

# Crawley Town Supporters Alliance

## Candidates Election Statements



<p><b>Simon Smith</b></p>	<p>“I am currently covering the role of Treasurer on the interim board of the CTSA. I have supported Crawley Town since 1988, for many of those years as a season ticket holder, and follow the team with my 10 year old boy. Professionally I am a director of an investment management company based in London. I am personally authorised by the Financial Services Authority in the conduct of financial business, and bring these skills to the role of Treasurer.</p> <p>I have a strong belief in the importance of young supporters and believe we should be working with the club to attract as many young people to follow their local club”.</p>
<p><b>Barbara Robinson</b></p>	<p>“Having been a member of the SC committee, I was elected to the interim board and currently serve as membership secretary. I am also a member of Ken’s travel team.</p> <p>I designed and maintain the database, process all the application forms and respond to queries from members. I also take a proactive part in board meetings – discussing issues and helping to implement decisions – and hope to be able to continue as a member of the elected board.</p> <p>I strongly believe we are making Bruce’s dream of a single united supporter’s group a reality and one of which he would be proud”.</p>
<p><b>Paul Prendergast</b></p>	<p>“I am 51 years old and have been supporting CTFC for 14 years, most as a season ticket holder. I work in London for Royal Mail where I am based in Stockwell and Brixton. The role for which I am applying needs certain skills in which I think that I possess.</p> <p>1/ Being able to listen to different people’s views.                  2/ Being able to talk to people on a 1-2-1 basis.                  3/ The main one for me to promote the interests of CTFC, in the local and wider area.</p> <p>I am not interested in politics but I am good with people. I would also like to see the dream that Bruce Winfield had of making the club BIGGER BRIGHTER and for EVERYONE who follows Crawley Town FC realised, and I will work to make that happen if given the opportunity”.</p>
<p><b>Ian Townsend</b></p>	<p>“I have been the Interim Chair of the Alliance since its formation, initially sharing the role with former SC Chair Ron Parsons, before he was lucky enough to gain employment with CTFC. This period has been exhilarating, frustrating, joyous and exhausting in turns, but I believe we now have the foundations in place to benefit the supporters of CTFC, the wider Crawley and Sussex community, and to help make our club sustainable and successful in the long term. If elected, I will continue to devote my energies to ensuring that this happens.”</p>
<p><b>Ken Blackmore</b></p>	<p>“I have been a Crawley Town supporter since I was a child and have followed them through the good times and the bad. Being a member of the supporters club I was co-opted onto the Alliance board at the beginning of this season by its then chairman, Ron Parsons. I put myself forward as a member of a four person subcommittee to deal with the away travel for the coming season. This has been no easy task but I believe that with the hard work that has been put in at board level by everyone that perhaps we have now turned the corner. If I am voted back onto the board I will do the best I can to make the away travel as enjoyable as possible and to try and cater for everyone’s needs as best as we can. I will also ensure that we listen to any points of view put forward with a view to making the away travel a fun day out for everyone”.</p>
<p><b>Colin Lowes</b></p>	<p>“I have been a dedicated supporter of the Reds since 1967. I have served on the Supporters Club Committee, and the Devils Trust Board where I was vice chair. I represented the supporters club</p>

	<p>at the national federation. I currently work for Panasonic Avionics looking after the Airlines in-flight Entertainment systems At LHR and LGW. Previously I was with British Airways where I represented the staff at national level within the trade union.</p> <p>I am delighted to be involved in the new supporter's alliance and carry on Bruce Winfield's dream of a united fan base, strengthening links within the community and watching the mighty reds blaze a trail in the football league."</p>
<b>James Laraman</b>	<p>"I have been a Crawley Town supporter for approximately 18 years. I am careful and orderly in my attention to facts and details, and am thorough and conscientious at fulfilling my responsibilities, I could be described as being a dispassionate observer, however my objective is always to arrive at the most comprehensive truth. I am a conceptual problem solver and intensely logical. I have a creative mind which can be used to bring forward thinking and originality to projects. I am able to contribute original ideas to discussion, based on sound business acumen. I would like to be a part of the Supporters Alliance forging deeper ties with the local community. club and fans."</p>
<b>Chris Cheshire</b>	<p>"I've been a season-ticket holder, in the wheelchair section of the West Stand, for more than a decade, and take in as many away games as possible. I joined the Community Engagement Team, convinced that by sharing our ideas the club could forge closer links with its supporters and the local community – to everyone's benefit.</p> <p>Then Bruce's dream of a united fans' organisation was irresistible; I was co-opted to the interim board where I've been specifically concerned with membership matters, but hope I've also contributed a common sense approach and my knowledge of the local community, as a Councillor, has been useful".</p>
<b>Simon Hall</b>	<p>"Having served on the Board of the Crawley Town Supporters Trust (Devils Trust) and on the interim board of the new Crawley Town Supporters Alliance I have decided to stand again for a position on the Board. I believe it is important for some continuity to exist on the CTSA Board not just for reasons of experience gained but to assist with the difficult task ahead of building on the solid foundations so far laid.</p> <p>The CTSA is establishing a good reputation amongst most of the fans in bringing together the two former supporters groups and this is the most important aspect to its existence. I feel that as an independent fan, I can continue to play a significant part in the development of the Alliance toward achieving its many objectives for the benefit of our club and our community".</p>
<b>John Hooper</b>	<p>"I have been following CTFC for 48 years. I am particularly keen to start a community based role for the new CTSA, in uniting the fans, club and local inhabitants by promoting football based projects (schools, youth clubs, youth leagues, existing teams, start up teams, girls teams etc ) particularly in the socially disadvantaged areas of our borough. The aim will be to liaise and provide coaching courses to peoples of all abilities and backgrounds at grass roots level, over the next 3 years, in partnership with our newly promoted League team, - Crawley Town Football Club".</p>
<b>Owen Pickering</b>	<p>"Crawley is a diverse and vibrant community, and it is vital that the club engage with all sections of that community if it is to build sustainable success. I work in the local area and have been involved in organising community events involving the football club in the past. The commitment exhibited by the Crawley Town Supporters Alliance towards the development of community activities is one which I applaud and would like to be part of, and if elected I will do my utmost to bring success to the organisation and the club for the benefit of all involved. I believe that my experience and community connections will be of assistance in achieving these aims."</p>
<b>Colin Bowman</b>	<p>"Crawley Town Football Club have long been an interest in my life stretching back to Northampton in the FA Cup November 1991. Moving to the Broadfield was a proud moment for the club and it has felt like home ever since. I have always been captivated by the joys of terracing and on the odd occasion sitting in the West Stand. During the last 2 years my interest has taken a new route writing fan based column 'Terrace Talk' for the Crawley Observer. It has been a real blast following Reds fans home and away reporting on their experiences.</p> <p>I would be very proud to be elected on to the board of CTFCSA and use my writing 'skills' and contacts as part of your media package and bringing the brand to a wider audience".</p>