

Chris Woods

Manifesto for Election to the Supporters' Trust Board

I am standing for election to the Supporters' Trust Board because I believe strongly in supporter ownership and it's central values. Ownership should mean more than simply holding shares. Ownership should mean engagement, and a meaningful voice in the future of our club. Exeter City is a community club that belongs at the heart of it's community. My aim is to continue to build upon the improvements made in the last year, and to strengthen a Trust that listens to it's members and acts responsibly on behalf of those members.

Having a long history in sales within the sports equipment industry, I believe my experience in helping to develop, polish and bring products to market, being able to communicate positively, passionately and clearly, will complement and enhance the other skill sets we already have within the Trust Board. Should I be elected I would offer my experience to help improve the club's merchandising offering, and work towards improving the on-line shop experience.

One priority will be to strengthen our ownership model, protect the Trust's majority shareholding, and lend my support to strengthen that shareholding where it is in the club's long-term interests to do so. Ambition matters, and I will be a voice for modernisation and the development of new revenue streams when and where it is prudent to do so. This must be matched with realistic planning, careful stewardship and sound governance.

Communication must continue to improve, but at a faster rate. Members deserve timely explanations of decisions, priorities and challenges, whilst maintaining necessary confidentiality. Whilst monthly Trust Board meeting should be accessible to all, these are important working and decision-making meetings. containing valuable reports on progress. Therefore, if elected, I will encourage greater time for members' questions, and discussions of important issues, at fan's forums, with a greater presence from Trust Board members.

Exeter City Football Club has a unique history of Supporter's Trust ownership within the EFL. Whilst fan ownership is not without it's challenges, we should be bullish about who we are, what we stand for, how we operate and what we have achieved.

Please support my candidacy for a more engaged and forward thinking Trust, protecting supporter ownership and helping Exeter City to thrive for future generations.