400 word manifesto Nicolas Edwards

\*\*Honesty, Integrity, and Commitment\*\*

A lifelong supporter of Exeter City Football Club, I’ve proudly stood with the club for over 50 years and have been a dedicated Trust member. Our club has made remarkable strides, both on and off the pitch, and I am honoured to have been part of this journey.

The past five years have brought significant progress, including promotion to League One and the highest playing budget in our history. However, there is still important work to do to ensure that this success continues, and that Exeter City remains at the heart of the community for generations to come.

My top priority is ensuring the club remains financially sustainable. The Trust exists to safeguard the club’s future, and our recent property purchases have secured our stability. While we celebrate these achievements, we must also remain cautious, remembering the financial struggles we faced 20+ years ago. Careful, strategic investment will help us grow while staying true to our values.

A key focus for me is engaging the next generation of supporters. To ensure the long-term sustainability of the Trust, we need to encourage more involvement from young fans aged 16 to 24. Empowering them to participate in decision-making will secure the future of the Trust and help foster a deeper connection to the club.

Additionally, I believe we should build strong relationships with like-minded independent clubs globally. By learning from each other and embracing eco-friendly and sustainable football practices, we can stand apart from the increasingly common multi-club ownership model. This collaboration will also create opportunities for shared learning and growth, both on and off the pitch.

In my current role, I sit on working groups focusing on finance, youth engagement, diversity, and sustainability. I am vice chair of the Trust Board, lead for the Trust Finance Group and serve on the club’s Finance & Governance Committee. These efforts aim to create a more inclusive and forward-thinking Trust for all.

If re-elected, I will advocate for continued investment in our infrastructure, including allocating funds for improvements to St James Park and the training ground. I am also committed to promoting transparency in Trust communications, especially on matters that affect our members.

Finally, our academy remains crucial to the club’s future. It not only nurtures talent but also generates pride and revenue. Continued support for the academy is essential for our long-term success.

As a Big Bank season ticket holder and passionate supporter, I would be honoured to continue serving our club and the community. Let’s work together to build a sustainable, inclusive, and successful future for Exeter City.