

JACK SIMPSON



Proposed by Johnny Hunt

Seconded by Skye Wakefield

This year marks one year since Rob Couhig and his team were successful in buying Reading Football Club from the hands of Dai Yongge and his cronies.

When I was first accepted to the STAR board three years ago, I said that I would do my utmost to continue to hold the board to account.

That is something I have done over the last three years, from participating in the One Royal meeting back in May to other various meetings with senior stakeholders; that is something that I wish to continue should I be successful.

I have also made it my priority for fans to be heard and for accountability when things go wrong at games either at home or away. It is vital that supporters are heard by the club, especially now that the owners have communicated so much compared to the previous administration.

Living in Reading and being ten minutes away from the SCL stadium, putting STAR in the community and raising awareness of the organisation is vital going forward. For the past two seasons I have been attending the Sunday League Cup finals, which are held at Reading City's ground in Scours Lane. This is something that I have enjoyed doing, and it is something that I am keen to continue should I be returned to the board for another three years. It's important that as a supporters' group, fans understand what it is that we do and be a voice in the local community. We are not puppets of the football club as some supporters have said on social media.

As someone who has a disability under the Equality Act 2010, I am keen to continue to be STAR's representative for this. As the years go by, accessibility for supporters will continue to be the subject of conversation as the stadium continues to receive investment by the owners.

As Reading Football Club continues to recover from the misdemeanours from the previous administration, it is more vital than ever that the current owners are held accountable. Everyone wants to see the club achieving good things on the pitch whilst making sure the club continues to be secure for generations. That is why

everyone was so relieved and happy just over 12 months ago in the Purple Turtle after the Barnsley game. But we cannot let our guard down for a single second.

As members of STAR and people on the board, we now have the opportunity to push for change, from people who have promised to be honest and transparent with the fanbase.

Reading Football Club has existed for over 150 years, serving our proud community, and it will continue to do that long after this administration has departed.

It always belongs to the fans, regardless of what the people upstairs try to do to our wonderful football club.

We must continue the fight, so that our children and grandchildren can have a club in which they can be proud to support.

The opportunity to serve another three years is something that I am relishing, and I can't wait to get going again.