



BWFC Supporters' Trust

The University of Bolton Stadium
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Date: 06 January 2019
Ref: BWFCST/EFL

Mr Shaun Harvey (Chief Executive)
The English Football League
Edward VII Quay
Navigation Way
Preston
PR2 2YF

Dear Mr Harvey,

Re: Bolton Wanderers Football Club

We are contacting you to register our long-standing and escalating concern relating to the governance issues at Bolton Wanderers Football Club.

As you are no doubt aware, we have, in the past, tried to highlight our views on matters relating to financial aspects of the club, including requesting clarification on player trading restrictions.

Whilst the responses received from yourselves in the past have generally not addressed our queries in any specific detail, we have not considered taking matters further - until now.

We now have grave concerns about the financial stability and sustainability of our club under the current ownership and would request that the EFL investigate matters in more detail. The situation has, this evening, been thrown into a larger arena by the post made by Dale Vince (Forest Green Rovers Chairman) about the loan/transfer situation concerning Christian Doidge.

The comments Mr Vince makes about his club's dealings with Mr Anderson (BWFC owner, chair and sole director) are very telling and reinforce our concerns about the governance of our football club.

We also concur with Mr Vince's observations about the effectiveness of the ongoing EFL role in administering the running of the leagues.

We fully understand the EFL's previously stated stance regarding any involvement in individual club's financial matters, but with our club's recent near-administration event in early September '18 (the owner's own admission), delays in payment of players and staff wages and bonuses, the lack of any necessary external investment and now this evening's Christian Doidge situation, we would ask you for confirmation that the EFL are doing all in their power to assist and guide one of football's founding members.

Also, as we have requested in the past and in the interests of clarity, could you please confirm that the information relating to Financial Fair Play and Profitability and Sustainability Rules as noted on your website are current.

We have noted below some links, which you may find to be of assistance, to our recent attempts to engage with the owner, Mr Anderson, together with our observations on the club's lack of structured engagement with the BWFC supporters.

[Another Year Goes By](#) – BWFCST website post 31 Dec '18

[What Is A Community Interest Company \(Members Update\)](#) – BWFCST website post 07 Dec '18

[Response to Mr Anderson's Recent Comments](#) – BWFCST website post 05 Dec '18

[An Open Letter To The Owner](#) – BWFCST website post 30 Nov '18

If you wish to meet to discuss any aspect of the above, we would be pleased attend at your convenience.

We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely
Bolton Wanderers Supporters Society Ltd

The BWFCST Board

cc Ms Debbie Jevans CBE (Interim Chair – The English Football League)
Mr Mark Rowan (Communications Director - The English Football League)
Mr Malcolm Clarke (Chair – Unified Football Supporters' Organisation)
Sir David Crausby (Member of Parliament for Bolton North East)
Mr Chris Green (Member of Parliament for Bolton West)
Ms Yasmin Qureshi (Member of Parliament for Bolton South East)