## The Football Supporters' Society of Bury Board Members' Report

The Football Supporters' Society of Bury (the 'Society') Board Members (the 'Society Board') submit their report for the year to date together with the accounts for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

## **Guiding principles**

The Society's objects are to benefit the community by:

- Being the democratic and representative voice of the supporters of Bury Football Club ('the Club') and strengthening the bonds between the Club and the communities which it serves;
- Achieving the greatest possible supporter and community influence in the running and ownership of the Club;
- Promoting responsible and constructive community engagement by present and future members of the communities served by the Club and encouraging the Club to do the same;
- Operating democratically, fairly, sustainably, transparently and with financial responsibility and encouraging the Club to do the same;
- Being a positive, inclusive and representative organisation, open and accessible to all supporters of the Club regardless of their age, income, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexuality or religious or moral belief;

### Responsibilities of the Society Board

The Society Board is required to prepare financial statements, for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society for that year. In preparing those financial statements the Society Board is required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Follow applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The Society Board is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014.

The Society Board is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and, hence, for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## **Society Board Resignations**

The following Directors resigned from the Society Board:

Name	Resignation Date	
Darren Bernstein	18 Dec 2024	
Marcel De Matas	8 Nov 2024	
Phil Young (Chair)	8 Nov 2024	

## **Election of the Society Board 2024**

The election for the three vacant Society Board member posts was concluded on 3 March 2025 with a turnout of 60.8% of the membership. Of the 1849 ballots issued, 1125 were returned. The elected board members were:

Name	Elected/Co-opted/Resigned	Appointment Date
Jon Wiggans	Elected	3 March 2025
Gareth Castick	Elected	3 March 2025
John Raftery	Elected	3 March 2025

## Meetings Held by the Society Board

The Society Board met 12 times between 29/08/2024 and 10/06/2025.

Starting in April 2025, the Society Board began issuing summaries of its meetings.

## **Society Membership**

At the end of June 2025 Society membership stood at 1978. This figure includes 99 lifetime members.

Members continue to slowly move across to the new payment system with approximately 30% of the membership now using the new portal. It is hoped to further increase the numbers moving across in the new financial year.

### **Financial Performance**

The Football Supporters' Society of Bury Ltd, Bury Football Club (2019) Ltd, and The Bury Football Club Company Ltd have performed in line with expectations, as reflected in our monthly management accounts. These management accounts are consolidated for internal purposes, while the statutory accounts present the finances of each entity separately.

This season, the introduction of the 3G pitch has delivered significant benefits, including a reduction in postponed fixtures, a substantially improved playing surface, and extensive community use.

For the year, the Football Supporters' Society of Bury Ltd reported a profit of £101,555, while Bury Football Club (2019) Ltd recorded a loss of £73,309, and The Bury Football Club Company Ltd reported a loss of £30,914. The consolidated position across the three entities is a modest loss of £2,668.

This structure is intentional. The Football Supporters' Society of Bury Ltd does not pay Corporation Tax and is not VAT registered, making it advantageous for this entity to report a profit. Conversely, Bury Football Club (2019) Ltd, which bears the majority of stadium and operational costs, is subject to Corporation Tax and VAT and typically reports a small loss. The stadium company, The Bury Football Club Company Ltd, undertakes limited transactions—primarily rental income and insurance—and generally reports a minor loss. This approach continues to provide the most efficient position from a tax perspective.

# The Football Supporters' Society of Bury Ltd

Formed in 2024 following the merger of Shakers Community Society Limited and Bury FC Supporters' Society Limited, the Society is required under its rules to undergo a formal audit, which also applies to its subsidiaries: Bury Football Club (2019) Ltd and The Bury Football Club Company Ltd.

Although the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 requires consolidated accounts, we have once again utilised the permitted exemption to produce separate accounts for clarity and simplicity.

The Society achieved a profit of £101,555, compared with £395,993 in the previous year, which was impacted by the receipt of a grant. During the year, the Society invested £150,000 in Bury Football Club (2019) Ltd and £47,755 in The Bury Football Club Company Ltd to support their operations. In addition, a capital contingency reserve of £60,000 has been established to fund the eventual replacement of the 3G pitch.

## Bury Football Club (2019) Ltd

Bury Football Club (2019) Ltd reported a loss of £73,309, compared with a profit of £5,849 in the previous year.

## The Bury Football Club Company Limited

This entity undertakes limited transactions, primarily relating to rental income and insurance. For the year, it recorded a loss of £30,914, compared with a loss of £49,880 in the previous year.

### **Auditors**

A value for money assessment on the cost of auditing annual accounts was undertaken by the Society Board. Four quotes were obtained from local accountancy firms and the Society Board approved the appointment of Horsfield & Smith Chartered Accountants to undertake the 2025 audit.

## **Other Updates**

A full list of all updates, including all votes and General Meetings held during the year can be found on the Society's website under <u>News</u>.

Aside from regular financial updates, notable items during the period were:

Initial 2024-agm-and-election-process

Gigg Lane Major Works

Next Steps following staff and board resignations

**FSSB Interim Chair Appointed** 

Initial 2024 AGM Update

**AGM Update** 

**Board Statement: Neil Sears** 

SGM and Election Process

Statement from the FSSB Election Committee

2024 Re-Scheduled AGM

**FSSB Election Results** 

FSSB AGM - 24 March 2025

# FSSB Board Update 17 March 2025

# AGM 2024 Results

FSSB AGM 2024 – Response to Questions Raised by Members

Summary of the FSSB Board Meeting - Wednesday 16th April 2025

Members Report April 2025

Summary of the FSSB Board Meeting - Wednesday 28th May 2025

This report was approved by the FSSB Board on 26 November 2025

Signed on behalf of the Board:

Name: John Woodhead

DB Woodland

Position: Chair

Name: Rod Peters

Position: Secretary

Date: 26 November 2025

Roel Peter