

CITIZENS ADVICE BRIDPORT & DISTRICT – WHO WE ARE

Our Trustee Board is made up of a number of unpaid volunteers from the local community. Brief details of our current Trustee Board are as follows:

DAVID GIBSON - Chair

David joined the Trustee Board in January 2022 and has been Chair since May 2022. He is a retired public servant, having worked in both the overseas civil service and higher education in the UK.

COLIN MCREAVIE - Treasurer

Colin McReavie graduated from the University of Ulster with a BA (Hons.) Degree in Business Studies. Moving to London in 1980 he graduated as an accountant with the ACCA and took on his first role as Finance Director in 1986 working the remainder of his career in Senior Financial Roles in the Advertising, Media and Branding sectors.

Colin has been a volunteer youth worker at the Loders Youth Club, and has also been their Treasurer for a number of years. Colin is currently Treasurer for St Mary Magdalene Church in Loders and is a member of the Loders PCC. He is also Treasurer for the Bridport Folk Festival. He was formerly a Gateway Adviser for Bridport CAB, and is looking forward to a continued association with them in a new role as trustee and Treasurer.

JACQUI BISHOP

Jacqui works as a civil servant within central government. As a Human Resources Chartered Institute for Personnel and Development qualified professional, she is experienced at leading and supporting change across an organisation, improving the quality of line management relationships within the organisation and driving strategic people projects to conclusion on time and to budget. During a career break, Jacqui joined Bridport Citizens Advice as a volunteer advisor in 2022 and switched to volunteer governor in 2023 when she returned to work.

GEOFF JONES

Geoff joined Bridport Citizens Advice in January 2019 as an IT Support volunteer. He was involved in the upgrade of the IT systems to enable remote working, which was essential in the period of office closure during lockdown. He was elected to the Trustee board in 2022. He retains his IT Support role and is also chair of the Health and Safety, Premises & IT sub-committee. Geoff was teacher for 35 years and has worked in secondary and further education. In his most recent role, prior to taking early retirement, he was Head of Science in a secondary school in Surrey.

SUE PEMBERTON

Sue currently works as a civil servant within central government. She is experienced at leading teams, overseeing projects and managing budgets. She is also a qualified business coach who works

with clients to help them resolve work related issues. Sue initially joined Bridport Citizens Advice as an advisor in early 2022 and was elected to the board of trustees in February 2023.

JAMIE SCOTT

Jamie retired to Bridport in 2023 from north London. His career was in the private sector leading various programmes and projects in business transformation. He also spent several years managing IT departments in the entertainment sector. Jamie is chair of trustees at a secondary academy in north London and joined the CA board of trustees in Bridport in 2024.

GRAHAM SMITH

Graham Smith has a Masters Degree in Management, is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) and holds the Institute of Directors Certificate and Diploma qualifications for Company Direction. He moved to Dorset in 2000, to lead the Human Resources function for Dorset Police and subsequently took on the added responsibility of managing the same function for Devon & Cornwall Constabulary. During his 20 years in policing Graham worked on a variety of national and international projects and committees. He is currently President of the CIPD Police Forum and joined the Bridport CAB Trustee Board in 2019. JACQUI BISHOP

LAVINIA SONNENBERG

Lavinia has more than 20 years' experience at strategic and operational levels in private sector hospital management and corporate wellness service provision. She has many successes in the areas of business transformation and optimisation of service provision, most notably in the mental health sector, running a 24\7 contact centre and a national network of counselling clinics. Having spent most of her working career in South Africa Lavinia is passionate about ensuring that workplaces and communities understand and embrace diversity and that space is created for everyone to live the life they are capable of achieving.

Lavinia has been the Chair of the Johannesburg branch of the Businesswomen's Association of South Africa and Chair of a residential housing association that succeeded in preserving greenbelt areas that were in decline because of a housing development boom. Since moving to England she has continued to focus on business optimisation and consultancy. A 3 year term as an elected parish councillor in East Devon has kept up her keen interest in community resilience.

Lavinia was drawn to Citizens Advice because it acts for those who feel helpless in the face of adverse circumstances and it facilitates a 'joined up approach' to supporting citizens in need.