

Minutes of Board Meeting Monday 31 March 2025

Attendees:

Pete Davey (PD) Paul Karter (PK) (Chair) Lisa Mole (LM) Kevin Patterson (KP) Adam Stoker (AS) Olivia Thomson (OT) Cliff Culley (CC) Felicity Thow (FT) Karl Williamson (KW) Richard Barnsdall (RB)

Apologies

Colin Whittle (CV) - Secretary

Item 1 – Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 17 February 2025 were accepted as a correct record.

Item 2 – NUST Finances

Finances - CC advised around £6,700 in bank accounts and in healthy state. KW agreed to take on role of Treasurer from 1/9/25. We would explore accounting package to make accounts easier for year end. CC would prepare accounts for year-end 31/8/25 and have them independently examined for AGM.

Item 3 - Fan Advisory Board

AS gave an update on recent FAB meeting. AS confirmed that the summary notes from that meeting are due to be released imminently.

Item 4 - NUST and FAB relationship

Open discussion re frustration at the effect of NDA on ability of PK and AS to discuss content of FAB meeting with the NUST Board, which might restrict NUST ability to influence club as much as it would like. FAB looking at issue and researching what happens at other clubs. It was agreed that PK and AS would bring the loose agenda to the Board to enable all Board members to feed ideas into the formal FAB meetings.

Item 5 – Member Database

PK confirmed that there has been an increase of over 800 new NUST members since the start of February in last few weeks with improving demographics re sex and age.

Item 6 – Cup Final Ticket Allocation Summary

FT sent a summary email to Club regarding match going members appearing to be overlooked in pot allocations. This additional feedback will add to the more global overview provided by FAB at the last formal meeting (meeting summary due imminently.)

Item 7 – Stonegate Pubs

LM and KW outlined discussions with Stonegate and that there will be an away game trial at an Aston Villa pub to see how that works for our travelling members. They were happy with us and made records receipts at some pubs in London. They will make a small donation to our charities in lieu of the work we did securing over 4500 spots over the Wembley weekend. CC suggested put charities in touch with Stonegate direct to arrange this. LM & KW are working on a project with Stonegate for next season.

Item 8 -NUST membership

A general discussion took place around the potential growth in NUST membership. Whilst membership numbers remained strong -over 13k- Board members agreed that NUST should always look to grow, in particular in relation to the younger fanbase who represent NUFC's support of the future. It was agreed that PD and OT would lead on looking at ways of increasing membership of younger fans and report back to the Board at its next meeting. A number of other alternatives were discussed, including better/alternative ways of promoting NUST in order to continually grow membership. This area will be reviewed further upon receipt of survey results, which will provide the Board a better understanding of member views.

Item 9 - NUST Annual Survey

FT is preparing survey hopefully with help of Will and would look to have it ready to go soon. Any suggested questions welcomed. It's hoped that the report will be ready to present to NUFC at the end of the season.

Item 10 - NUFC Ticketing website issues

NUST will continue to raise the consistent issues regarding the site supporters use to purchase tickets and enter ballots.

Item 11 – Memorials for supporters

FT will present NUST ideas to NUFC on the next monthly meeting in April.

Item 12 – NUST end of season celebration

LM looking at potential venues to host a member only event to celebrate the season.

Item 13 – NUAFCS end of season event

NUST Board has agreed to support this event on our socials.

Item 14 – NUST new WhatsApp Channel

KW has set up a new broadcast channel, and NUST Board considering switching our regular announcements to that platform. TBC

Item 15 – Overseas Membership process

RB noted that in certain countries, prospective members are unable to sign up using Love Admin due to different banking regulations. Whilst we have an alternative PayPal method, we are looking into other methods for overseas supporters to join NUST.

Item 16 – AOB

PD updated on current sales of NUST Pin Badges. The initial 50 sold out, there was another 100 ordered. In addition to the 1st 50 another 55 have been sold so there are currently 45 in stock (at the time of meeting) Which leaves a total of 105 badges sold at £2.15 per badge. Craig has therefore sent over £225.75 to our account which was confirmed to have been received. All monies received will be donated to The Bubble Foundation, which you can read more about <u>here.</u>