

Why am I standing for election?

My reasons are threefold:

- In the next three years, we will face significant challenges, including the level of the Plough Lane Bonds that need to be repaid/refinanced (£6.9m) and the proposal to reduce the minimum level of the DT's voting rights in AFCW from 75% to 50.01%. I believe that my extensive experience as a Finance Director and a Board Member, as noted below, gives me the requisite skills to ensure that these challenges are dealt with effectively.
- It is essential that we have a contested election, to ensure that the DTB has a mandate. Whilst the DTB has ten members, only four were appointed following a contested election, and all four face re-election in 2024. We need a contested election to give those elected this time a true mandate from members.
- To ensure we put fan ownership and members' voices first.

If elected I would offer to act as Chair or Treasurer, and to represent the members as one of the DT appointed directors of AFCW PLC.

What is the role of the DTB?

The June 2021 Governance Update provides that the Board of AFCW is responsible for the operational oversight of the Football Club and Plough Lane, and the role of the DTB is to:

- Represent the owners of the Club (DT members).
- Help define the vision and strategy of the Club.
- Provide oversight of the AFCW Board and its running of the Club.

What skills do I bring?

I believe that the fundamental skills required for a DTB member to undertake this role are:

- Strong financial expertise
- Ability to think strategically
- Good communication skills
- Extensive governance experience

I am a Chartered Accountant with 35 years' experience as Finance Director across a number of financial institutions. Now retired, in my final role, from 2008, I worked with

a CEO to build a bank from scratch, setting the strategy, and revising it in successive five-year plans, so that by 31/12/23 the Bank had 200 employees, annual profit of £120m, and branches in Dubai, Paris and Hong Kong. I therefore have the requisite breadth of financial expertise and strategic skills.

As an Executive Board Member for 35 years working in a heavily regulated environment, I have developed excellent governance experience and communication skills.

I am a member of the DT Constitutional Working Group.

I served both as a DTB member and Treasurer of the Trust for twelve years from 2006, which was a key period for the Club, including the sale of Kingsmeadow and acquiring Plough Lane. I therefore know the commitments required from a Board member and, now retired, I have the time, something a number of recent DTB members have found challenging.

What do I stand for?

Fan Ownership

- My overriding priority is we remain fan owned.
- Whilst not in principle against reducing the DT shareholding, I must be satisfied that appropriate protections are in place. Currently I am not convinced that the proposal provides them.

Communication and Member Engagement

- Communication both with members and with AFCW PLC.
- The role of the DTB is to represent DT members and ensure that their voices are heard.
- The recent SGM, called to discuss the reduction in the minimum DT shareholding in AFCW, was attended by 170 members (physically and on-line) – **only 2.7% of the membership!** The DTB should have undertaken comprehensive consultation ahead of the resolution, like the “Back in Two Ticks” campaign, and I made this point to DTB members in August.
- With 2177 new members since 30/6, the DTB needs to be proud of the DT ownership model, and to champion it to members.
- The DTB must be transparent and accountable.

Prudent Financial Management

- Ensuring the Club is run on a sound financial basis, and that no risks are taken that could jeopardise fan ownership.

Younger fans

- Wimbledon has always been a family club, and I enjoyed the journey from CCL to the League with my son Patrick.
- Encouraging younger fans to engage with the Trust – they are the future custodians of the Club.

Volunteers

- Ensure that the work of our volunteers is appropriately recognised and that a new generation of volunteers is encouraged.

Commitment to the Academy

- We should be the first-choice academy in Southwest London

That the ethos of “Wimbledon” is retained as the Club continues to grow.

- Our history and culture are what sets us apart in football.

About me

A supporter since 1985 (continuous season ticket holder since 1989) I attend most home games. I am a regular away fan, and many non-league trips are fondly remembered, including Barrow and Fleetwood, but especially that day in Manchester, when we regained the Football League place that was unjustly taken, and demonstrated that as a fan owned, community-oriented football club we are indeed:

In the wider interests of football.