

In attendance: Andy Roberts (Chair, AR), Bob Souster (BS), John Morgan (Acting Secretary, JM), Keith Buckby, Derek Krajewski, Stefan Krywawych

Visitors: Jon Hillyer, Bhyll Stephenson, Miles Wilkie, Adrian Budd and Chris Payne

Apologies: Ian Atkins

1.	Welcome
	Andy Roberts (AR) welcomed everyone to the meeting, in particular the five guests.
2.	Minutes of meeting – 20 October 2022
	Agreed – proposed Keith Buckby, seconded Bob Souster BS stated that it should be made clear that the meeting took a decision to purchase a painting and prints which had been commissioned from stadium artist Paul Town.
3.	Matters Arising
A	<p><u>Stand & Land and ACV position</u></p> <p>There is no change to the status of the Trust’s bid to buy land at Sixfields, including that behind the East Stand which had been registered as an Asset of Community Value (ACV). However, a decision has been made to grant a Judicial Review hearing into West Northamptonshire’s Council (WNC) decision to agree a land deal with County Developments Northampton Ltd (CDNL). This decision will halt the sale process until such a time that the hearing has taken place and an outcome determined.</p> <p>Lengthy discussion took place between board representatives and visitors, who all brought questions and concerns about the process and the Trust’s bid to the table. It was a healthy and constructive discussion, with the board taking clear note of the concerns that were raised about the tone of exchanges between some Trust board members, the football club and some fans on forums and on social media.</p> <p>Mention was made about repairing the fractured relationship between the club and its Supporters Trust.</p> <p>AR pointed out that this was clearly desirable – however, it had become clear over the last three years that unless the Trust was prepared to toe the club’s line around the stand and land plans, this was a path the club would choose not to follow.</p> <p>AR added that the Trust would always seek a harmonious working relationship with the club but that this could never be conditional.</p> <p>Indeed it was a situation the Trust had faced virtually from day one in 1992 when then club chairman Michael McRitchie threw Trust representatives out of the County Ground because of the Trust’s refusal to hand over to the club monies it had raised.</p>

B	<p><u>30th Anniversary of the Trust and NTFC 125 years</u></p> <p>AR updated the board about the anniversary programme, designed to celebrate 30 years of the original Supporters Trust with a package of offers to loyal Trust members.</p> <p>1998 Bristol Rovers stadium art print commission – copies of a print commemorating Ian Clarkson’s goal in 1998 play-off victory over Bristol Rovers at Sixfields will shortly be available for sale. Discount available to Trust members. The print, signed by the goalscorer and Cobblers manager Ian Atkins – will be on sale shortly.</p> <p>No Finer Town! – a book chronicling the Cobblers 125-year history, by Andy Roberts, will be published later this month. Discount available to Trust members.</p> <p>Anniversary celebration raffle – this will be held in the New Year and will be free to enter for Trust and Club 500 members.</p>
4	<p>Treasurer’s Report</p>
	<p>In a written report, Bob Clarke (BC) reported further progress with the Co-op bank set up re statements, telephone contact and an online pocket token. A signatory form is being sent to I Keith Buckby to replace those who have now left the board.</p> <p>Cheques written since the last board meeting are Country Lion £580.00 for Trust Travel to the Swindon game, Andy Roberts £28.78 for two months Zoom subscription and Paul Town, Stadium Portraits £1,250 for one hundred prints which will be signed and offered for sale. We bought the original painting in August for £750.</p> <p>There is one invoice due for payment later in November in favour of R B Travel, arranged by Roger Averill £815 for the Trust Travel coach to Harrogate in December. The balance in the Co-op account is presently £50,858.91.</p> <p>Co-op had directed me to Clover, formerly First Data, their merchant for payment terminals and I contacted them to establish the costs per terminal that will allow us to take debit and credit card payments replacing cash and cheques. The board agreed in October to proceed with one terminal to be held by Roger for Trust Travel. Provisional cost negotiated was £19 per terminal per month + VAT with a charge per transaction of 0.32% on debit cards and 0.8% on credit cards. The initial rent could be £1 per month for the first 6 months.</p> <p>The Travel Club account balance was £11,917 in April and may have been £11,546 or £13,066 in May but it is not clear. It should include away game’s income at the end of last season eg Mansfield. BC will contact Roger and see what information he holds.</p> <p>A letter has been received from the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) reminding us we need to submit our annual return within seven months of the financial year end. BC will deal with this when I see Clifford Towers our accountants and auditors about year-end accounts.</p>
5.	<p>Cobblers Travel</p>
	<p>Trust members were urged to support Roger Averill and Trust Travel’s football and shopping awayday special to Harrogate Town in December.</p> <p>At the end of the season a view will be taken as to whether or not it is worthwhile continuing the Trust Travel Club.</p>
6.	<p>Membership Report</p>
	<p>AR reported that Trust membership is at 725 members as of 31 October.</p>
7.	<p>Club 500</p>
	<p>No update</p>

8.	Correspondence
	None
9.	AOB
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A date for the AGM will be finalised at the next board meeting.
10	Date of Next Meeting
	8 December 2022, via Zoom, at 7.30pm