

THE EGRETS WAY PROJECT



How to Join the Committee

Introduction The Egrets Way (Ouse Valley Cycle Network) is registered with the Charity Commission (No.1155182) as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). Full details can be found on the Charity commission web-site www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission

As a CIO we have Voting Members as well as Trustees. Committee members elected by OVCN Members at the AGM usually become Trustees and have certain powers and responsibilities, but no financial liabilities.

At our first AGM in 2015 all the Trustees had to stand down but were eligible for re-election. In the second and subsequent years one third stand down but are also eligible for re-appointment up to a maximum eight terms.

A full copy of the Constitution can be obtained from the Secretary (secretary@egretsway.org.uk)

To join the committee

The maximum number of trustees is 12. There are currently nine committee members (7 Trustees and 3 co-opted members). Two will be stepping down as required and are standing for re-election. Members who wish to help deliver the Egrets Way project aims are welcome to apply.

EGRETS WAY AIMS

- Creating a network of safe, shared routes in the Ouse valley for everyday and recreational use
- Connecting Ouse Valley towns, villages and amenities
- Offering sustainable access for all to the South Downs National Park
- Encouraging healthy life-style choices
- Linking local, national and international routes
- Helping to create a healthy local economy and green tourism
- Promoting understanding of living landscapes

You can find more information about the Egrets Way on our web-site: www.egretsway.org.uk

and about the duties of a Trustee on the Charity Commission web-site:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3

The committee meets approximately every six weeks at the Abergavenny Arms, Rodmell. A committee member's role is to actively help deliver the organisation's Aims and to be being an advocate for the Egrets Way.

If you are interested please submit your name and contact details to the secretary. We also ask potential Trustees to write a short statement (maximum 250 words) indicating what particular skills or experience you can bring to the Egrets Way Project. You can see some example statements below.

Neville Harrison

Chair

EXAMPLE NOMINATION STATEMENTS

Wendy Brewer of Kingston Road

'I became involved in the Kingston to Lewes cycle track project in 2009 when asked to represent my local residents association in a joint venture with the Kingston Village Action Group. After 2 years we had certainly made progress, albeit slow. Local landowners had agreed to allow access to their land for the critical section of the proposed route and ESCC had carried out a preliminary feasibility assessment. However, when we were invited to join forces with the newly formed Ouse Valley Cycle Network Project in late 2011, it was immediately obvious that this merger would be beneficial to all parties. I joined the OVCN Steering Committee and within two months Sustrans had carried out a feasibility study for the whole network. Then core funding from the DfT for the Kingston to Lewes path was announced. The next 18 months were a lesson in what can be done with enthusiastic supporters, expert advice and a time limit. Now that this first branch of The Egrets Way is already in use and the next two in the pipeline, I would hope to continue to participate in what has been a very interesting and rewarding community enterprise.'

Chair, Kingston Road & Cranedown Residents Association Lewes

Neville Harrison of Southease

My involvement in our local communities' efforts to enable people to cycle in safety between Lewes and Newhaven goes back to 2001 when I represented Southease Parish on the C7 'Greenway proposals'. Unfortunately a route alongside the C7 road presented too many obstacles and was dropped. A riverside path following an existing Right of Way always seemed a more attractive option and so I welcomed the opportunity to become involved in a new initiative in 2011 sensing that, with the creation of the South Downs National Park and the publication of the Environment Agency's flood defence strategy the time was ripe for the river route to be promoted as an attractive and viable option. The dedication of an energetic core group, the wise decision of OVCN and the Kingston group to join forces together with some government funding initiatives have enabled us to make remarkable progress in a short time with over half the route in place by May 2016. I remain committed to our vision and guiding principles and remain optimistic the Egrets Way Project can, and will, be completed and I am willing to continue to give it a high priority.

Chair Southease Parish Meeting

Member South Downs National Park Authority

Member South Downs Local Access Forum

Zara Luxford of Rodmell

'My family and I moved to Rodmell two years ago. We are an active family of walkers, runners and recreational cyclists, on moving to the Ouse Valley we were immediately struck and disappointed by the lack of safe cycling opportunities for us as a family. I thoroughly support the aims of OVCN in developing and increasing access to safe cycling in the Ouse Valley and linking it to the South Downs.

I love the South Downs and count myself extremely lucky to live and work on them. I believe in promoting access for all to the Downs for recreation and inspiration.

Whilst I have been unable to join the OVCN committee before now, if elected I look forward to becoming fully involved as a committee member in the future, to act as a link to Rodmell Parish Council and residents of the village.'

Property Operations Manager, South Downs East, National Trust

Mick Long of Seaford

I moved to Seaford with my family 15yrs ago and have always enjoyed walking and cycling in the area, but have felt it a shame that there has never been a safe way to cycle north through the Ouse valley to Lewes. I feel this is emphasised more so now that Seaford has a shared cycle route from Exceat through to Newhaven town...but not beyond. As someone who commutes up both the C7 and the A26 I'm only too aware of how unsafe those roads are for cyclists. I think the work that has been achieved so far for the Egrets Way is fantastic and I would very much like to be involved in and contribute to helping bring the full plan into being. This is wonderful opportunity to create a community recreational space that would add much value to the area and the people who live here.

Finance Director, TUI Group PLC