Subject: BWFCST Chairs Report
Date: January 2026

2 CHAIR'S REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Board Directors prior to this month's elections is made of elected members Alan Houghton, Robin Fletcher, Sue Higson, Ian Pegg, Martin Parnell, Michael Smith, Paul Wood, and myself, Terence Rigby.
At a Board meeting following on from last year's AGM I was re-elected as the the Chair, Martin Parnell as Treasurer and Robin Fletcher as the Secretary. It was also agreed the term of Office for all three roles will be 18 months, that is, until September 2026. Each officer will then be available for a further 6 months to aide a smooth transition.

Before giving my report, and in particular for any member who does not have a copy of the agenda, I would like to set out the order of tonight's AGM.

- I will summarise the activities the Trust have been involved in since the last AGM.
- I will then ask Alan Houghton on behalf of our Treasurer, Martin Parnell, who could not attend in person this evening, to give an overview on the Accounts.
- I will give an update on our membership numbers.
- Robin Fletcher will provide us with an update on the Board Elections.
- Followed by what we are looking to do over the next twelve months.
- We will than move onto the Motion(s) received for resolution.
- Wrap up the AGM having dealt with any other business and any questions from members present this evening.

2.0 ACTIONS SINCE THE LAST AGM

2.1 The Board has continued to have a collaborative relationship with the Club. Every quarter there is a Structured Dialogue Meeting with the executives of the Club including David Ray and Paul Holliday. The Memorandum of Understanding between the Club and the Trust signed in August 2021 guaranteed supporter consultation, which is also backed up by Club's Fan Engagement Plan.
Members are encouraged to submit topics for discussion by emailing enquiries@bwfcst.co.uk or in person by visiting the Trust's cabin in the Fan Zone. .
In addition a more informal discussion takes place monthly which gives a

forum to air any immediate matters and nurture a close relationship between the Club and the fans. Three or four of these informal meetings are attended by representatives from our affiliates, the Disabled Supporters Association, Youth Advisory Group and the Remembrance Group.
The Trust also participate in regular meetings with the local residents, the police and the council. We aim to represent our members and non-members alike in a collaborative approach to improving car parking, public transport etc

2.2 The Trust initially established in 2017 the stadium was an Asset of Community Value (ACV) and this was successfully renewed in 2024 and is in in place until the 27th of November 2027.

2.3 The Trust has regular dialogue with the Club regarding the pricing, payment options and the timing of the launch of the Season Tickets.

2.4 The Trust has continued to offer a complimentary Family Ticket for home matches with to the backing of one of our corporate members, Bernstein Kitchens. The Board wishes to record its gratitude for their unstinting support.

2.5 The Board has maintained strong connections with our various Affiliate Groups. At the end of last year The Remembrance Group became an Affiliate, joining others including the Disabled Supporters Association and the Youth Advisory Group. As a collective we represent a wide spectrum of the Wanderers Fan base.

2.6 The Trust promotes the FSA, Fair Game and Level Playing Field, with several of our Board Members taking on senior roles within these groups.

2.7 Three members of the Board have attended training courses provided by the FSA to improve their abilities for fulfil their responsibilities as Board Directors.

2.8 The Youth Advisory Group have had a very successful inaugural year with members heavily involved in lots of activities involving both the Club and the Trust, including the Community Day where they helped with the organisation for the players to sign autographs etc. The YAG continue to build on its membership within the Bolton Metropolitan Borough. It is an objective to widen the base of the youth fanbase throughout the local communities. The youngsters are the present and future voice of BWFC and the Trust are proud to have instigated and to lead this initiative.

2.9 Once again the Trust sponsored a Fan Award for the End of Season Dinner held last May. The Trust secured a co-sponsor in 2025 and are actively seeking a similar donation from a local business for 2026, if the members pass the resolution to continue with the sponsorship this year. In the event we do, I encourage you to nominate a worthy recipient.

