

In attendance: Andy Roberts (AR, Chair), John Morgan (JM, Secretary), Bob Clarke (Treasurer, BC), Bob Souster (BS), Derek Krajewski (DK) and Kevin Simons (KS)

Apologies: Keith Buckby (KB)

1.	Welcome
	AR welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2.	Minutes of meetings – 4 September
	Agreed as a correct record, proposed by DK and seconded by BC.
3.	Matters arising
	None
4.	NTFC items
A	<p><u>Football Governance Bill</u></p> <p>JM reported that the new Independent Football Regulator had been appointed, David Kogan, The Trust will look to feedback on IFR consultation around fan engagement principles within the next couple of months. The licensing requirements for English clubs will come into force at the start of the 2026/27 season.</p>
B	<p><u>East stand and land update</u></p> <p>No response still to the questions asked by the Trust of the club, in particular to concerns around matchday car parking at Sixfields next season. The planning application will be heard by the council's Strategic Planning Committee but has still not yet been listed. KS suggested that the Trust give some thought to exploring a matchday car parking facility and stadium bus service.</p>
C	<p><u>Support for the NTFC Academy</u></p> <p>The board agreed to extend an invitation to former Trust chair Ant Collett to ascertain whether or not there was an opportunity to fund or support of the work carried out by NTFC Academy.</p>
D	<p><u>Shares issue</u></p> <p>JM said he had written to NTFC chief executive James Whiting in respect of recent share issues made by NTFC. At a recent meeting of the Fan Advisory Board, supporter director Tom Cliffe said that the shares were in favour of the club's holding company Northampton Town Ventures Ltd to enable strengthening the playing staff.</p>

5.	Appeal against decision to bar Trust membership – Tom Packer
	The board considered an appeal made by Tom Packer against the decision of the board to fail to honour his membership renewal request under 10.4 of the Society's model rules on the grounds that while he was a member, and subsequently, he failed to respect commercial confidentiality in relation to business decisions made by the Trust. The appeal was dismissed and the board's decision stands. Mr Packer will be notified in writing.
6.	Constitution review
	KS suggested that, in light of the impending changes to football governance, it was a good opportunity for the Trust to review its governance model and mission statement. KS to look at this alongside BS and JM.
7.	Infrastructure Foundation
	A draft presentation on a position statement on an Infrastructure Foundation for NTFC was circulated to directors for comment – the statement draws on the club's present position, the stadium infrastructure, the wishes of Cobblers fans surveyed last year and the introduction of new football governance requirements in November. AR and DK to work on amending the current draft document.
8.	West Northamptonshire Council liaison representative – Councillor John East
	The Trust is delighted to welcome Councillor John East, who represents Dallington and Spencer ward in Northampton, as the West Northamptonshire Council liaison representative. DK said it was vital that the Trust formed a strong relationship with the local authority.
9.	1975/6 Cobblers team honorary membership
	A date and venue is being scoped out for early next year for a reception to honour the class of 1975/6 who won promotion under the late Bill Dodgin. AR liaising with Steve Phillips, one of the players of that era.
10.	Meeting of East Midlands Trusts at Grantham FC
	Board representatives plan to attend the regional meeting of East Midlands Trusts on 16 October to discuss the Football Governance Bill, the Football Supporters Association and Trusts First.
11.	Treasurer's Report
	<p>BC reported that re Co-op Charity and Community Bank Account, one payment Bob Clarke 10th September £20.00 for the lottery licence paid to WNC in the new accounting year.</p> <p>There were deposits totalling £149 for the prediction quiz and one £10 membership. The balance 30th September was £39,263.90.</p> <p>A payment to Country Lion £840 was made by cheque in early October for the Port Vale game. NatWest Northampton Town Trust Travel Club balance unchanged from 28th April and with no activity £17,379.95 will be the year-end balance.</p> <p>First game trip to Port Vale will provide some income in October and should show in the next statement. Consideration being given to ask for deposits on bookings for future games for people we don't know.</p> <p>NatWest Club 500 (still showing as Club 250) balance 28th August, also year-end £27,631.14. Income £675.00 expense/prizes £670.88.</p>

	Simon Towers has retired, and the Clifford Towers business merged with Crouchers based in Milton Keynes. Our main contact Linda has moved with them so should be no disruption with statutory accounts.
11.	Membership Report
	There were four new memberships during the last calendar month.
12.	Travel Club Report
	The next away travel, international commitments permitting, will be to the game at Barnsley on 15 November.
13.	Any other business
	JM reported that there should be an update about the Trusts First group for the next meeting.
14.	Date of next meeting
	Thursday 13 November