

CLUB STATEMENT

An important message from Sam Waters

'I regret to announce that I have decided not to accept The Clubs offer to instate me permanently as first team manager and as such have resigned from my position as interim first team manager with immediate effect. This is because I have been offered an opportunity to further my coaching career which I simply cannot turn down. The current league position has had no impact on my decision, as a club we have made incredible progress in such a short space of time, to be relatively competitive at this level given the circumstances & resources available to the club is a real achievement.

Despite stepping down as manager I will not be leaving the club and will instead be accepting a place on the club's committee as 'head of football' to provide continuity and ensure the progress that has been made continues. I will re-direct my efforts combined with my expertise to help re-structure the club both on & off the pitch. After the turmoil the club faced over the summer & the financial implications that followed, our priority in the short term was to simply keep the football club alive by putting a team out every week. As previously mentioned, to put together a relatively competitive squad within such a short period with probably the smallest budget the club has had for many years & most likely the smallest at step 4 & 5, combined with the quality of football has been a real achievement. Our next objective is to ensure the football club remains at step 4 and to do that we must start winning games. We are confident that as this squad continues to gel & develop, we will begin to get the results that our performances have deserved. Once we get that much-needed confidence boost, we are more than capable of putting a run together. Almost every team we have faced have been surprised by the quality of player & quality of football we have produced considering our league position. We know we are not far away now from turning that corner & we know that given the average age of our squad is 19/20, that the team & players will go from strength to strength which is why I am extremely disappointed not to be able to remain in my current capacity. To achieve this, we will be adding new players to the playing squad as well as a bit of experience to the coaching team, all of which will be revealed very shortly. I will remain heavily involved with the team, supporting the coaching staff as much as I can around my new commitments.

Finally, the long-term objective is to create a self-sufficient & financially sustainable football club. We aim to achieve this by playing a brand of football that gets spectators excited to watch, however playing good football is great but we must be winning games. The first team squad will be made up of a combination of experienced non-league players with young players who are hungry, want a platform to showcase their qualities & an opportunity to progress. Likewise, the coaching team will consist of modern, young coaches with some more experienced coaches to ensure we have that balance. We also have big plans off the pitch which will also be revealed shortly.

I would like to thank Dave, Chris & Ed who have been fantastic in supporting me in my role as manager, most of their work goes un-noticed but as a club we have full confidence in them. When you combine their level of expertise with their unbeatable work ethic, it's a winning recipe. Their work goes on and they are still as hungry as I am to continue on our pathway to success. I would finally like to thank all the players for their incredible attitudes & work ethic, all of them, including those who have left the club. They have all been a pleasure to work with & will have successful careers in football ahead of them.'