

Paul Turpin

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to SWFC Trust

Football clubs came from communities, they exist in communities and communities exist in them. Without fans and supporters there would be no football clubs and it is imperative that any club wishing to do well recognises that.

All football clubs are storied with their own personal history and their own personal songs. The authors of these stories and songs are the communities. Communities that focus their creativity, their energy, passion and love in the grounds where their teams play.

Their energy, passion and love for a team is often inherited, passed down from generation to generation. Families steeped in the colours of their team, songs sung beside the cradle, taken from the stands, and then back again as the children grow.

Football stadia are community assets, focussing that energy in those neighbourhoods, towns and cities. Supporters feel their ownership of their clubs even without a written contract.

I back the campaign by Sheffield Wednesday Supporters' Trust in their efforts to have Hillsborough Football Stadium designated as an Asset of Community Value. To formalise that which already exists. To give the community that which they own in their hearts already.

Yours,

Paul Turpin
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Executive Member for Inclusive Economy, Jobs and Skills
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