

Matthew Phillips - Manifesto

Over the past 4 seasons, I, like I'm sure many others, have grown more and more frustrated in the direction our club has been going. Events on the pitch are clear, but more concerning for me is the way in which we seem to be being run behind the scenes.

The Trust should be a movement for openness, honesty & accountability, yet we always seem to be kept in the dark about Trust & Club matters and bar the recent 'state of the nation' communication, many have been left scratching their heads around why we're still bothering to continue to contribute.

I appreciate that there are commercially sensitive issues that can't be communicated to the wider membership, but more can be done to ensure minutes and the like are published promptly, meetings are advertised more widely & that information is disseminated from the club in an appropriate matter.

The biggest concern which I have though is the apparent lack of accountability that the Trust has over the actions of the Club in spite of the recent increase in the number of board positions. I would endeavour to ensure that the club either signs up to the UK Corporate Governance Code, or publically explains why it is choosing not to, as a means of improving shareholder dialogue.

I'd also like to see more risk management practices put in place. The "state of the nation" statement failed in my mind to show that the Club is positioning itself well financially beyond the next 2/3 seasons. The huge variance in projected wage budgets is worrying, especially if we fail to receive any further windfalls to support future cashflows.

Why do I think I'd be suited to this role? I'm currently a student actuary, working towards my Fellowship in the next year, which will include attaining the Chartered Enterprise Risk Analyst credential. I work at PwC as a consultant within the actuarial practice, and in this role I have worked with a number of large financial institutions, assessing financial risk, building projection models and performing risk analytics. Most importantly though, I have also been involved in a project alongside a major professional sporting team, looking at revenue analytics & financial robustness, with a view to key stakeholder negotiations. I would hope that these experiences would allow me to bring something different to the table and could assist both the club and trust going forward.

Matthew Phillips

Supporters: Chris Phillips, Graham Kirk, Matt Hines