

Trustee Advert Feb 2018

(Extended version)

Wild Oxfordshire is looking for additional trustees to guide its work supporting and encouraging organisations with an interest in the environment to work together. Trustees will have the opportunity to build on Wild Oxfordshire's 25-year track record and take it to a new level.

What will you be doing?

Do you know and love the Oxfordshire countryside with its rich diversity of habitats? Do you think that motivating the deep well of talent in our rich and vibrant county is key to ensuring a healthy and resilient countryside for the next generation? -Do you worry that the efforts and concerns of the conservation sector are not sufficiently recognised?

Please consider joining Wild Oxfordshire as we look forward to the challenges and opportunities of the next 25 years. We are a county-wide wildlife charity that provides a co-ordinated and strategic approach to conservation in Oxfordshire. Through supporting and encouraging organisations, local groups and volunteers to work together, Wild Oxfordshire innovates and works as catalyst for solutions that benefit wildlife, including by giving local groups the means to look after their green spaces.

Depending on your skills and interest, you could contribute by:

- Identifying donors to support our work and help apply for grants
- Identifying influencer-networks to support our work and extend our influence e.g. by engaging with influencers, including academics, MPs and county, district and parish council representatives
- helping us manage ambitious new projects through
 - developing sound management and financial structures
 - developing risk management, both legal and financial
- engaging our broad membership (over 50 member organisations) by
 - stewardship so that they feel engaged
 - improving communications and PR programmes
- bringing a deeper understanding of Natural Capital and Green Infrastructure
- developing our database to make it more effective within GDPR best practice
- identifying press and other communication opportunities and training staff to use them.

What are we looking for?

Our Board needs experience in specific areas to ensure good governance. While it is not expected that Trustees will have skills in all the areas listed below, we would greatly benefit from Trustees who can bring some of this experience. In addition to a strong interest in and love of the countryside and wildlife, Trustees should have skills and/or experience in some of the following areas:

Business development, data management, fundraising especially through grants, networking, project management, public relations, persuasive writing, membership management, leadership.

We have a small staff team. Ideally new trustees would either train and guide the staff in these skills, or directly provide their time and know-how to supplement the work of this busy and friendly team.

We encourage diversity in the workplace and on our Board.

What difference will you make?

Oxfordshire is the most rural county in SE England. Many Oxfordshire residents and member organisations are now worried, and rightfully so, about the continual decline of quality habitats, species extinctions and the lack of access to wildlife-rich green spaces. The benefits that nature brings to the well-being of local communities are understated in local growth planning.

Wild Oxfordshire is not against development nor intensive agriculture and is not a campaigning organisation. However, its work in encouraging joint working and communications as well as data sharing is crucial to underpinning a balanced and wider debate.

Wild Oxfordshire is proud of the fact that it punches above its weight. The work of its skilled team is supplemented by its trustees. Your time and skills will have a real impact on the effectiveness of the team and help us develop more ambitious projects efficiently and successfully.

How much time is needed?

Time required is flexible - just a few hours a month could make a big difference. The trustee board meets four times a year in Little Wittenham (South Oxfordshire) and there is an annual meeting with the members too. Trustees also get involved in ad hoc initiatives as desired.

For more information visit www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk

For more information or if you are interested in having an informal chat with an existing trustee, please contact Clare Mowbray clare@wildoxfordshire.org.uk or 01865 407429