



Committee	RICT, FPA, LCFC & Foundation
Location	Co-op Community Hub
Date	26 th March 2026
Time	12.00pm

Minutes of the RITC, FPA, LCF, and LCFC Quarterly Meeting

Date: 26th March 2026

Venue: Lincoln City Football Club

Chairperson: Rob Bradley

1. Introductions

- Attendees: Rob Bradley, Martin Hickerton, Gavin Gordon, David Lowes, Phil Scrafton, Liam Scully, Rob Noble.
- Apologies: None
- Minutes from the previous meeting (18th December 2025) were confirmed as circulated and agreed.

2. Red Imps Community Trust (RICT) Updates (RB)

- Matchday Pod: Continues to be busy and well utilised, offering merchandise (plaques, programmes, team sheets), shirt recycling and fan engagement activity. Positive supporter interaction noted.
- Pod Relocation: Quotes being sought for dismantling and relocating the structure due to upcoming stadium development works. Further discussions required in the coming weeks.
- Imps Plaques Project: Funds raised contributing towards a mental health support bench at the LNER Stadium, location agreed but installation post-development.
- VR Player Walkout Experience: Filming completed. Awaiting final production for use in the pod and by the Foundation for community engagement.
- Heritage Committee: Trust supporting the newly formed club-wide initiative, chaired by Julian Buttery. Seen as a positive step for coordinated heritage activity.
- Events & Representation: Trust to speak at "More Than a Game" event linked to the Community World Cup in May.
- Communications: RB noted improved structure and professionalism.
- Valley Parade Anniversary: Trust representation confirmed for 11th May.
- AGM (4th June): Five board members (including Phil) retiring by rotation and intending to stand again.
- Strategy Review: Proposal to revisit 2023 Trust strategy post-AGM to reflect:
 - Football Governance Bill / regulator
 - Club leadership changes
 - Membership growth (~6,000)
 - Potential stronger links with club commercial activity



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- Opportunities tied to new facilities
 - Fan Recognition Idea: Proposal for a squad-wide recognition (e.g. medals) from supporters, in addition to existing end-of-season awards.
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3. Former Players Association (FPA) Updates (GG)

- Legends Lounge: Continued presence in Legends contributing to matchday experience.
 - Community Work: School visits supporting communication skills development, Sunday League cup final support and participation in Heritage Committee
 - Fixtures & Events: Charity match vs Boston United (26th April), potential match supporting SADS awareness, ongoing requests for appearances across community initiatives
 - Charity Support: Selected charities include Lincoln City Foundation programmes and community initiatives.
 - FPA Impact Summary: ~£14,000 raised for charities, ~£2,500 raised for the club, strong progress for a relatively new organisation with volunteers.
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4. Lincoln City Foundation (LCF) Updates (MH)

- Increased Visibility: Positive exposure through: ITV football show feature (Fighting Fit programme) and BBC Radio 2 (500 Words initiative).
 - Children in Care Programme: Involved with new initiative targeting children locally, aiming to build connection with the club and provide mentoring support.
 - Fundraising & Events: Successful gala dinner, new partnerships and business development opportunities, funding secured from City Council and Garfield Weston Foundation.
 - Strategic Projects: Birchwood "Pride in Place" project, there is ongoing discussions regarding Foundation involvement.
 - Awards: Shortlisted for Charity of the Year at Lincolnshire Business Awards.
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5. Lincoln City Football Club (LCFC) Updates

Strategic & Operational Overview (LS)

- Club operating in a rapidly changing environment:
 - Introduction of football regulator and licensing requirements
 - New ownership and leadership structure
 - Potential promotion implications



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- Acknowledgement of “growing pains” linked to success and expansion.
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Fan Experience & Engagement (LS)

- Communications Support: Club may request support in sharing certain messaging.
 - Fan Satisfaction Survey: Ranked top in EFL for matchday satisfaction (survey conducted pre-winning run).
 - Annual Club Survey: Being refined and will be sent out to supporters soon.
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Commercial & Operations (LS)

- Retail: Club reviewing current retail operations.
 - Fan Zone / Imp Territory:
 - Development plans include central covered hub with surrounding independent traders
 - Continued commitment to mixed home/away fan access (subject to match by match risk assessments).
 - Staffing: Significant recruitment planned to support growth requirements.
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Supporter Issues (LS)

- Ticketing Access Problems: Linked to expired cards requiring manual updates. Ongoing communication improvements needed.
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Governance & Structure (LS)

- Stakeholder Group Review: Suggestion to revisit terms of reference to reflect broader stakeholder involvement (e.g. Heritage Committee). No issues raised from those present.
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Events & Planning (LS)

- End of Season: Club would look to plan something should promotion be achieved.
 - 75/76 Celebration: Club have invited guests via FPA. Ongoing coordination for former player involvement; additional contacts required.
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Heritage Update (DL)

- Branding: “1884 Collective” agreed as identity for heritage activity.
- Launch Timing: Proposed for week of Wycombe fixture, aligned with 50th anniversary commemorations.
- Structure & Governance: Committee of ~8 members with wider support group. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to be drafted.
- Facilities: Discussion around dedicated display space within stadium.
- Funding: To be explored through multiple avenues including Trust support, fundraising, and potential external grants.
- Trust Support: Trust representatives open to contributing funding and support as part of fan engagement objectives.

7. Any Other Business

- Bradford / Memorial Representation: Ongoing discussion regarding appropriate club/stakeholder representation role.
- Recognition Requests: Suggestion to acknowledge long-serving contributors noted and will be acknowledged.

8. Date of Next Meeting

Date: 25th June 2026

Time: 1:00pm