My name is Josh Curtis-Hale and after much consideration, I’m standing for election to the Exeter City Supporter’s Trust!

I have been interested in football and sport in general both on the pitch and off it since before I can remember. I watched my first game aged 6, a season ticket followed at 11 and then I did my year 10 work experience at ECFC. This inspired me to study sports marketing at university and I used Exeter City as a case study for my dissertation, which focused on brand exposure around lower league clubs. I was also heavily involved in setting up the YST (Youth Supporter’s Team) when I was 16 (sadly now defunct) and then have been a regular attendee either home or away ever since.

Post graduation, I spent some time involved in local politics and then for the past 9 years I have been working within the conference and training spheres. My current role is as a Senior Programme Manager, overseeing a portfolio of digital learning courses, mostly within the finance industry. I also manage the website for my local running group and provide administration support to an Exeter based charity helping refugees integrate and enter the workforce.

The Trust has done incredibly well to adapt and grow over the past 20 plus years, but external challenges continue to threaten the future of our ownership model. I think I speak for a sizeable chunk of the match going supporters, when I say that whilst the season has been a success so far, the overall experience has come with its downsides. We now must contend with such factors as private equity involvement, Sky Sports and international breaks. A 3pm home kick off is a rarer sight than Harry Lee. I’m putting myself forward because I think we (slightly paradoxically) need a fresh face with old ideas, someone with a modern skillset but who is appreciative of the history and ethos of both the club and the game.

I’m passionate about the club, the team and what we can achieve. I have big picture ideas, but also my experience within politics and the fast-paced corporate world has taught me how to get things done. A thinker and a doer, I strongly believe I can add value to the decision making processes.

UTC!