

BGS Council Seek New Trustees

Who Can Apply?

Most people have some skills, knowledge or experience which they can bring to a charity. Trustees should have:

- A strong personal commitment to the charity's aims and objectives.
- MUST be a member of BGS or a nominated representative of an organization or company that is a member.
- Over 18 years of age.

The role of the Trustee

Charity trustees are the people who are responsible for the general control and management of the administration of the charity. In the charity's governing document they may be called trustees, managing trustees, committee members, governors or directors, or they may be referred to by some other title.

Trustee board means the charity's governing body. This may be called the management committee, executive committee or board of directors, or may be referred to by some other title. In the case of BGS it is Council.

Terms of Office

- There are four National Reps on Council all of whom serve for 4 years.
- The Honorary Treasurer and Secretary are annually elected
- The Presidential Team: President, President Elect and Immediate Past President are all Trustees and serve a 3 year term

Requirements

BGS require the Trustees to attend at least 2 full Council meetings a year and participate in teleconferences as required.

Attend and represent BGS at some, but not all BGS events e.g. Summer Meetings, Spring Farm Walks, Conferences, Workshops and Trade Shows.

To take an active involvement of the management of on-going BGS projects

To have the following:

- a working knowledge of the Society;
- its members interests;
- the general grassland sector;

Trustees must act with integrity, enthusiasm and in the best interests of BGS.

Reasonable expenses will be paid in accordance with the Society's policy.

What happens next?

The President writes to the prospective trustees, setting out their duties and the charity's expectations of them. They are asked to sign and return a copy of the letter.

It is essential that there are no restrictions, legal or other barriers to a trustee's appointment such as:

- anyone who has an unspent conviction for an offence involving deception or dishonesty;
- anyone who is an un-discharged bankrupt;
- anyone who has been removed from trusteeship of a charity by the Court or the Commissioners for misconduct or mismanagement;
- anyone under a disqualification order under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986

For more information please contact our Hon President John Downes on downesfarming@yahoo.com

Other sources of information:

<http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk/>