

## Biographies 2026

### Trustees & Officers standing for re-election due to retiring by rotation in accordance with the CIO Constitution

#### Roger Smith

Sussex-born activist who has campaigned since 1996 against development that is inappropriate and destructive of communities, countryside and the natural environment. Educated Jesus Oxford (DPhil, and PGCE) and the University of Southampton; variously a professional archaeologist, Royal Air Force Officer, arctic explorer and expedition leader and planner, farm worker, conservation officer, company secretary, and Trustee CPRE Sussex and Protect Sussex Group chair. He is very concerned for the future of our precious countryside and landscapes.

#### Joshua Lelliott

Joshua is an experienced finance professional and chartered accountant, living in Balcombe, West Sussex. He is passionate about rural affairs and the British countryside and, as Treasurer, brings his skills and experience to help to make a positive difference to Sussex. Having grown up in the Sussex, he holds a profound appreciation for its diverse natural beauty, from the South Downs and High Weald to the vibrant coastlines, including Chichester Harbour. He believes we have a duty to protect these wonderful places and the countryside way of life.

Professionally, Josh works in corporate finance where he advises clients on mergers, acquisitions and fundraisings across a range of sectors. He is also treasurer and trustee for two community owned biodynamic farms near Forest Row

#### Jill Sutcliffe

Jill was born in London within reach of 9 Ancient Woodlands though it was some time before she understood this! She had Scottish and Cornish grandparents so became aware early on of the experiences of the more distant parts of the UK. She attended the Henrietta Barnett School in north London. The Henrietta Barnett School is a voluntary-aided state grammar school for girls founded in 1911 by the social reformer, community planner and pioneer of early female education, Dame Henrietta Octavia Weston Barnett.

Her first degree was in Combined Sciences as the Environment hadn't yet reached the curriculum. Her first job marked out the course she would follow working with student environment groups and supporting their work with newsletters, conferences and liaison. She took part in the first botanical survey of Cornwall evaluating the importance of the sites, setting up the junior branch of the Wildlife Trust and coordinating the local branches. At last she had both the time and the Environment courses she could apply for – namely the masters and PhD in Environmental Technology at Imperial College. That was followed by working coordinating the botanical work for 10 years done by the then English Nature (now Natural England).

Alongside her working life she has taken part in a variety of voluntary groups – opening a Women’s Refuge, chairing the Manhood Peninsula FOE group, co-founding the Manhood Wildlife and Heritage Group, encouraging local people to take an active interest in their local environment and chairing KKWG, the Keep Kirdford and Wisborough Green group – opposing an application for “fracking” and becoming the first village in the UK to succeed in getting the application turned down. She co-chaired the Office for Nuclear Regulation, ONR-NGO Forum for 6.5 years and is a CDC Climate Champion.

## **Nomination for Interim Chair**

### **Penny Hudd**

Penny studied Design at the Hornsey College of Art in London and Landscape Architecture at Harvard in the USA where she went on to practice as a designer for ten years, working for The Architects Collaborative, and Benjamin Thompson & Associates.

Moving to Hong Kong she worked with architects GMW and for the Hong Kong Government. On her return to the UK she maintained her design practice while moving into design education, initially as a senior lecturer at Norwich School of Art. This was followed by a move to Glasgow School of Art where she was Head of the Graphic Design Department and then to London to take on the role of Head of the School of Design at Kingston University. She has been an academic advisor and external examiner in the UK, at the Royal College of Art, Central St Martins, the University of Central Lancashire, University of the Arts, the University of Brighton and in Europe for the Austrian Education Department. She was also for several years a Governor of City College, now Brighton Metropolitan College.

Penny has been an active member and Trustee of CPRE Sussex since 2010.