

Volunteer Role Description: Trustee - Education

We are currently a project of Central England Quakers Charity and are reviewing our legal status with a view to becoming an independent charity called ecobirmingham. We need your help, skills and expertise to drive this change forward.

The Role

Northfield Ecocentre is an exciting and pioneering project of the Central England Area Quakers charity (no. 224571). We currently have a management committee who meet quarterly and some more informal mentors with the specific skill sets we need to support the practical needs of the project. We are currently reviewing our legal status to make it fit for purpose. This means becoming an independent charity and result in the need for Trustees. We currently have five trustees in place. We need your help, skills and expertise to drive this change forward as we grow into the future.

The Ecocentre is a small team of eight passionate and dedicated part time staff working across a range of projects. We are shifting and growing the organisation over the coming years involving a review of our legal status, improving our IT and digital offer, supporting more people and organisations across the city and identifying potential funding and income sources. Further information about our work and strategic intentions can be found on our [website](#).

We are looking to expand our board membership in order to be as diverse and representative as possible. We wish to include people with the following areas of expertise, interest and influence to help guide, scrutinise and advocate for us as we move forward: Education (particularly primary, early years and out of school), environmental education, arts awards, strategic engagement with schools and the development of charitable projects.

Current Twitter, Facebook and Websites:

[@northfieldecocentre](#) [@cyclesouthbrum](#) [@movemoreeatwell](#)
[northfieldecocentre](#) [movemoreeatwell](#) [cyclesouthbrum](#)
<http://www.northfieldecocentre.com> <http://www.movemoreeatwell.com>
<http://www.cyclesouthbrum.com>

Person Description

- You are likely to have substantial experience or interest (and possibly qualifications) in any of the areas of education (especially Primary, Early years and out of school provision), environmental education, engagement with schools, sustainable living and the low carbon agenda and the development of charitable projects. This background or interest may be in the areas of food, energy, cycling or education. You will be able to communicate well and have a drive to move the organisation forward.
- You may have existing working relationships in the Birmingham or the schools network area.

- You are able to work to support and guide a multi-disciplinary team of part-time staff and volunteers.
- We are particularly interested in people who are committed to sustainable living or who want to find out more about it. This currently includes energy, transport and food.

What impact can you make?

We are a small organisation with a range of skills but need support and guidance to grow the organisation and improve its long term resilience. We are also currently reviewing our legal structure to make it fit for purpose. This may involve becoming an independent charity and requires an injection of new skills and expertise.

We are excited about our future and the impact we could make. Your input will help to improve our long term resilience and allow the delivery of projects to continue. This will, in turn, allow us to help more people to take positive action toward living more sustainably. This includes supporting people to learn to ride and maintain cycles, grow their own food, gain volunteering experience, teach more young people about living sustainably and helping organisations to alter their behaviour towards being more sustainable.

As a small organisation, the support we receive from our volunteers and management committee is extremely valued and intrinsic to our success. You will be able to help guide the future development of the organisation to ensure we maximise our impact in relation to the low-carbon agenda, our engagement with schools and educational opportunities in the community.

What's in it for you?

You will be part of a small, well-regarded charity. You will be able to pass your skills on to others in a new and challenging environment. There is also the opportunity to influence the future development of the organisation. It's a chance to apply your skills in a new area or field. You will also be able to learn a lot about sustainability, how to affect behaviour change and have the chance to engage in an issue that effects all of us. You will also have the opportunity to learn about the challenges of ethical marketing and fundraising. It would be helpful to have an interest and openness to the values we are led by: Simplicity and Sustainability, Peace, Equality and Truth and Integrity.

Time Commitment

Either in or out of office hours

The Management Committee meets quarterly and up to two other times a year. What other support you are able to commit is down to your availability.

How to apply

Please get in touch if you have any further questions or want to visit us, have a cuppa and discuss the opportunity further.

Contacts

Visit us: www.northfieldecocentre.com

Email us: michael@northfieldecocentre.com

Call us: 07530524349