

APPOINTMENTS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (to serve for a 3-year term)

**STATEMENTS FROM NOMINATED BOARD MEMBERS**

***FOUR SECRETARY OF STATE NOMINATIONS (three vacancies)***



**Sue Crawford**

I am:

- articulate
- analytical
- able to assimilate information quickly
- unafraid to challenge proposals
- mindful of the need to find workable solutions.

I joined CNL in July 2020 as an SoS board member. I have spent the last 3 years climbing the CNL learning curve, acquainting myself with its people; aims; threats; opportunities and strategy..... not to mention the jargon and acronyms!

I have been an active member of Planning and Infrastructure; attended Executive Committee meetings, and positively contributed at Board Meetings. I now feel well placed to serve on the Executive Committee itself.

The Executive Board's role is to provide positive challenge/ support to the main operational areas; to give advice/guidance; to act as an approving body.

My career as a City corporate solicitor (on-going) has given me wide ranging experience of acting as a sounding board for businesses - advising and guiding clients; finding solutions. Frequently I have had to challenge Government authorities/senior board level proposals, but have always sought practical outcomes.

Outside the law, I put these skills to good use in my 8 years pre-CNL as a Trustee of Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, adapting my corporate environment expertise to the natural world. This experience has already been useful for CNL not only with various legal issues that the Executive Board has faced (some confidential) but also in main Board meetings, and working groups (e.g. planning consultations; Brand Roll-out etc). Coming from outside the CNL sector requires more focus on understanding papers such as the Business Plan: but as a quasi- "outsider" I hope to bring fresh ideas and challenge.

My 2022 appointment as local Parish Councillor evidences my commitment to communities, and ability to inter-act and trouble-shoot.

**I want, with these skills and experience, to add value to the CNL Executive Board.**



**Graham Hopkins**

I am a Chartered Engineer with a career spanning forty years. My last corporate role was as Safety, Technical and Engineering Director for Network Rail, and as part of that, I chaired the Rail Industry Technical Leadership Group. Before that, I spent many years with Rolls-Royce plc, including as Director of Engineering and Technology for Defence Engines, and as EVP of Engineering and Technology for Aerospace Component Engineering.

I am a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, the Royal Aeronautical Society and the RSA.

My wife and I have lived in the Cotswolds for over eighteen years, in a small village about 1,000 feet above sea level. I have a strong affinity for this area, its landscape, its communities and its beauty. With the skills I have developed over the years coupled with my passion for the environment and how we adapt to climate change, I look forward to making a contribution to the valuable work of the CNL Board.

I have been a CNL Secretary of State member since 2019 and during that time with CNL I have served on the Exec, the Planning and Infrastructure Working Group, the A417 Steering Group and the Climate Action Working Group. I believe I bring a positive and collaborative approach to my work with the CNL Board and would very much like to continue to do so.



**Cate Le Grice Mack**

I come with a wide-ranging background. After my geography and economics degree I taught for some years in secondary schools, making twice-yearly field work visits to regions of the UK with A and O level pupils. While childrearing I continued teaching part time but became engaged in local administration as clerk to a parish council, and following that (inevitably?) joined first the local district council and later the County Council (Somerset). In both roles I was particularly involved in strategy, planning and transport suitable for the local areas.

Once the SW Regional Assembly started up I represented environmental bodies in the Social, Economic and Environmental partners, and then served on the board of the Countryside Agency. My last 35 years of "gainful employment" was running Norwood Farm, a 250 acre organic farm, open to the public, selling meat and other livestock products direct to visitors. At the same time - in cooperation with the local councils we opened various farmers' markets in Somerset and B&NES. So my experience has been in seeking to make a difference in rural areas for rural people, while maintaining the exceptional quality of the rural landscape. I have been a council leader, and am at present the regional chair of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England, and serve on its national policy committee.

Having served previously on the Mendip Hills board it has been exciting to come to an AONB such as the Cotswolds, where we have an opportunity to work closely with our local authority partners in making a special place to live, work and add value.



