

Matt Phillips – Candidate Manifesto

I'm Matt Phillips, one of the Trust in Change (TiC) candidates standing in this year's election.

Like many of you, I've become increasingly concerned by the recent off-field uncertainty surrounding the Trust and Club, worsened by the lack of any clarity on the matters, or attempt to reassure us as owners. At the recent fans' forum, we were reminded (with contempt) that we rank 1st for transparency. I don't see that as a point of pride - our ownership model should make that a given.

I'm standing for election because I believe that for the Trust to rebuild confidence, a major refresh of the Trust Board is required, bringing in people prepared to challenge the status-quo and ultimately to set the direction of the Club. This is a pivotal election, make your vote count.

Why you should vote for me

I'm pleased to be standing as a Trust in Change candidate and fully support its core priorities.

Professionally, I am a Chartered Actuary (FIA C.Act, CERA), advising and assuring organisations on financial and project risk management, efficient capital allocation, development of business plans and implementation of governance models. As a former Trustee, I understand both the challenges and opportunities that come with our ownership model. My focus now is on modernising and moving the Trust forward.

If elected, my main priority would be to support the development of a new Trust-Club Strategy, creating a shared vision for how both organisations work together and move into the future. This aligns with one of the key aims of TiC, the development of a bold new strategy. To achieve this, I'd push for the creation of a new, temporary, working group with the remit of developing this revised strategy, ensuring that it is done in close collaboration with the broader Exeter City community. This group would have a clear target of presenting this strategy for member approval at the next AGM.

I'd also seek to provide support to the Finance & Governance Group, utilising my expertise, particularly my background in assurance, to support the oversight of the Trust and Club's finances.

Trust in Change

I'm standing as part of Trust in Change; a fan-led group, championing openness, accountability and ambition.

Put fans first. Restore trust. Vote for me, and together we'll build a stronger future for our Club.