

Blues Trust AGM 2018 Chair's Report



This is my second year as a Board Member and Chair. It has been another year of turmoil at BCFC, but with the appointment of Garry Monk and the current performance of the team Bluenoses are feeling good. Off the pitch there are still worries that the next crisis is just around the corner.

Over the last year the Trust Board has wrestled with how to share and discuss our concerns in a supportive way. Our offers to BCFC regarding Structured Dialogue, where controversial and confidential matters could be discussed privately, have not been acted upon by the BCFC Board. Therefore, we decided the concerns were serious enough to have the debate in the public forum, which we realise can be seen by some as not supportive of the club.

The Trust's financial position has improved from last year with the increase in membership. We remain an organisation that has low income and low spend relying on the donation of Board Members' time to enable the Trust to function. My thanks to those that have contributed articles for the website and supported the Trust over the year. With a special thanks to Daniel Ivery for his investigative journalism, his advice and support of the Trust's activity.

The last year has seen the following activity

- Work in trying to engage BCFC in Structured Dialogue.
- BCFC Fans Forum meetings
- Fact finding mission to Honk Kong
- Launched the fans survey Blueprint 2025
- Informal pre-game meetings for Trust members
- Attending and taking part in national football governance debates at Supporters Direct, Football Supporters Federation, EFL fans forum, Conservative party fringe debate
- Progressing the new application to keep St Andrews registered as an Asset of Community Value
- Monthly newsletters to members
- Maintained currency of website with updates, statements and articles
- Presence in social media, TV interviews and engagement with Tilton Talk
- Adopted and supported the Geoff Horsfield Foundation as the Trust's chosen charity
- Writing and updating Trust's policies
- Consideration and updating of organisational arrangements at Blues Trust Board level

We look forward to the coming year and hope for continued improvement on the pitch. Our mission remains the same to **'Have the Fans Voice Heard at the highest level within BCFC'**, we will continue to work hard to build relationships with the BCFC Board and owners around Structured Dialogue and pursue independent regulation of football through engagement with the Government through Supporters Direct.

To be successful in our mission we will need to increase our membership and attract more resources at Board level. The hard work of the current Board is only enough to maintain the Trust and moving forward will require new active Board members.

In conclusion, I thank everyone who has supported the Trust, we are reliant on volunteering for us to function, and offer our undying support for our team and club with the hope of success on and off the pitch.

KRO

Cliff Horrocks
Chair, Blues Trust