

Beeks: I won't be quitting Blues



Ivor Beeks

WANDERERS chairman Ivor Beeks says he won't quit despite calls for his resignation.

The first supporter at Tuesday night's fans forum called on him to go after a summer of discontent in which the club sold the name of its ground to sponsors, asked the players to defer some of their salary and is now considering changing the constitution.

But Beeks, who was re-elected as chairman on a five-year term last year, insists he has no plans to walk away.

He said: "I have no intention of resigning, unless that's what the membership wish. I fully intend to see the four years out."

But he admitted he was wounded by the flak.

He said: "Being asked to resign hurt. I don't think I've ever knowingly done anything to the detriment of this club."

"Everything I've done has been done with the best interests of the club in mind."

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He said: "No-one wanted to change the stadium name but financially we couldn't say no to it."

"I don't think it was a mistake. In light of the financial difficulties, I had to make that decision with the board and even in hindsight I don't think we would make a different decision."

"We had a large hole in our budget that we needed to fill. We needed to make sure we could get through to the end of this season."

He added: "Anyone who says to me that I'm not proud of our heritage or that I'm prepared to sell our heritage doesn't know me."

"I understand the feeling but at the end of the day we had to weigh up which was the best thing for the football club and at that time it was financial stability."

And he praised the players and staff for agreeing to suspend ten per cent of their wages for 12 months to help the club through its financial crisis and said the moves meant that manager Lawrie Sanchez doesn't have to sell one of his rising stars, although admitting every player has his price.

He added: "We're at the end of it now. We have gone down all the avenues we would want to explore."

● Beeks urges fans to listen to share plans with an open mind:

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