

## City Fans United / Chester FC – Board appointments – AGM 2018

### Candidate Manifesto – Calvin Hughes

The order of the candidates has been selected at random by the independent scrutineer



*Nominated by Mark Howell and Richard Prince*

#### **ABOUT YOU – please provide whatever details you are happy to share in respect of your personal/family circumstances**

Worked in the Petrochemical Industry for many years, then diverted into the Construction and Utilities Industry in Project Team Management, working on large Project schemes such as Welsh Water Amp Pipeline refurbishment covering North and Mid Wales; then moved into large Construction Projects in the North West; (including pre-planning Project work on the proposed new LFC Stadium at Stanley Park Liverpool)

Then I moved onto the Manchester Metrolink Tram Project.

Unfortunately due to a old reoccurring Back complaint I had to take a complete change of lifestyle to keep mobile; and after studying and planning for 6 months I started a Dog Walking Business in 2010; this obviously involves you being completely trustworthy when entering Clients houses to access dogs for walking etc; this involves Clients in the Chester and Wirral areas.

(Played football myself many years ago in my teens and early twenties in local Saturday and Sunday adult Leagues finished playing in the West Cheshire league.

#### **YOUR AFFILIATION TO Chester Football Club – to include years supported, first game, favourite memory**

Supported the Club since early Seventies, going to Sealand Road with my Father, seeing the great run in the League Cup; seeing the ground packed to nearly 20,000 fans. Over the years there watching some great Chester players such as Graham Turner, Trevor Storton, Ian Rush, Stewart Rimmer to name just a few. Attended many fixtures at the old Sealand Road ground over the years but favourite memory has to be the League Cup fixture against Aston Villa great atmosphere and great occasion for the Club.

When the old ground was demolished and the Club moved to Bumpers Lane, I was fortunate to help behind the scenes so to speak, and for a number of seasons was a turnstyle operative in the East Stand, then in 2010 the opportunity came up to be the Football Secretary for Chester FC.

#### **HOW CAN YOU ADD VALUE TO THE CFU BOARD – describe your skills, expertise, drive and enthusiasm**

Able to offer extensive knowledge and expertise in Business Administration involving planning and Time Management. Being able to meet deadlines and work under pressure.

Also from 2010 to 2015 was volunteer Football Secretary for Chester FC, and also season 2014 – 2015 volunteer Head of the Youth Academy.

Able to offer the Board extensive football knowledge and expertise covering all aspects of administration within the game, and dealing with various personnel from Managers to Club Chairman and various bodies and

organisations within the game such as the FA local and National level and Fifa etc.

Came onto the Board this year 2018; as co-opt Director and was given the Football Portfolio; due to my previous involvement at the Club.

It was clear straight away that the Football Playing Squad was too large and had to be trimmed to ease the financial burden we had at the time. From my first meeting with Marcus I made it clear that things had to happen quickly and during the following weeks Players were moved out of the Club this obviously put a strain on the Playing side of things but the most important thing was we could stay in business until the end of the season, it was that serious.

It was evident also that the James Alibi tribunal papers had not even been submitted to the FA! Despite the CEO stating in the Press on numerous occasions that the Club were waiting for a tribunal date from the FA.

I immediately took control of this from the CEO, completed the documents, and sent them off to FA, within a week we received a tribunal date from the FA, and we had a successful financial outcome from the FA hearing.

Also I instigated at once dialogue with Leicester City with the hope of bringing forward the second payment of the Sam Hughes transfer, which would also help towards our financial situation, again this was another successful outcome.

Recently preseason has been hectic with the Recruitment process for the First Team Manager / Coach; after a lengthy process; we have in place Anthony and Bernard; after three meetings with them we were able to welcome them to Chester FC.

The Football side of things with regard to finance etc, is that the Managers report into myself, and two other Directors, and we sit down with the Managers on a regular process to discuss all aspects of football with regard to the First Team.

Hopefully this will now be a successful way forward for Chester FC.

**TIME – how much time can you devote to your portfolio, can you attend board meetings; will you be available to host visiting directors prior to home games and be available to attend away games on a rotational basis.**

Being self employed would be able to time manage my work load, for CFU/CFC related work as required and be available for Board meetings etc, and if required away fixtures.

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### Candidate manifesto

#### Candidate Manifesto – Paul Victor Evans

The order of the candidates has been selected at random by the independent scrutineer



*Nominated by Jeremy Evans and Simon Owen*

**ABOUT YOU – please provide whatever details you are happy to share in respect of your personal/family circumstances**

I am a married man and have two grown up boys and two grandchildren. I am a retired Policer Officer having served in the Cheshire Constabulary for 30 years and I am 64 years of age. I am currently working part time for Chester Racecourse Company as a Race Day Turnstile Supervisor. I am also currently on the CFC fundraising team.

**YOUR AFFILIATION TO Chester Football Club – to include years supported, first game, favourite memory**

I first watched Chester Football Club in the early sixties and the first game I remember was Chester v Bradford Park Avenue. As most supporters of my age the favourite memory is of the 1974-1975 season.

**HOW CAN YOU ADD VALUE TO THE CFU BOARD – describe your skills, expertise, drive and enthusiasm**

Having served as the Cheshire Constabulary Football Liaison Officer to CFC for some 22 years, I have seen the club run correctly and wrongly. I have sat on the Safety Committee for major games during this time. I know I can fetch new ideas to the table to increase the income of the club and assist in putting in strong points to save money in respect to policed games when they occur. I also believe in supporting the academy as I started the original Junior Blues which went on to produce players for the first team and in some cases were sold on and make money for CFC. I have a strong personality and I can and will assist CFC.

