

# **CF10 ARMS PARK RUGBY TRUST** **ELECTION NOMINATION FORM**

## **HUW G JONES - STATEMENT**

I joined the Working Group after the first Open Meeting. I have led our governance work, ensuring compliance with the Co-operative and Community Benefit Society Act under which we are established and also developed best practice in managing a company. I have produced a detailed Directors' Handbook which sets out:

- the legal roles and responsibilities of Directors;
- role descriptors for Directors (Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Board Member) in order to ensure everyone is clear about their role and responsibility;
- specific policy papers on conflicts of interest, data protection etc.;
- facilitated a workshop on risk and priorities;
- monthly Governance Action Plan setting out our corporate achievements and remaining tasks.

I have also written a number of blogs for the CF10 website on governance in sport and the importance of heritage being a central consideration in the design of the new development. I have also assisted with the cataloguing of memorabilia in the Clubhouse.

I believe that I have the necessary skills to undertake the role of Secretary and can undertake this in a seamless way having worked closely over the last year with the current Secretary, Neil Harries, who is standing down.

Moreover, before retiring in 2013 I was Chief Executive of Sport Wales for over 15 years. I had responsibility for a budget of around £40 million and over 200 staff. I worked for the sports councils for nearly 30 years, including 25 years at Sport Wales. In 2011 Sport Wales was named in the 'Sunday Times 100 Best Places to Work in the Public/Voluntary Sector in the UK'.

During my period as Chief Executive, Wales saw significant increases in children's and young people's participation in sport as well as Wales' best ever performances at the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012. Also, a number of major initiatives were developed including: Dragon Sport and 5x60, Disability Sport Cymru, Community Chest, Elite Cymru plus a number of major lottery funded facilities (Wales National Pool, Velodrome, National Indoor Athletics Centre, National Indoor Cricket Centre of Excellence).

I currently provide advice, on a voluntary basis, to a number of governing bodies of sport on governance issues. I am also a mentor to a number of senior managers and university students. I am a member of the University of Wales' Audit Committee.

In 2015 I was appointed by the Welsh Government's Cabinet Secretary for Health as an Independent Member of the Board of Community Health Councils in Wales. In that role I also Chair their Corporate Governance Committee.

I was a trustee and member of the UK Board of the Institute of Sport, Parks and Leisure and a Companion of the Institute of Sport and Recreation Management. I was appointed as a Fellow of the Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity (CIMSPA). I was an adviser to the Board of Play Wales and a referee for 'Leisure Management: An International Journal'.

I worked for the (GB) Sports Council as a researcher and I was Economics Consultant to the Council of Europe where I undertook a European-wide study of the economic impact of sport. I have also advised Ministers of Sport in Ghana and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

Academically, I have a degree in Economics from Manchester Polytechnic, a masters' degree in Econometrics from Manchester University and a PhD from Birmingham University. More importantly, as this statement shows, I have considerable experience of leadership, administration (including sports administration), financial control, strategic planning and organisational management.

I am passionate about the Trust's work and the aspirations we have not just for the organisation but in bringing high challenge and high support to Cardiff Rugby and Cardiff Blues in particular. The Cardiff Blues Board needs a critical friend if it has aspirations for the club to be successful at the very highest levels of rugby. This means having the highest standards of governance including a strong relationship with its supporters.

The next couple of years will be hugely challenging with the new stadium development planned and the importance of ensuring that the history and heritage of the club is not just preserved but is an integral part of that development. An organisation gets one opportunity to get these things right. I would like the opportunity in the role of Secretary to try to influence that process.