



**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**  
**WE ARE THE ROVERS**  
**MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM**  
**ON SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

**Present:**

Peter Ridehalgh PR, Duncan Miller DM, Adam Deshmukh AD,  
Tony Webster TW, Glen Mullen GM, Andy Young AY,  
Jamie Hoyles JH2, James Hamill JH1, Roger Langford RL

**1. Apologies:**

Linda Chelton

**2. Actions**

Actions from previous meeting(s)

**PR** - to request update of WATR registered address with respect to BRFC share certificate – I have contacted Bret Baker again by email but there is a high probability that he didn't receive it – Will try again when @WATR email addresses available  
**Ongoing PR**

**DM** – to provide process map for membership recruitment drive – this action will need **to be revisited**.

**PR** – Need to arrange a meeting with MON regarding website / membership system completion and handover. – on going. Message sent to MON regarding reported difficulties with creating new accounts via the website. MON acknowledged and is investigating. **Ongoing – transferred to DM**

JH1 – generate a survey to be distributes to WATR mailing list – **Action complete**

DM – get leaflets printed for distribution – **Action complete**

### **3. Summary of WATR survey results**

JH1 gave an excellent and informative presentation on the survey results.

The survey was sent to all email addresses on the WATR mailing list on 22<sup>nd</sup> October and was open for submissions until 26<sup>th</sup> October. The full survey results are available in detail via a set of slides which may be posted on the WATR website or distributed to members via email.

In summary, 361 responses were received of which 217 were current WATR members. It is obvious from the results of the survey that the majority of the fanbase believe that the greatest problems lie with the senior leadership at the club. The members' main points of concern are evenly split between the owners in India and their representative at Ewood – Suhail Pasha.

Over 90% of the respondents were in favour of a change of ownership with 6.6% unsure and only 1.1% against the idea. 72% of respondents did not believe that the senior leadership were committed to the club's success.

DM was actioned (along with the communications sub committee) to discuss the best way to communicate the detailed results to the membership. **ACTION**  
**DM**

### **4. Meeting with Adnan Hussain MP**

DM and GM recently met with Adnan Hussain the MP for Blackburn.

The meeting went well with the main focus being the organisation of an open meeting that can be attended by Rovers fans. An initial meeting date was proposed but it proved difficult to find a venue. The meeting is now likely to be in January. Mr Hussain emphasised that he is keen to help in any way he can and was open to the proposal of the placement of blue plaques at locations in Blackburn that are relevant to the history of the football club. Arrangements are ongoing – GM to remain in discussions with Mr Hussain – **ACTION GM**

### **5. Letter to the owners**

This is ongoing. A draft of the letter has been reviewed and the contents generally agreed but there were still uncertainties about the overall tone of the letter. It was agreed that we will need to get the tone right in order to encourage the recipients (the club owners ) to engage and respond. It is doubtful that the club representatives actually passed previous letters on to the owners so this one will be going directly to Pune.

GM to redraft the letter and AY/DM to review.

**GM/AY/DM ACTION**

### **6. Letter to EFL**

After useful consultation with the FSA and the Football Regulator, AY has had contact with the EFL and has agreed to put our concerns about the club in writing. The EFL are very interested to hear about the club's unilateral cancellation of the MoU agreement and how this was relayed to WATR and it's members. The MoU which was signed on the Ewood Park pitch in 2023 was the major contributing factor in the club winning the EFL fan engagement award last season. AY to draft letter and circulate to board members –

**ACTION AY**

## **7. Patrons**

5 high profile Rovers fans have now agreed to be WATR patrons. Discussions ongoing as to when and how this will be announced.

## **8. Fans Forum**

DM and JW attended the most recent Fans Forum meeting and reported back that little benefit was derived from the meeting and that conversations with the club representatives were often strained and difficult.

It was once again clear that the minutes prepared by the FF secretary and approved by the club were, at best, inaccurate and in some parts entirely false. There appears to be no benefit to the wider fan base to be gained from the FF. A new constitution is being drafted but, as yet, even FF members have had no sight of the document. It should be noted that FF members are not elected and many do not represent any particular fan group.

PR to request a copy of the constitution from FF secretary on behalf of our members whom we represent at the meetings.

**ACTION PR**

It is felt that a decision needs to be made as to our future participation in FF meetings. It appears to be a box ticking exercise by the club in order to fulfil the commitments documented in the Fan Engagement Plan which is a compulsory requirement of the EFL.

We could continue to attend and issue our own minutes or we could decide to boycott. It should be put to the members to decide a way forward – DM/GM to draft a cover letter and voting options

**ACTION DM/GM**

## **9. Membership**

We still need to get to grips with the complicated legacy membership systems that exist and get all our data and payments into one system. This should prevent membership cancellations due to credit card expiry and email address changes on PayPal.

The recent survey prompted a flurry of hits on the website and a few new members. Some ex-members reported problems renewing. This needs to be followed up along with the long running actions regarding the membership system. DM to meet with MON regarding this

**ACTION DM**

**10. AOB**

No update from the club on the appointment of a new CEO. This is a worrying situation.