



## **ALBION ROVERS FC**

The Reigart Stadium | 1882

From: The Board of Directors

To: Open Letter to any Interested Parties

We write to you as an interested party, and on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Albion Rovers Football Club Ltd.

For many years the Club has been on a steady decline.

This decline - and lack of action to change that course of direction - culminated in the loss of our SPFL status at the end of the 2022-23 season.

Very little by the way of new investment was identified previously to try and avert this decline.

At the two previous General Meeting of members, two new members to the Board were proposed and subsequently were unsuccessful in being elected.

The individuals proposed for election, in the opinion of the Board, would have brought the Company much needed financial support and business expertise.

The rejection of these by five individual shareholders, one holding the most pivotal influence, has in the opinion of the Board, led to difficulties in securing new financial backing by parties who may have otherwise been willing and able to introduce new and much needed capital.

Some of those raising objections, served the company as Directors during the aforementioned decline and offer little to no reasoning for their objections and offer no thoughts or strategy for the Club's future success.

The only tangible strategic view offered by one such party was to "sell the family silver."



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This current Board does not see this as an acceptable solution to the current position - we are fully committed to playing in Coatbridge and at the Reigart Stadium (Cliftonhill).

We will continue to work tirelessly to achieve this.

To stabilise the Club and to give us the best possible chance of future success, and to prevent further instances where new members to the Board were proposed and subsequently declined for election, and to allow the company to try and secure new capital, the Board have enquired with some shareholders around the possibility of the Board of Directors making an offer to buy in full or in part their shareholding.

Acquiring such shares by the Board, would make it more attractive to potential new backers investing in the company, as shares may subsequently be available to secure their investment against.

The request to meet to discuss this proposal further, has been unanswered by those engaged.

In our opinion. the inaction, lack of response, and obstruction of progress by those who are few in numbers but heavy of influence, is having a detrimental impact upon the operation of the Company and limiting us from securing new investment.

In line with the above and because of being unable to secure new financial capital it is with regret that we must inform all interested parties, that all budgets, including that of the playing and management staff will be severely restricted as we move into the 2025-26 playing season.

Everyone associated with the Club acknowledges that this will have a detrimental impact upon the quality of the playing squad, and the football results.



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Our core objective for the next season will be to remain as competitive as possible within the Park's Motor Group Lowland League, but realistically, the only objective will be to remain within it.

The playing and management staff were consulted and informed of this in-person on Thursday, February 20.

To assist with all budgets next season, we have launched a new fundraising endeavour to support our core objectives next season.

Full details of this fundraising activity has been published under separate cover.

We have submitted an expression of interest via the PITCHING IN joint initiative between the Scottish FA and the Scottish Football Partnership Trust, and if successful this will deliver a new artificial playing surface, training pitch and multi-sport community facilities.

Successful delivery of these funds and artificial playing surface would allow us the means an opportunity to raise sufficient funds to restore a more competitive squad and budget during future seasons.

However, it is imperative that we have interim financial support over the next 12-months to allow us to get to that position.

The current ambition of this Board is clear: to transform our beloved Cliftonhill into Coatbridge's community hub.

To continue with the preparations for the potential artificial surface, we are carrying out our own due diligence on the potential issues, participation with the programme, and any resultant impact if any, on company assets as a result of our participation.



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We are also in the process of investigating the potential for conducting a new, more up to date re-evaluation of these assets.

We would like to extend our thanks to the players, management team, fans, volunteers, sponsors and Supporters & Community Trusts for continuing to provide us with unwavering support and look forward to this continuing next season.

Yours sincerely,

Board of Directors

Albion Rovers Football Club Ltd