

## **CCST Candidates Statement – Tim Banks**

I am Tim Banks from Cardiff. I have been supporting the club for many years and sit with my son in the Ninian Stand where we are both season tickets holders. As well as attending every home game we also go to as many away matches as we can get away with!

In terms of experience for a position on the board, I have been a committee member of the Cardiff City Supporters Trust board for nearly 12 months after I took up a co-opted position following the AGM last year. This has given me excellent insights both to learn but also to see how I help to make a difference in future. I have been actively involved in Trust activities throughout the year. These have included providing opinions and ideas in monthly meetings as well as representing the Trust at several events such as attending a fan's forum at Exeter football club. This was a great chance to network and share ideas with other Supporters Trusts to consider better ways to serve supporters. I have also taken the opportunity to get involved further by helping with the Memorial Garden at CCFC and helping with several Foodbanks to help those in the local area, activities which mean a great deal to me personally.

As a Research Analyst for Macmillan Cancer Support as my day job, it is essential I have critical thinking skills and am logical whilst simultaneously being thoughtful and empathetic to others. These are all essential skills to be part of a successful board representing the views of fans.

Whilst I would help to address issues from all fans, I would particularly like to stand to be on the board of Cardiff City Supporters Trust to represent fans with younger families who may have slightly different interests, ideas and concerns. With my children attending since they were 3 (oldest now 13), I feel I have experienced a wide variety of interactions with the club from a different perspective and can bring these experiences to the role.

My priorities are to help the Trust over the next year to widen both the volume of members but also to diversify the membership, encouraging younger members to help ensure the Trust is as representative as possible. Secondly, I feel strongly that the work of the Cardiff City board at the club should continue to be considered separately to events on the pitch. Regardless of success on the team(s), whilst extremely welcome, it is vital that the Supporters Trust continues to act as a body to raise issues on behalf of all fans and hold the club accountable to promises made that ensure the long term sustainability of the club for the benefit of all fans both now and for the future.

I am committed to the aims of the Supporters Trust acting on behalf of fans in giving us a voice. This is vital as without doubt, fans are the lifeblood of the club.