David Cox - Manifesto

- I have supported Wimbledon since 1966 and remain committed to the club and Dons Trust.
- I want to rejoin the Board to help ensure the Trust is well governed, transparent, accountable and focused on delivering the best outcomes for members and the wider Wimbledon community.

My experience

- I served on the Dons Trust Board from 2003 to 2011, including as Chair from 2006 to 2011.
- During this period, I also served as a Dons Trust elected Non-Executive Director of AFCW PLC.
- These roles gave me experience and a deep understanding of the Trust, its principles, challenges and the importance of members having a meaningful voice in its direction.
- As Chair, I worked with the Board to introduce the Constitutional Restricted Actions, safeguards designed to protect the Trust, its principles and members' interests against bad actors.
- I am proud of this contribution and believe good governance, democratic accountability and the protection of members' rights are fundamental to the Dons Trust.

Ownership and the club's future

- I recognise that the Dons Trust may need to consider reducing its ownership stake to secure the club's long-term financial sustainability and development.
- I would approach such discussions pragmatically, while believing retaining majority ownership should remain an important objective.
- Football has a catalogue of owners who have promised money, success and glory, only to fail, sometimes putting their clubs' existence at risk and threatening their position as cornerstones of their communities.
- Given the experiences of many Dons Trust members and AFC Wimbledon supporters, it is understandable that there is apprehension about future ownership arrangements.
- I believe the Board should establish the structure and principles under which it would be prepared to sell shares, including the safeguards it would require and the conditions prospective investors need to meet.
- This framework should be presented to the membership for an indicative vote in principle, giving members an opportunity to express their views before the Board enters substantive negotiations.
- Any significant minority financial investor should share our values, understand the unique nature of AFC Wimbledon and be committed to acting in the club's and supporters' best interests.

What I would bring to the Board

- I would welcome the opportunity to bring my experience back to the Board, alongside perspective gained since.
- Understanding the Trust's history, values and journey can help inform decisions about its future.
- Effective Board membership requires integrity, commitment, openness and a willingness to listen.
- It is important to ask the right questions, challenge constructively and ensure decisions are made in the best interests of the Trust and its members.
- I would approach the role with an open mind, a strong sense of responsibility and a genuine desire to contribute.

Why members should vote for me

- I would bring experience and commitment to the role.
- I would be an approachable and thoughtful representative, taking time to understand members' views, concerns and priorities and ensuring they are represented at Board level.
- Members deserve a Board who listen, communicate honestly and act with their interests at heart.
- If elected, I would work collaboratively with fellow Board members, respect differing opinions and contribute to a culture of trust, transparency and accountability.
- I would make the time and effort necessary to fulfil the responsibilities properly.

Ultimately, I want to help ensure the Dons Trust remains strong, democratic and true to its principles, and continues to serve its members, AFC Wimbledon and the wider Wimbledon community effectively.

I would be grateful for your support and your vote.