

## Graeme Price



**Proposers: Charlie Talbot and Marc Jones**

### **Why I wish to join the Dons Trust board**

To borrow from Mastermind, I've started, and I'd like to have the chance to finish. Having been co-opted on to the board we've started the transition to the PLC being the operational oversight and the DTb setting the cultural and strategic direction as well as overseeing the PLC on your behalf. There has been the creation of theme groups to assist the DTb with its oversight role. I currently sit on two groups, the oversight and culture and mission. These are areas I believe I can genuinely contribute to. There remains so much to be done to keep our unique club moving forward.

1. Prior to being co-opted on to the board I have helped in the background with several fund-raising initiatives. These include the creation of the We Are Wimbledon Fund, which is still the biggest regular fan contribution to the overall budget, (in conjunction with Xavier Wiggins, Marc Jones, Damian Woodward, and Matt Lowndes) and the set up and running of the Plough Lane Bond (with Charlie Talbot, Damian Woodward and Xavier Wiggins). I also sit on the Finance Committee which reports into the PLC board whose remit is to look at refinancing and fund raising initiatives.

We're at a critical point in our journey. We need to ensure that every decision we make drives us towards being a financially sustainable business as this is the best defence of all within the current structure in guaranteeing continuing, non-negotiable fan ownership. We need to focus on

- Creating a framework to repay PLB as it falls due.
- Increasing our match day revenues by improving the match day experience
- Growing our PL 365 commercial activities

- Enhancing the playing budget when possible

### **My vision for the Dons Trust Board**

I believe that we are one indivisible club, from the first team to the academy, from the women to the foundation and DLAG, rooted in and serving our community. I am passionately against the removal of fan ownership unless there is a democratic mandate for this to happen. I'm acutely aware of the need to continue to professionalise the day to day running of the club. This cannot be at the expense of our wonderful and often underappreciated volunteers. They are an integral part of what makes us special and one of our greatest strengths. We need them, as our business model is a hybrid one, both now and into the foreseeable future. As the onus on the day to day running of the club and the oversight of this moves to the PLC. It is vital that the DTb can communicate its wider role of driving the culture and strategy of the club along with oversight. The theme groups that we've created should be used as the basis for a monthly update to the owners. The DTb should be representatives of the members but seek to consult with fans on all essential matters of fundamental principle. The DTb should be given further tools to improve their governance and oversight abilities. This is one of the reasons that I'm strongly in favour of us seeking B Corp status, as this provides a framework to judge how we are operating on a day-to-day basis in areas such as procurement but also how we are matching up to our ideals.

### **About Me**

I'm married to Maliya and live in Shoreditch. For the day job I'm the Executive Chair of Jarrovian Group, a Wealth Management business, as well as a trustee of a charity and the chair of a not for profits organisation. I have over thirty years' experience of finance and fund raising within both sport and business. My day job serves to give me a sound understanding of how football works off the pitch. Outside of work I have a love of reggae, ska and all things Paul Weller, along with good wine, good food and good friends which tend to go hand in hand.

My Dad always told me that God gave us a clue as we all have two ears and just one mouth, so we should seek to use them in that ratio. I will seek to listen first as there is a great deal of collective knowledge within our fan base.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. If elected I would seek to do everything in my powers to make your vote count.

**Motto: Be kind. Work hard. Make a difference**