

**NEWPORT COUNTY AFC SUPPORTERS TRUST**  
**ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE TRUST BOARD 2017**



**PERSONAL STATEMENT FORM FOR CANDIDATES**

Please answer the following prompt questions to present yourself to the voting members of the Trust. Each answer should not exceed 100 words. Please remember to provide a portrait photograph of yourself. The photo should be recent, of you alone and not a group photograph, and one in which you are easily recognisable.

**Describe your personal history with, and passion for, Newport County AFC.**

I have been watching County since 1997 after moving to the area. I had my first Season Ticket (Half) in the season we won promotion to the Football League and haven't missed a home League game since. In the 2014/15 season myself and my family managed to attend every League game home and away, during which time we noticed some issues faced by disabled supporters. As a result, using the social model of disability, I worked with Level Playing Field to create the Disabled Supporters Association which launched in July 2005.

**What is your vision for Newport County AFC?**

Now that we are a fan owned club it is imperative that strong partnerships are forged with all areas of the community, becoming inclusive and supporting local people, business and organisations. I see County as being an organisation with the community's benefit enshrined in its objectives. This can be achieved by working with the local authority, other sporting organisations and groups to raise awareness, and funds, in support of their goals; this would include work by the board, management, players and supporters. In reciprocation I believe this would increase the club's attraction to people in the area to attend games.

**What skills and experience would you bring to the Club if elected?**

As a qualified Social Worker I have an understanding of legal responsibilities around inclusion and safeguarding. Through my work with the DSA I have created professional relationships with club sponsors, Board Members and supporters; I believe that I am approachable and always ready to help others in the best way I can. I will continue to work with other organisations including Newport City Council to improve matchday experiences for disabled people and

therefore increase attendance at games. Additionally, through these relationships I have lead the DSA to raising in excess of £3,000 for local charities in 2 years.

**What roles might you play in the Club and what difference could you make?**

As Chairman of the DSA I currently deal with enquiries the club receives around disability, coordinate support on matchdays and work to promote the club in the community such as the recent Dementia Friendly Club accreditation. I believe I can forge strong relationships to increase the club's prominence in the city and outlying areas. My passion for fundraising means I have ideas to help strengthen and progress the club's financial sustainability. I am approachable and have a good rapport with most supporters I meet and feel able to represent and communicate the wishes of the supporters.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Keane', written over a horizontal line.