



SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY SUPPORTERS' TRUST

BOARD ELECTION 2023

18th June 2023

Herewith my report on the 2023 Board Elections to the AGM.

I was pleased to be asked to act as the Independent Chair and Scrutineer of your election process.

By the closing time and date of the nomination period five nominations had been received for the nine Board positions that were subject to election this year. All five nomination forms were verified as being complete and correct.

As there were only five nominees for the nine positions a contested election will not be necessary but rather the five nominees will be appointed to the Trust Board subject to an affirmative vote by the attendees at the forthcoming Trust AGM.

The nominees will fill positions with three-year terms of office.

The result of the Sheffield Wednesday Supporters' Trust is as follows:

I declare: Peter Bradbury, Tom Scott, Neil Seepujak, Paul Smith, and Phiroze Dastur Mackenzie; as the successful candidates subject to an affirmative vote at the SWST 2023 AGM. Their manifesto statements and nominators are appended at the end of this letter for information.

I am also asked to comment on the election process.

My thanks to Paul Smith for his assistance in setting up the admin for the election process and I can confirm that he took no part of the running of the election including the receipt, recording, or verifying of nominations.

It is obviously disappointing to not have a contested election and that only that only five nominations were received though this is progress compared to the two nominations from the last election.

It is still important that more members volunteer to help your Trust Board and hopefully stand for election to the Board or volunteer to help in some capacity.



Sheffield Wednesday Supporters' Trust - Page 2 of 7

I would like to congratulate and thank the five nominees for standing for election, a Trust is only as good as its' memberships' engagement.

I can confirm that your election policy and your rules were followed in conducting this election and were fit for purpose.

Good luck to you all in the coming year.

Best wishes, Neil Le Milliere

Independent EWG Chair, Nominations & Returning Officer 2023

The following lists the nominees, photos (where provided), their nominators, and their statements presented in a random order drawn by lot.



Sheffield Wednesday Supporters' Trust - Page 3 of 7

Peter Bradbury proposed by **Matthew Millward** and **Paul Smith**

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

1. Why do you want to join the Trust Board: **Supporting Sheffield Wednesday has been a major part of my life and despite the "ups and downs" my loyalty to the club has never wavered. We are now back in the Championship and have a huge opportunity to grasp the momentum from last season and take the club forward to the next level. Being a Board member for the Supporters Trust would enable me to help influence, and promote, this positive journey.**
2. What can you offer the Trust Board: **I have recently retired after spending 35 years as a Finance Director in both the private and charity sectors. I have also been an Interim Chief Executive as I have been seen as "a safe pair of hands" I am now in a position to utilise this experience to help influence the tilture direction of the club and will make every effort to make a difference.**

Serving the Trust in this way would be an absolute honour.

3. If you have a preferred Board position, please state why: **Treasurer. I am vastly experienced in business and charity finance and, historically, I have undertaken four similar roles as Treasurer within the Charity sector.**
4. Is there any other relevant information you wish to provide:

Qualified Chartered Management Accountant; Historically qualified as a Chartered Marketer; Good team player and communicator; Follower of SWFC on social media channels; SWFC Foundation member; and Supported "The Owls" home and away from 1970.





Sheffield Wednesday Supporters' Trust - Page 4 of 7

Tom Scott proposed by **Charlotte Klein** and **Thomas Hocking**

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

1. Why do you want to join the Trust Board: **As a passionate Sheffield Wednesday fan I want to help the club move forward and deliver a much much better fan to club relationship. I'm also passionate about building activities in the community as well as charity work and believe the trust is the right vehicle to do this.**
2. What can you offer the Trust Board: **I've got extensive experience in Digital Marketing / Comms / Website work and am the owner of a digital marketing agency. I am happy to maintain and grow the website and membership options as well as advising on strategic comms decisions.**
3. If you have a preferred Board position, please state why: **Website as I have the relevant skills in this area and have built the current site.**
4. Is there any other relevant information you wish to provide: **This will be my last term on the board.**



Neil Seepujak proposed by **Tom Scott** and **Philip Ropson**

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

- 1) Why do you want to join the Trust Board? **I'm a lifelong Wednesdayite, having grown up in Chapeltown.**

Having been co-opted in 2022, I have played an active role in Board discussions and have assisted on Comms, writing content, and moreover having re-drafted the Comms strategy recently. I'd like to continue to advance the aims of the Trust, play a role in growing membership and helping it to be a stronger voice for supporters.

- 2) What can you offer the Trust Board? **A wide range of skills from a varied 25-year career across membership organisations and the public sector.**

For the last 5 years, I've been employed in the Organising and Communications teams at the Public and Commercial Services Union (PCS), which is the largest trade union representing staff in the civil service.

I have a range of experience in drafting and editing web and leaflet content, and creating, building and running social media channels, using analytics to build engagement.

Prior to this I've worked at the Air Transport Users Council, writing consumer advice content for the web. I also worked for 10 years in the Home Office, drafting complex submissions, and presenting rebuttals to court appeals. I've designed and delivered comms and media training for ACORN UK (a housing rights community union) and I also have IT experience in MI and database development.

- 3) If you have a preferred Board position, please state why: **Communications – this is my skill set as I state above.**

Ordinary member

- 4) Is there any other relevant information you wish to provide?



Paul Smith proposed by **Matthew Millward** and **Robert Moore**

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

- 1) Why do you want to join the Trust Board? **I wish to join the Trust Board to help the Trust develop into a successful organisation that acts as a voice for fans, gets involved with the local community and builds a positive relationship with other supporter groups.**
- 2) What can you offer the Trust Board? **I can offer secretarial skills (e.g. compiling meeting papers, writing Minutes, organising meetings) and experience of managing an organization that is led by volunteers – I have been involved in all aspects of running a community cricket club over the past ten years.**
- 3) If you have a preferred Board position, please state why: **Secretary, as this is something I do professionally for a number of pension schemes.**

Ordinary member

- 4) Is there any other relevant information you wish to provide? **I have supported SWFC since the age of 8, having been to my first match in the mid-1980s.**



Phiroze Dastur Mackenzie proposed by **Paul Smith** and **Robert Moore**

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

- 1) Why do you want to join the Trust Board? I heard from your newsletter that the board was struggling to get enough members to stay as compliant as a supporters trust. I have been a member for a few years so we can have an organisation ready to engage and support the club when issues occur now or in the future. I want to ensure the SWFC stays alive whatever the ownership and football world throws at us. Keen to help in whatever capacity needed.**
- 2) What can you offer the Trust Board? I am a self-employed property project manager. I have experience running project teams, dealing with lawyers, and solving complex problems and delicate negotiations. Happy to chip in wherever needed.**
- 3) If you have a preferred Board position, please state why: I am happy to help wherever. I'd prefer not to have to deal with accounting or finance officer side of things.**
- 4) Is there any other relevant information you wish to provide? I have checked with my friends who i attend games. None of them are trust members. So don't really have any proposers. Id discussed this with Paul Smith and he said that some of the current board members could act as proposers.**