

Railway Land Wildlife Trust

Trustee - Areas of Responsibility and Person Specification



Background to the Railway Land Wildlife Trust (RLWT)

We are an agile charity bringing Nature and Community together, to the benefit of both. We are based on the Railway Land Local Nature Reserve in the heart of Lewes in a wonderful, sustainable building designed to support life-long learning – the Linklater Pavilion.

We have a staff team of seven who collectively deliver and lead our projects, including environmentalists, lifelong learning, volunteering and community engagement practitioners. We have a cohort of freelancers and an amazing, passionate army of volunteers who embody the role of the community in nature.

Our project work includes practical conservation and habitat creation, young people engagement and support, wildlife discovery, work to support wellbeing, adult learning, school visits, holiday clubs and much more.

We strive to be bold, with imaginative and inspirational approaches. We are disruptive enough to bring about a culture shift in our relationship with nature and how we link human and natural resilience in the face of the climate change and ecological crises.

For more information about our work, please visit our website www.railwaylandproject.org

Role Description

Our Board has a strong backbone, with expertise in governance, law, finance and HR well represented. We also have Trustees with expertise in ecology and community engagement and are looking to further strengthen this aspect. We know we have a gap in our Board around Communications and Fundraising, which we are keen to fill.

RLWT has a new operational strategy that has advocating for nature, providing lifelong pathways for participation and the growing and sharing of knowledge and wisdom about the natural world at its heart. We are looking for strategic thinkers with experience in the devising, managing and delivering environmental projects, and with bringing new audiences to nature-based work.

As well as attending quarterly Trustee meetings, all Trustees are expected to become a member of one of three sub-committees, namely: Project Strategy and Development, Finance and Support Services, and Communications and Fundraising

Location: Linklater Pavilion, Railway Lane, Lewes BN7 2FG

Commitment: Minimum of 10 days per annum, including quarterly Trustee meetings and sub-committee meetings.

This is an unpaid role

Main areas of responsibility

Along with all Trustees to:

- Work collaboratively to ensure the Trust meets its charitable objectives
- Use your personal skills and experience as needed to ensure that the Trust is well-run and efficient
- Ensure that the Trust complies with all statutory obligations
- Attend meetings of the Trustees regularly, having read the relevant papers so that you are able to contribute to discussion
- Promote the Trust and its good reputation, supporting its activities as appropriate

Additionally, to:

- Become an active member of *either* the Project Strategy Committee *or* the Communications and Fundraising Committee, contributing expertise and imagination that will enable the Trust to increase its impact

Person Specification

The successful candidate will be an adaptable team player who can give tangible examples of the following:

1. Enthusiasm for our vision and mission, and a commitment to nature recovery in the face of the climate and ecological crises
2. Pragmatism in bringing strategic approaches to a small charity
3. Willingness and ability to understand and accept their responsibilities and liabilities as a Trustee, and to act in the best interests of the organisation.
4. Ability to think creatively and strategically, exercise good, independent judgement and work effectively as a Board member.
5. Effective communication skills and willingness to participate actively in discussion.
6. A strong personal commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion.
7. Commitment to Nolan's seven principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.

We will also be interested in how and where you engage with nature and your community

For more information about the role of Trustees please see Charity Commission guidance [here](#).

To apply, please download and complete the form that can be found on the advert for Trustees on the Jobs webpage at www.railwaylandproject.org/jobs , and send it to Helen Meade at helen@railwaylandproject.org

Please also contact Helen at this email address if you would like to arrange to have an informal conversation about the role.