

NEWPORT COUNTY AFC SUPPORTERS TRUST
ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE TRUST BOARD 2024



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.

In 100 words? Compared to most I'm a relative newbie. I've been a County fan some seventeen years, going to as many games as shift work would allow. Whether it be the Share Scheme or sponsoring a players shirt I like to show a bit of personal support where I can. As for passion? It's the weekly rollercoaster of emotions, promotion hopes and relegation fears, frustration losing to lower clubs and elation beating those above, our exciting Cup runs and Giant Killing reputation, it's O'Briens' goal & Jeff Stellings' face and being part the best fans in the league!

Why do you believe that the Trust is important to Newport County AFC under the new club ownership model?

The Trust continues to be fundamental in the consideration of all matters concerning the club. Regardless of age, the supporters are, and always will be, the lifblood of the County. Without them there would be no club! It is important that Trust members have a voice which can be heard when it comes to decision making at the top. The Trust, collectively, has a wealth of knowledge and experience among its ranks, as well as a universal desire for the club to prosper. It should be seen as an invaluable asset for the club going forward into future.

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

Since leaving school all my jobs have involved dealing with people in some form or another. About three years ago I took early retirement from Network Rail where I'd been a Signaller, based in Bristol, for over 20 years. A Safety Critical position which involved being able to keep a level head, to work under pressure, to multi task and to communicate/engage professionally with people at all levels from track workers up to senior management. I also spent some time as a local Union Representative. I like to think I am a good listener and considerate of all points of view.

How would you stay in touch with Trust members to be able to represent their views and voice their issues?

Over the years I've got to know a number of supporters and Trust members that I see on match days or among my own social circle outside of that. I find personal interaction is always best but I also accept it's not always possible (non-match days, closed season etc). Nowadays, communication is far simpler, easier and quicker. Whatever the method: text, Whatsapp, email or even a good old fashioned voice call there is a means of contact available to most Trust members should they need to get in touch and vice versa.

What roles might you play in the Trust and what difference do you believe you could make?

As previously stated I think my main strengths lie in communicating/interacting with people at all levels. I am reasonably IT savvy and know my way round a PC. I've organised social events in the past and managed to build a web site when the internet as still clockwork in the 90's! I'm happy to work within a team or under my own steam. Whatever role I can turn my hand to I would engage with it enthusiastically and try to do it to the best of my ability for the benefit of the Trust and its members.

Signed and dated:

Kevin Pretlove

13th June 2024

