



Chelmsford City Supporters' Club

Thursday 30th June 2022 - Chelmsford City FC Supporters' Club Response to Chelmsford City FC Chairman, Steve Shore's, Comments in the Essex Chronicle

The Chelmsford City Supporters Club ('CCSC') would like to respond to comments made last night by the Chairman of CCFC, Steve Shore, in The Essex Chronicle. We feel that our mandate of 'No Confidence' in the Betsi tenure is as a direct result of years of mismanagement.

Mr Shore states that he feels that correspondence between us and him are reaching 'tit-for-tat' levels. This is an unfortunate and ill-advised phrase, as the CCSC is very aware of many claims dating back to at least November 2021 at a Q&A that Mr Shore held where he noted his delays in replacing numerous key staff members and promised to swiftly rectify this. These lack of appointments, which included an experienced General Manager, a Commercial Manager and bar staff were ongoing for the entirety of Betsi's 5-year tenure, resulting in a complete loss of financial independence. The CCSC has been attempting to hold Betsi to account over promises they made, but with further dithering and delays. Our correspondence to Mr Shore has been to seek clarity on his actions, as they appear to be counter-productive to the running of a professional and well-structured club. There are also vital health & safety issues outstanding over certain infrastructure issues that Betsi appear indifferent to, and which concern the well-being of our members.

Mr Shore states that he keeps asking 'people' – clearly ignoring the actual CCSC – 'what is it you want the club to do that we are not currently doing?'

Well, Mr Shore will be well aware that he's already delayed the release of vital season ticket information for seemingly no reason. He will also be aware of our disappointment that it's taken extreme CCSC pressure to have new staff appointed, staff he admitted they needed well before November 2021. He will be aware of the recent Clarets4Change activity which was well documented with the six aims that the fans felt would enhance the club, including vital infrastructure changes. He will be aware that the club is being 'run' by one locally based director, with the other based in Hong Kong, and further directorial appointments appear to be pie in the sky. He will be aware of a unanimous vote of 'no confidence' by members of the CCSC at a recent meeting. Very importantly, after years of saying that he needs help to run the club and pleading at various Q&As for assistance, Mr Shore will be aware that members have suggested and recommended various courses of action, offers of help and even tried to contact him to put these in place – all to no avail. This has culminated in the CCSC being in full knowledge of efforts by two main parties to either takeover Betsi's shares or work with Mr Shore to restore the reputation and standing of this great club. For us, this latest intransigence by dithering and ignoring bids to get involved in the club is the final straw and suggests that Betsi do not have the best interests of the club at heart.

Mr Shore states that he doesn't feel that the recent vote of no confidence 'warrants a response'. As fans, representatives of fans and paying customers who travel thousands of miles around the UK supporting our club, we feel this is disrespectful of the fan base, and arrogant in its ignorance to simply ignore this. All the points raised have been clearly



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signposted to Mr Shore countless times, and we feel disappointed and let down that the custodian of our club is dismissing those concerns as an irrelevance.

Finally, we would like to ask one more time. Mr Shore – please make contact with the people wishing to get involved in our club. You have stated many, many times that you have little time to devote to the club. You've even stated that you don't like football. Mr John Holmes has been seen once at the club in 5 years. Our members have voted unanimously on the motion of no confidence, at our recent EGM, and have also aired their views on the Message board and on Social Media.

Time is of the essence. We respectfully ask you to step aside in the best interests of the club and allow others with the desire, experience and means to propel this great club forward to take on the job.