2.10 The Trust advocated and were instrumental in the Club adopting the Women's team on a semi-professional basis. The prudent growth of the team both on and off the field has been on the agenda at the majority our meetings with the Club. The Trust has continued with the sponsorship of one the players. This year being Milla Hodson.

2.11 We also, in the spirit of safeguarding the future of the Club, sponsored the Academy player Sam O'Neil.

3.0 OVERVIEW OF THE ACCOUNTS

3.1 A copy of the draft accounts for the year ending the 31st of July 2025 have been available for the members to view for the last few weeks. A copy of the Finance Report for 2024/25 from the Treasurer will also be posted on the website along with a copy of this Report.

3.2 As our turnover is relatively low, we are legally in a position to not require the appointment of an external auditor. We would recommend that the members in attendance this evening vote in favour of not appointing an external auditor but utilising an independent examination of the accounts for the next financial year.

3.3 The Trust rely on the financial support of its members and those who are currently Associate members are encouraged to convert to Full members by taking out the annual subscription of £10 per annum.

4.0 UPDATE ON MEMBERSHIP

4.1 The current shareholding membership stands at 6,036.

4.2 The Board acknowledge there are many of our ,members who would have preferred to have been in attendance this evening, however, distance of travel, other pressing commitments etc. deemed it not possible. The Board do seek the current members to actively encourage friends and family to join the Trust. The greater the number the greater the voice we have in ensuring Bolton Wanderers Football Club is sustained.

5.0 BOARD ELECTION

5.1 At the close of Nominations at 5pm on the 8th of January 2026 the following had put themselves forward as candidates for the election process:-
Peter Bond
Jamie Adans-Mercer
James Storey

5.2 As the number of nominations received has not exceeded the four Board positions available for election, in line with the BWFCST Election Policy (refer to item 8.3) and the BWFCST Model Rules (refer to item 56), there is no requirement for a ballot process to be undertaken. I do, however, seek the ratification of the members present at the AGM to accept Peter, Jamie and James onto the Board. If given the three members noted above are deemed to be duly elected and will now join the existing retained board members Alan Houghton, Martin Parnell, Ian Pegg, Sue Higson, Terence Rigby, Mike Smith, Paul Wood and Robin Fletcher to form the BWFCST Board of Director.

5.3 There remains one seat available on the Board and four of the current Board are due to stand down next year. All members encouraged to put themselves forward for election.

6.0 THE NEXT 12 MONTHS

6.1 We intend to work with the Club to maintain and improve the facilities at the Stadium and within the Fan Zone.

6.2 The Trust advocate the sustainable growth of the Women's Team. We encourage our members to attend as many matches as their time allows. If you have a particular interest in helping to promote the Women's Team please let us know either during the Q&A session to Follow or by email at enquiries@bwfcst.co.uk.

6.3 The Youth Advisory Group aims to build on the great start it has made and broaden its membership. The Trust Board have agreed with YAG to extend the under 16s subscription free membership as follows:-

i) 13 – 16 free membership

ii) 16+, and in full time education, free membership + a share (vote)

Please do not hesitate to contact the Trust if you or any young person you know would be interested in joining this very pro-active group.

6.4 The Board wish to carry out a number of social events during the course of the year including a proposed Q&A with Steven Schumacher. .

6.5 To continuously seek the views of our members for ideas that maybe of benefit to the Club, the fans and the community as a whole. The Board believe the affiliations set in place with the Disabled Supporters' Association, the Youth Advisory and Remembrance Groups facilities and expands our network of communication. We look to widen our affiliate base over the next 12 months.

6.6 Members of the Board are backing the Bolton Manbassadors initiative, which aims to raise awareness of men's wellbeing and tackle high rates of male suicide. Working with them, the Remembrance Group and Bolton Wanderers in the Community we hoping to have a 'Talking Bench' adjacent to the Lofty statue.

6.7 To collaborate with the Club to celebrate the Wanderers heritage including permanent displays of memorabilia and means of commemorating our up and coming 150th anniversary.

6.8 Extend our engagement with the broadest spectrum of fans to gather ideas on the thing that matter most.