Trustee
Volunteer recruitment information

Registered charity no. 262777
Joining the Board of Trustees

Thank you for your interest in giving your time, expertise, knowledge and experience to Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

Suffolk Wildlife Trust is an inspiring and impactful organisation with a compelling vision for our county:

**A Wilder Suffolk**
where nature is thriving and abundant,
because everyone is doing more to help.

This is an exciting time to be joining Suffolk Wildlife Trust as a Trustee.

With strategic leadership from the Board, we are committed to scaling up our activities across the county, to bring nature back to Suffolk. You will be taking responsibility for a period of extraordinary ambition and growth - there is much to do and everything to play for in this most critical of decades.

James Alexander
Chair
ROLE TITLE: Trustee

REMUNERATION: No fees are payable for this role although reasonable travel expenses can be reimbursed

MAIN DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:
Collectively as a member of the Board, and individually, the role of a Trustee is to have overall control of the Trust and to take responsibility for making sure it is doing what it was set up to do, in particular:

• Ensure the 2030 strategy is delivered.
• Provide leadership and strategic direction for the Trust, including agreeing appropriate policies and scrutinising performance against agreed goals.
• Champion Suffolk Wildlife Trust and its values, creating an innovative culture where risks are appropriately managed.
• Ensure the Trust complies with its governing document, charity and company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations.
• Ensure the Trust uses its resources effectively and efficiently to deliver its vision and mission.
• Appoint the Chief Executive Officer and monitor their performance.

The role is subject to eligibility checks, as required by the Charity Commission.
As part of our commitment to safeguarding, Suffolk Wildlife Trust operates a safer recruitment process.
Commitment

As a Trustee your energy, passion and enthusiasm for nature and wildlife in Suffolk will bring drive and direction to our work.

Our Trustees are expected to make the following commitments:

• Attend six Board meetings and an AGM each year at locations across Suffolk.
• Chair or attend additional committees or groups as required.
• Prepare for each meeting by reading the agenda and papers to enable you to participate fully in discussion and decision-making.
• Promote and inform others of the work of Suffolk Wildlife Trust.
• Attend appropriate meetings, functions, training and events.

Trustees are elected for a three-year term at our October AGM. Trustees may serve a maximum of two terms.

We place value on both professional and lived experiences from those who wish to champion nature and the role it can play to reconnect our communities with their local greenspaces.

It is a requirement of our Articles that Trustees are members of Suffolk Wildlife Trust throughout their term.
## Skills & attributes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ESSENTIAL</th>
<th>DESIRABLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commitment to the Trust’s vision for a Wilder Suffolk.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experience and understanding of the role and responsibilities of a Board Member.</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ability to think strategically and creatively and to challenge proposals with clear logical thinking.</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding of charity governance and regulation to support effective oversight of governance by the Board.</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding of risk management and monitoring to support effective control of risk by the Board.</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding of finance and cash management to support effective oversight of financial decisions by the Board.</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commitment to embedding equality, diversity and inclusion across everything we do.</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skills or experience in one of the following areas:</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Digital &amp; data management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Measuring and evaluating conservation impact</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Community engagement / community enabling</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
About the Trust

Suffolk Wildlife Trust is the county’s nature charity. We have been standing up for local wildlife & wild places for 60 years.

As we reflect on the changes to our county in that time it is the silent, creeping loss of our everyday nature and the fragmentation of nature that society must surely now be compelled to act upon - to bring nature back and achieve our vision of a Wilder Suffolk.

In the same way that we lost so much of our wildlife in Suffolk, so we can bring it back - a new hedge here, a restored pond there, wildlife gardens, field margins, rewilded farmland, new natural woodlands, restored rivers and wetlands.

The next ten years must be a time of renewal for our county, of rewilding our lives, of prioritising nature. Suffolk Wildlife Trust’s aim is for 30% of our county to be connected and well looked after for nature by 2030, so that our species and habitats can recover and thrive.

We are in no doubt of the urgency. The decade to 2030 has to be the one in which we reimagine a wilder future for our county and put nature on a path to recovery, at the scale and pace that is needed.
About the Trust

Over the Trust’s six decades our members, volunteers and supporters have shown the potency of locally led action.

We believe:

• Life with nature is good for us all - and everyone should be able to have nature in their life.

• Society will care more and do more to help if people feel connected to nature.

• Suffolk Wildlife Trust is uniquely placed to mobilise a movement for nature, because we are Suffolk.

As a grass-roots organisation, we aim to deliver our vision for a Wilder Suffolk by inspiring people and communities to care and to act for nature where they live and work.

Through our work with businesses, community groups, conservation charities and the public we want to increase our impact by inspiring and mobilising everyone to play their part.

Our farmland team works with landowners and managers to deliver habitat management, enhancement and creation across Suffolk, enabling networks of landowners to support nature’s recovery, at scale.
About the Trust

Our Charity is growing. We employ over 90 people and are supported by 1,300 volunteers and 28,000 members.

We have three areas of strategic focus: wilder landscapes & seas, wilder communities and empowering our people, supported by our Income Generation and Finance & Resources teams.

Our Leadership Team of six department heads support the Chief Executive who is responsible for the operations of the Trust and who, in turn, reports to the Board of Trustees which governs the charity:

We are proud to be part of the UK movement of 46 Wildlife Trusts, with a collective membership of over 800,000.
About the Trust

We want the world of nature to be a place for everyone - and for our activities and the way we operate to reflect this.

Our 50 nature reserves are free for everyone to enjoy, with our gateway sites offering facilities that help to remove barriers to participation and opportunities for all ages to discover, explore and learn about the natural world.

Each year more than 60,000 people are involved with a wildlife activity organised by Suffolk Wildlife Trust and many more enjoy our nature reserves independently.

Our members and volunteers are drawn from the communities we serve and we want to represent our whole county. As we look to 2030 and shift our focus to becoming a movement for nature’s recovery, we will be increasing our investment in community enabling and working with communities we have not previously reached.

We want everyone to feel included and to join us in our mission to bring nature back to Suffolk. In particular we want to break down barriers to participation. By this we mean equal and fair access for everyone, regardless of age, sex, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, faith, class or income.

Further information about the Trust is on our website: suffolkwildlifetrust.org.uk
Next steps

Thank you for your interest in Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

Your application should consist of a summary of relevant experience (e.g. CV) and a covering letter addressing the following points:

1. Why you would like to join the Board.

2. An outline of how your experience, knowledge and skills meet the requirements of the role. We value lived experiences as well as professional qualifications.
   In particular applications should reference one of the skills prioritised by the Board for our 2022 recruitment:
   • Digital & data management
   • Measuring and evaluating conservation impact
   • Community engagement / community enabling

Prior to applying, you are welcome to discuss your application informally. Please email recruitment@suffolkwildlifetrust.org if you would like to arrange this.

Closing date for applications: 3rd June 2022
Please email your application to: recruitment@suffolkwildlifetrust.org
Preferred candidates will be invited to meet members of the Board for an interview and discussion about the role.

We are always interested in conversations with potential Trustees and applications outside this date will be considered separately.