

Bridewell Gardens

Trustee role information

About Us

Bridewell is a mental health charity using gardening and working in nature to support people recovering from serious mental ill health. From a walled garden and vineyard in West Oxfordshire, Bridewell provides the time and space for people to find hope in recovery.

About the Role – Trustee responsibilities

The Board of Trustees has collective responsibilities:

- To agree a clear and focussed strategy for Bridewell;
- To monitor progress against the strategy and agreed plans;
- To make sure Bridewell meets its legal and financial obligations as a registered charity;
- To make sure Bridewell is financially stable and spending its funds in line with its charitable objectives;
- To approve and monitor the implementation of Bridewell's policies and procedures.

Each trustee:

- brings their own experience and areas of expertise
- acts as an ambassador for the organisation helping to promote Bridewell's work
- shares Bridewell's values: hope in recovery, the importance of structure and routine, the power of community

Commitment:

- Participation in 4 Board meetings a year: 1.5 - 2 hour meeting with papers read in advance. Meetings are held in person at Bridewell.
- Participation in 4 Sub Committee meetings a year: 1 - 1.5hr meeting with papers read in advance. Meetings are held either in person or online.
- Expenses are paid, for example to cover the cost of travel to meetings.

About You – Skills and experience

We are recruiting for up to 3 new trustees.

As a trustee of Bridewell you will:

- have an understanding of the impact serious mental illness can have on peoples' lives
- have an understanding or interest in the role of mental health services

- have knowledge or interest in the voluntary sector and of the role of a trustee (previous trustee experience is not required)
- have a commitment to Bridewell's work, the values of the organisation and its charitable objectives
- have an understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of being a trustee
- demonstrate integrity and good, independent judgement

Specific Skills. We are looking for trustees who can strengthen Bridewell's board of trustees in one or more of these areas:

- Broadening the skills on our Board – knowledge of charity leadership, finance, fundraising, operations, service delivery
- Representing our wider community – applications welcome from people in their early career with no board experience
- Representing our wider community – trustees with experience of mental illness (personal experience or supporting others)
- Succession planning – trustees with the interest and aptitude to be a future Chair or Vice Chair of Trustees

To apply

- A CV and supporting statement should be sent to info@bridewellgardens.org.
- Please include in your statement why you are motivated to apply for this role and how you meet the skills and experience we are looking for.
- Shortlisted candidates will be invited to meet staff and the Chair of Trustees and to visit the Recovery Service in January-February 2025