As everyone who is associated with Chester football gate receipts alone can not fund the everyday running of the club as is the case for most football clubs these days.

As a result of this it is imperative that the Board the commercial department, the Fundraising team and senior blues all work together to fetch income to the club so as never to have to go to supporters cap in hand to ensure the club continues.

As previously stated I am sure I can assist with this for example I together with Kevin Ratcliffe am organising a Sports evening to raise funds for the club.

I personally feel that we should give supporters events for them to enjoy at the same time raising money for the club.

I believe I have the knowledge in many ways to assist the Board and serve the members of CFU to

help take the club forward.

**TIME – how much time can you devote to your portfolio, can you attend board meetings; will you be available to host visiting directors prior to home games and be available to attend away games on a rotational basis.**

As I am retired I can give plenty of time to the role of director and I know I will be the perfect ambassador for the club and its supporters. If I did not feel I could not make 100% to the club I would not apply to join the board. Sadly I cannot attend the formal CFU meeting as I am attending a family funeral in Scotland. Further to my comments in section three I have raised numerous amounts of money for registered charities for example childline. Although it was many years ago I obtained City and Guilds in Hotel and Catering management, I was the Club Steward for the Chester Police Club for 20 years and hold a provisional Licensees Licence. This allows me to run licensed premises for the sale of alcohol. I have also taken a course in stewarding at sporting and organised events and I am awaiting my NVQ certificate.

## City Fans United / Chester FC – Board appointments – AGM 2018

### Candidate Manifesto – Jeff Banks

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*Nominated by Martin Huxley and Richard Sands*

**ABOUT YOU – please provide whatever details you are happy to share in respect of your personal/family circumstances**

A 45 year old husband and father of 2, and having Blue and White blood running through my veins all my life, I guess it was just something I felt I had to become involved with again, following my initial four year stint helping to reform the club back in the 2009-10 season.

As many will know, following a highly successful first four years since reformation, I decided to step down in 2014 to support my wife and prepare for the birth of my first son which was happening just a few months later, and now I have two Junior Blues in the family and want to ensure that there is a club for my 2 boys to support in years to come.

**YOUR AFFILIATION TO Chester Football Club – to include years supported, first game, favourite memory**

My love for the Blues started back in 1982, when I witnessed my first ever Chester match, a 3-2 win over Portsmouth at Sealand Road - from that moment I was hooked - it would always be this good, right?!

My favourite memories include the famous Cup wins at Wrexham in the mid-80s, watching players such as Stuart Rimmer and Milton Graham. Following the nightmare years, the memory of seeing Chester FC reborn and running out at Warrington Town brought a real lump to my throat having moved heaven and earth to get to that point, and the first League triumph at Garforth - never to be forgotten for all kinds of reasons!

I proudly served on the board of CFU from 2009-2014 as Media Officer.

**HOW CAN YOU ADD VALUE TO THE CFU BOARD – describe your skills, expertise, drive and enthusiasm**

The effort that has gone into taking this club back from the brink of disaster to a point where we're looking at what could be a strong promotion challenge is an indication of the monumental effort that has gone into restoring pride in our club. The Allstars match that I helped put together showed exactly what could be achieved at our wonderful club in terms of exposure and fundraising alike and also demonstrated the drive and enthusiasm I have for this fantastic club of ours.

So, where do I fit in now? Well I've been looking after the Fan Engagement portfolio for the previous six months, and have helped with the creation of the highly successful and dedicated Fan Engagement Working Group (FEWG). We set about trying to give the fans something to be excited about, and have in that six months period amongst other things delivered a successful season tickets campaign where we compiled a realistic and affordable pricing strategy and campaign that would reignite fans' interests again for the 2018-19 season.

I also targeted the CFU membership to be at 2018 by the end of the year, and inclusive of the Junior Blues, we

are around 100 short of that target at the point of writing this, and I fully expect us to be able to not just hit the 2018, but progress well beyond it, and one of the areas I'm looking at is to look at the benefits of being a CFU member and also to make members feel that they really do own this club and are made to feel a real part of what we are striving to achieve. CFU Lifetime Membership is also ready to launch and already has a few members signed up, but we want more!

I believe there is a huge amount of work to do in the Fan Engagement portfolio, and along with continuing to improve communications at the club (which I hope you have all seen a big improvement on during the last 6 months including the likes of streaming informal meetings on You Tube), I really want to set about speaking directly to all of the various supporters groups (Chester Exiles, Senior Blues, Inclusive Blues etc) to see just how we can improve aspects of match day experience for all of those groups, and in general how we can continue to improve communications from the club and all of the groups associated with it of course.

I also want to continue linking into the excellent Chester FC Community Trust, who have made immense strides forward too, and we have some great ideas between us which I hope to be able to help deliver in coming months, the likes of a Fan Zone that we saw at Tranmere Rovers last season - this is one of the items high up on my agenda along with others in order to give fans a much better match day experience, whether it be before, during, or after the game.

Overall, there is much work to do, and we need to strengthen the board further and so I would like to request the membership casting their votes to allow me the chance to continue that work, and help develop further that 'feel good factor' that has reappeared in the last few months.

**TIME – how much time can you devote to your portfolio, can you attend board meetings; will you be available to host visiting directors prior to home games and be available to attend away games on a rotational basis.**

As much as possible.