



Gill Furniss MP

Member of Parliament for Sheffield Brightside and Hillsborough

James Silverwood
Interim Chair
Sheffield Wednesday Football Club Supporters' Trust

Sent via email

Tuesday 28 June 2021

Our Ref: 20210628BW

Asset of Community Value

Dear James,

Thank you for letting me know about the SWFC Supporters' Trust's proposed application for Hillsborough Stadium to be registered as an Asset of Community Value.

I am happy to support the application and I am happy for you to include this letter with the application to the council. In my view this is a significant request and I hope that the Council will now give it appropriate consideration

As I understand the position a building or other land is defined as being an Asset of Community Value if its main use has recently been or is presently used to further the social well-being or social interests of the local community. Social interests are defined as including cultural, recreational, and sporting interests. I also understand that currently stadiums in other towns and cities are already designated as Assets of Community Value so quite clearly other Councils have concluded that professional football grounds fall within this definition, I hope that Sheffield City Council will do likewise for Hillsborough.

I hope that the Council will recognise that there is increasing concern amongst football fans across the country that assets which they rely on for their football interest and enjoyment could eventually be sold in a way which would be detrimental to them as supporters. An Asset of Community Value will provide some protection for club supporters and the community in the event of a sale of the stadium or a planning application for development.

I hope that your application will be successful.

Yours sincerely

Gill Furniss MP
Member of Parliament for Sheffield Brightside and Hillsborough

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