy to ensure it was fit for purpose but, on the back of the successful arrangements for the 2022 Annual General Meeting held last February, the board felt there was no need to change it at present.</p>
7.	Treasurer’s Report
	<p>The payment of £31.18 to AR for Zoom calls July and August was presented in September. BC purchased a “SumUp” card payment machine from Screwfix for £40 for use by Roger Averill and Trust Travel and is donated by BC rather than being reimbursed. BC also paid WNC £20 for the Lottery Licence and this is also donated. There are two prediction quiz receipts £27 from KB and £127.00 from Roger Averill. The balance on the Co-op account was £48,659.33.</p> <p>BC wrote again to Barry Collins requesting he contact NatWest to advise a change of signatories on the NatWest accounts and to redirect the bank statements. He had also written to NatWest to see if I could get them to change signatories - AR is looking at potential access on line and changing signatories that way. BC has provided all account details.</p> <p>BC has forwarded a copy to JM of a Financial Conduct Authority letter regarding an online Society Portal to replace post and email, including submission of annual returns and accounts. BC has offered to pay for the hospitality for Ukrainian families at a future home game.</p>
8.	Cobblers Travel
	<p>The Trust will be running coaches to the games at Derby County, Stevenage, Peterborough United, Oxford United, Portsmouth, Cambridge United, Wycombe Wanderers and Barnsley. For all bookings please ring Roger Averill on 07802 437422.</p>
9	Club 500
	No update.
10.	Membership update
	Membership numbers remain stable and there is no further update.
11.	Any other business
A	<p>BSt felt that the Trust should make a concerted effort to work towards a more diverse board, to include more female members in particular and suggested to communications to the fanbase along those lines in particular in the run up to an AGM. AR agreed this would be done.</p>
B	<p>RD questioned IA’s attendance at board meetings and suggested that his association with the Trust would be better serves as a special adviser and not a full board member. AR said he knew that, from the outset, IA’s attendance at board would be limited but that IA was keen to give back to the Trust in the form of helping with fundraising and advising on football reform. For further discussion.</p>

C	AR said that Roger Averill were due to clear Trust stock from a south stand at lock up at Sixfields as the club now required extra storage space to accommodate greater orders of merchandise.
D	AR said a meeting in December could combine an in person social for board members and he would circulate suggestions for a meet up following a December home game at Sixfields.
12.	Date of next meeting
	Thursday 9 November, via Zoom