**John Swanton**

I am putting myself forward to serve on the Executive of the Cotswolds National Landscape because I am excited by our work programme, impressed by our enthusiastic staff team, and undeterred by the significant challenges ahead of us.

My professional background has been in the field of housing and have a particular interest in affordable rural housing for local people. For the past 12 years, I have served as a vicar in the south Cotswolds – engaging with all sorts of people and rural communities, learning about their fears, hopes and aspirations, and responding to some of their needs.

I can't profess any particular expertise in landscape management or nature recovery – but there is plenty of that within our organisation and among our board members. I don't have a particular agenda or axe to grind – my wish is to support CNL achieve our stated strategic and operational goals.

I would bring an enquiring mind and confidence to ask questions; a practicality and pragmatism in policy making; a good dose of common sense; and a desire to encourage the ambition of our organisation and support (and challenge) our staff team.

Having attended a couple of Executive Committee meetings recently, I should welcome the opportunity to engage more with the work of the organisation and be an ambassador for the Cotswolds National Landscape.

I am proud of this organisation and should like to be more involved in driving it forward as we seek to meet the multifaceted and competing needs and challenges facing our communities within the Cotswolds.

### **TWO PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS (one vacancy)**



**David Broad**

*Reasons why I'd like to remain on the Executive Committee:*

I have been quite vocal on the "confidential" matter and would like to see it through to completion. I find the work of the Executive varied and interesting. Experience has led me to question assertions and confirm by my own research to ensure as far as possible we do not unknowingly adopt policies and terminology which do harm. As an example Hydrogen can be used in fuel cells instead of batteries in vehicles from cars to Railway Trains, and now being developed by JCB as zero emission (except water vapour) power in Agricultural and Construction machinery. Unthinking references to "Electric" rather than "Zero Emission" Jargon has to my knowledge harmed these technologies, and I had a draft document altered accordingly.

I am very concerned at the effects of climate change and welcome the research into watercourses the Executive Committee was recently involved with. Flooding is now a problem in areas where prior to 2007 it was unheard of. Drought and Hose pipe bans are now also annual events. We must resist pressure to "Export" rather than reduce Carbon emissions, Educate, Reuse - recycle, We must follow our own policies across the whole organisation even when others are declaring emergencies and then carrying on regardless.

A Parish Councillor for 32 years, and a Cotswold District Councillor from 2003 to 2015. I have experience of a wide spectrum of issues facing the Board and residents alike as we strive to "Conserve and Enhance" the AONB, as laid down in our constitution. I hope I have been an asset to the executive committee and I would very much like to continue in this role.



**Martin Mitchell**

I've served on the Board since June 2021 and represent Parishes in B&NES, South Gloucestershire and Wiltshire. I'm a member of the Inclusion and Wellbeing working Group. I've lived in Claverton, just South of Bath since 2017.

Born into a Royal Navy family I followed my father's postings in England, Scotland, Bahrain and Mauritius and boarded at school in Winchester.

My first degree was in Business Management and I have PG qualifications in Criminology, Research Methodology and Organisational Management.

I worked as a police officer in the Metropolitan Police and Her Majesties Inspectorate. In addition to operational postings I worked on national projects and have experience of partnership working with local authorities and government and politicians at all levels. I was the Superintendent's Association lead on Health and Safety, and a member of their National Executive.

Since retiring I've been a Puppy Raiser for Guide Dogs; puppy number 8 arrives on 29th June! A hugely enjoyable and rewarding role once the first few weeks of 'weeing, pooing and chewing' are over!

Over the years I've held a variety of additional responsibilities: School Governor, Church Council and Synod member in the Diocese of Chelmsford. In 2015 I was asked to implement a structure to welcome Syrian refugees across the Diocese.

I've been a coach and mentor both in the police service and the Diocese of Chelmsford.

*What can I bring to the Executive Committee?*

An enquiring mind, experience of dealing with people and organisations across a wide spectrum and a varied life experience.

Living on the edge of the Cotswolds has made me appreciate our world more and involvement on both Parish Council and CNL Board has increased my wish to leave a more sustainable planet for generations to come.

**JUNE 2023**