

CF10 ARMS PARK RUGBY TRUST

ELECTION NOMINATION FORM

Candidate's Statement: Simon Baker

Ok, so I was born in Newport, it's not my fault! But I am Cardiff bred. There is Brains beer running through these veins (probably literally). And I love my rugby!

I'm a committed and passionate supporter of Cardiff Blues and Cardiff RFC and have been a season ticket holder and member for the past 10 years. I attend most home games and as many away games as I'm able.

Over the years I have been one of the silent majority bemoaning everything there is to bemoan about Cardiff Rugby! Now there is an opportunity to turn that silent majority into a vocal majority - to have a real critical voice.

I would like to help represent that voice.

Our club will be stronger if the voice of the supporters is heard and listened to. This I believe can be best achieved through the supporters trust. Together as a formal, democratic organisation we can strengthen the influence of supporters over the running of our club.

I've been a member of the CF10 Arms Park Rugby Trust working party since the first open meeting where we secured a vote to form officially and ever since have been actively involved in helping setup the Trust.

I am part of the team cataloguing heritage items at Cardiff Arms Park, for the new museum, and am responsible for managing the online database. Whilst helping with this process I have come to realise how important our heritage is and as such the history and heritage of Cardiff Rugby has become very important to me. The history of our club, in rugby terms, is of worldwide importance, through the CF10 Rugby Trust I will help to preserve our history and heritage.

There are interesting times ahead with the proposed re-development of Cardiff Arms Park which, if the deal is right, I will fully support. All supporters of rugby at the Cardiff Arms Park need to have their opinions heard and I believe the CF10 Arms Park Rugby Trust is the best vehicle for that.

Having undertaken the fairly laborious task (a labour of love really) of collating the interim results of the stadium redevelopment survey that CF10 Arms Park Rugby Trust are running, I'm very aware of the passionate views that many supporters have. They have been a real inspiration and motivation to me, knowing many people have similar views. And I will strive to represent these views and seek more ways to engage supporters and represent them.

A bit about me personally - I'm 50 years old and live in Canton with my partner Jo. I manage a company supplying lighting and sound equipment to the entertainment industry. Besides rugby, my other passion is guitars - playing, repairing, restoring, building and collecting.

There are a number of passionate people engaged in the trust with whom I would like to work together with to represent your views. Together we can make a difference.