Hannah Kitcher - manifesto

I first came to AFC Wimbledon in 2016, shortly after moving to London. I didn't know much about the club or its story. As I got to know Wimbledon, I learned what supporters had done to rebuild their club and what fan ownership meant.

I then started volunteering, initially delivering fixture lists and selling programmes, before becoming more involved with the Trust. In 2018, members elected me to the Dons Trust board.

Eight years later, after serving three terms, I am asking for your support again.

Fan ownership wasn't what brought me initially through the turnstiles, but it is something I came to understand, value and, ultimately, was elected to protect.

I take that responsibility seriously.

I have also come to believe that protecting fan ownership means ensuring AFC Wimbledon has an ownership model which is sustainable and gives the club the opportunity to succeed.

So why am I standing again?

I will be honest. I have wavered over whether to stand again.

Serving on the board is an important responsibility and after seven years, I have questioned whether I have done my share.

However, AFC Wimbledon is going through a period of significant change. We face important questions about our finances, future investment, governance and long-term ambitions. At this time of flux, I believe the board needs stability and continuity.

I offer that continuity. I understand the discussions and decisions that have bought us here, alongside the questions that remain unsolved. Stability should not mean stagnation – I want to use that experience to help us move forward.

What is the contribution I bring?

I do not claim to be an expert in investment or finance. I trust colleagues on the board who bring deeper professional expertise to those discussions.

My strength lies elsewhere. I explore risks, interrogate proposals and consider what a decision might mean for the things members elected me to protect.

With any potential investment, the financial headline is one part of the picture. We also need to understand what influence an investor receives, how decisions are made,

which protections remain, and what happens if circumstances change or interests diverge.

I have been asking those questions throughout the recent investment discussions. I will continue providing constructive scrutiny, respecting the expertise of others while helping ensure the board asks the right questions and remains focused on the long-term interests of AFC Wimbledon.

What's important to me?

A football club should mean something to the place around it.

As a Trustee of the AFC Wimbledon Foundation, representing the Dons Trust board, I have seen the breadth of its work and Wimbledon's impact beyond matchdays. I want us to champion that work and recognise its importance to the club's future.

That community connection matters for our future. We need new generations of supporters to come to Plough Lane and more people across Merton and south-west London feel this is their club.

I didn't inherit Wimbledon from my family. I found the club after moving to the area. I came to a game, people welcomed me and I wanted to become part of it. I want many more people to find their own way into Wimbledon.

Eight years on, I understand far more about the compromises and pressures involved. I also know how much this club means to me.

I am standing again because I believe continuity matters at this point in our history, but so do challenge and change. I want to help ensure everything supporters fought to rebuild has a strong, ambitious and sustainable future.