

# 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 started my affair with the County in 1975, and regularly travelled away from 1977. I knew from the start that the County was my first team, not Manchester United or Liverpool like the other kids, and it's been like that for the last 42 years.

As well as fulfilling a variety of voluntary roles at the club from match day manger, through safety officer to being a director I've also reacted when we needed it. In 2012, after we lost at Bath, I setup the players fund which raised £16k+ in weeks for Justin to strengthen the squad.

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

Although like all supporters, I'd like to see us in the Premiership I think a realistic goal is to be a sustainable mid table Championship side within 10 years.

To be sustainable we have to create revenue streams that are not dependent on how we perform on the pitch, or on individual investors that can come and go. Shared responsibility to generate money by the club, individual or groups of supporters, and base our budgets on that mean we would have a long term club and not one constantly looking in the short term distance for the next crisis.

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

I have experience in a variety of roles at the club and have successfully built teams around me to either perform tasks or raise money. In the conference south promotion season I was part of the catering, retail and bar amber teams that contributed over £80,000 to the club from crowds of almost a third of what they are now.

I have always, and will always, be accessible to meet with people, discuss the issues and change my mind if I am wrong and being creative have been responsible for ideas from Spytty The Dog to the GLC shirt.

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

I want to compliment the skills of the people already at the club, and do the things that I am good at to make the club money and give it a sustainable, long term future.

As a start, I'd use my experience to maximise revenues in the club shop (having worked in retail clothing), the food and drink areas and also events from bands to sporting evenings.

Most of all I'd like to bring my friends and contacts from the last 42 years to work together with the existing board for the good of the club.

Up the County.

**Signed:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'RA' with a stylized flourish extending to the right.