

Chairman's Comments for Football AGM – June 2025

It's been another successful season

We have grown the football section with an increase in players, teams and membership. We've added girls' teams which have grown from strength to strength, and would like to grow this area more in the coming years.

We've had a lot of success on the playing side with a number of teams from juniors to seniors, winning leagues and cups and it's been a real pleasure to see all the kids playing on the 3G pitch and enjoying the sport we love.

It's also pleasing to see the senior section having a successful season, winning the double of league and cup, and also developing next season, by adding a second team and also moving to play in a higher league. They have also integrated themselves into the Club becoming key members now.

In the coming season we still have a couple of gaps in the U10 and U15 age groups, which would be good for us to resolve, so if anyone knows of any coaches that would like to join and coach those age groups, please let me know.

The website has been developed this year showing lots of great information now. I'd like to thank Mark Castle for all his hard work in developing the site. This year we will add a gallery to the website and also to the screens in the clubhouse, hopefully encouraging more engagement.

Financially the football section is in a good position and the clubhouse developments will continue as we look to move forward.

This coming season we will add an U18 team as well as the second senior team as the aim is to develop the link between the junior section and seniors creating a pathway, hopefully adding an academy team that will play in the mid-week Academy league in the next season. We will be actively looking for an Academy coach with the right credentials to run an academy.

We are also looking to develop the front football pitch by adding a stand, dug outs and a fence around the pitch. It's an early stage and we are looking for sponsorship but we are in negotiations with a main stand sponsor and hope to secure that main expenditure first in the coming months.

I'd also like to say some thank you's

I'd personally like to thank Paul Cross for all his hard work as secretary, head grounds man and football committee member. Paul has been involved with the Club

for over 30 years, and his hard work, advice and dedication will be missed but is very much appreciated. I'd personally like to thank Paul for all the support he has given to me and the Club over all these years.

I'd also like to thank all the coaches and committee members who volunteer their time and put in some much hard work to ensure kids can enjoy sport at our club.

Finally I'd also like to pay my respects and sincere condolences to Dave Donald's family and friends.

Dave was a passionate supporter of the club and a knowledgeable and respected coach and a person who I regularly sought football advice from. His passion and enthusiasm about football was huge and I for one will miss our conversations about the game we both love.

Thank you.

Richard