

On Saturday just after 1.00 in the Colin Weir stand a small but enthusiastic group of supporter's (15 in total) met to discuss the PTFC Trust. The Trust is the biggest single shareholder in the club and is now looking for more supporters' trustees to join the board.

The current two supporter's Trustees, Foster Evans and Pauline Graham explained the origins of the Trust, their ambitions for it and the need to explore a fans' forum and the ability to recruit suitable additional Trustees. The Trust had been set up "To safeguard the long term benefit, best interests and integrity of the association football club (PTFC) operated by the company while promoting its growth and financial well being."

Their vision for the club was for a successful team - competing and playing at the highest level in Scotland and any other competitions that we enter, a club that is financially sound, inclusive, open and welcoming to all our communities. Engaging with our communities of place and interest and the business community. A supportive, listening club, a good employer, landlord, partner - socially responsible and one that is committed to supporter involvement and community engagement - respectful, open, transparent, and accountable - taking into account the interests of supporters in its decision making and with a strong customer focus.

There was a consensus on the benefits of getting additional activity and resources into the Trust, and a willingness by those present to help the Club and the Trust in anyway they could.

There was discussion around induction training for new trustees, having extra potential trustees available (while maintaining a level of continuity on the board), sharing the trust deed with everyone, the need to ensure all supporters could participate in the trust, gaining credibility on how the Trust operated both with supporters and the Club, and ensuring its activities take place in an open and transparent manner.

There were some concerns raised that so many parts of the Thistle "Family" were called Trusts and that it was confusing for supporters and other stakeholders. Some suggested a simple infographic outlining the role of each overlap of the trusts and how they interact with the club and other projects would be helpful.

Some of those present were happy to help with establishing a supporters sounding board for the Trust- a "fans' forum". It was agreed however that it would be best to get new Trustees selected, with a good mix of skills and roles before that started.

The appointment of Beth Adamson as Supporter's Liaison Officer, and Fan Engagement Officer was welcomed and it was felt she should have a role in the Trust too as a good interconnector between the various parties.

Pauline and Foster agreed to feedback to the PTFC Trust board on Wednesday 1 November and start the process of formally recruiting additional Trustees.

Foster and Pauline thanked those present for their time and contribution and all agreed that with a bit of enthusiasm and new trustees, the PTFC Trust would be re-energized to fulfil our collective ambitions.