

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY SUPPORTERS' TRUST

ELECTION 2022

1st July 2022

Herewith my report on the 2022 Board Elections to the AGM.

I was pleased to be asked to act as the Independent Chair and Scrutineer of your election process but was concerned that no members had come forward to help on the Election Management Group.

By the closing time and date of the nomination period only two nominations had been received for the nine Board positions that were subject to election this year. Although both nomination forms were incomplete following scrutiny the nominees and their proposers were verified as being current members entitled to take part in the process.

As there were only two nominees for the nine positions a contested election will not be necessary but rather the two 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: Richard Marsh, and Ian Bennett as the successful candidates subject to an affirmative vote at your AGM. Their manifesto statements are appended at the end of this letter for information.

I am also asked to comment on the election process.

It is with much regret that I have to say that the running of this election was very difficult without any of your members being prepared to help though my thanks to Steve Walmsley for his help outside the EMG as without that help there simply wouldn't have been an election.

Following on from this it is also very regrettable that only two nominations were received by the closing date meaning your Trust Board will only be able to continue due to one of the current members who had intended to resign at the AGM agreeing to continue.

It is imperative that more members volunteer to help your Trust Board and hopefully stand for election to the Board or else your Trust runs the very real possibility of folding.

I'd ask all members to please think hard about whether they can offer their services in anyway to ensure your Trust not only continues but grows and flourishes.

Given the above I would like to congratulate and thank the two 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 2022

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

Richard Marsh proposed by **Steve Walmsley** and **Matthew Millward**

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

- 1) **Why do you want to join the Trust Board:** I have been a co-opted member of the Board for the last 9 months and have seen the work being undertaken in order to influence the club to make decisions in the long term interests of Sheffield Wednesday. I want to ensure that we still have a Football Club over the long term and that it is rooted within our long- term ethos and philosophy but operating in the modern environment – I see a real risk of us not having something which is a large part of me and links myself and my children with other generations of my family. I do not state this lightly I want the Board to ensure that Sheffield Wednesday exists in fifty years' time.
- 2) **What can you offer the Trust Board:** I have a work experience of over 40 years working in the community and for Charitable organisations. I have worked as CEO of a large charity and understand business and indeed marketing – I have also worked closely with Football Clubs the PFA and Premier league when at The Prince's Trust and I bring that insight. I have begun to look at and action community work for the Trust and would continue to do so if appointed.
- 3) **If you have a preferred Board position, please state why:** Ordinary Board member
- 4) **Is there any other relevant information you wish to provide:**

I am a Trustee of Nighsafe – Homeless project – Blackburn and Blackburn Community Sports Club.

I am in part time employment as Associate Director – The Rank Foundation with responsibility for Blackpool and The Fylde.



Ian Bennett proposed by **Steve Walmsley** and **Matthew Millward**

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

- 5) Why do you want to join the Trust Board: **I was co-opted onto the board last year and feel I have not contributed as often as I could. This is mainly due to work commitments and as I am in the process of selling my company will have more time to spend on personal things. I feel the trust is the best of all the supporters' groups and would be proud to help and represent them. I am life-long Wednesday supporter and want to shape the future of the club in issues such as diversity, community involvement and fan representation, and feel the trust is the best vehicle to achieve this.**
- 6) What can you offer the Trust Board: **I feel with my contacts with all supporters and the fact I attend all matches home and away helps me keep a feel for grass roots fan feeling. have gained many skills while running a S M E over the last 25 years that could be utilized by the trust. Obviously, my passion for the club comes to fore and feel I am a good communicator at grass roots level that could be developed into some kind of supporters' liaison. I am willing to offer my skills at all levels and help were needed.**
- 7) If you have a preferred Board position, please state why: **Any that needs support and where I can help if my skill set fits.**
- 8) Is there any other relevant information you wish to provide:

Season ticket holder since 1969.

Travel to all away games.

Educated to degree level.

Comfortable communicating at all levels.

Good team player

Experience in chairing meetings.