**** Trustee Board 2016/17

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| Name: ­­­ | Statement/reason for standing: |
| 1. Isabelle Osbourne

Elected at 2015 AGM | I have worked in the voluntary sector for over 20 years. During this time, I have seen and experienced many changes. I believe this experience will make a valuable and insightful contribution to the team. I have always admired the work of independent advice services in the city and believe they offer a valuable service to some of the city’s most vulnerable people. I would like to see the service built and expanded upon, introducing innovative approaches to the issues surrounding deprivation and disadvantage. I believe a strong, robust and forward thinking Management Committee is vital to support the work delivered by the team on the ground. |
| 1. Caron McKenna

Elected at 2015 AGM | I am currently Chair of Coventry Independent Advice Service. I am also the manager of the Students’ union advice centre at Coventry University and have been in post since 2002. I was previously in post at Aston and Warwick Universities. I co-chair the Coventry Community Forum, a group which meets monthly at Coventry Central Police Station. This group aims to bring together the vastly disparate ‘community’ groups in the city to share experiences, act as scrutineers to stop and search and discuss strategy and policy. In my spare time I campaign on human rights and equality.  |
| 1. Gavin Kibble

Elected at 2015 AGM | I am the current treasurer of Coventry Independent Advice Services and previously the shadow board. I was tasked with consolidating the advice services in Willenhall, Wood End and Holbrooks into one effective citywide advice service and this has largely been achieved.I am also the founder and Ops Director of Coventry Foodbank, a charity which has, over the last 5 years, fed 63,500 people. In 2013 we set up Coventry Clothes Bank. At the start of 2015 we partnered with CAB to deliver advice Services through foodbank and so with CIAS we have been able to ensure that service delivery is complimentary rather than competitive. I am a trustee of Hope Coventry CIO which is behind the winter night shelter, healing on the streets, street pastors. We are currently working with Age UK to implement a Befriending service for vulnerable isolated older people. I am a trustee of Mosaic Church, Coventry and a Director of the Hope Centre – a community centre in Hillfields. I am a trustee of Love Coventry which is a Re-Use project. I have held Board and Trustee positions for 21 years. I have run multi-million pound international businesses. I have set up, merged and closed down businesses. I am a trained management accountant who has an extensive range of non-financial skills in addition to being able to produce and understand accounts. I am a director of Imagine the day which delivers one-year residential training courses to Christians in business or ministry. Specifically, I provide business skills training and mentoring. In 2014 I received the Good Citizen Award for services to the City of Coventry – but in so many ways I feel I am at the start of this journey, not the end! |
| 1. Joseph Clifford

Elected at 2015 AGM | No statement received. |
| 1. Rachel Lancaster

Elected at 2015 AGM | No statement received. |
| 1. Michael Fell

Elected at 2016 AGM | A wide experience of management across the voluntary sector since 1980. |
| 1. Ralph Bamber

Elected at 2016 AGM | Both in my professional life and my voluntary contribution I have sought to forward social justice. I am now a retired teacher who always taught in priority area secondary schools. I completed my practical career at the NSPCC training adults to support families in difficulty. For some ten years I chaired the North East Area Voluntary Sector Forum, now closed down. During that period, I served on the Board of Voluntary Action Coventry. I have no expertise in delivering welfare rights advice but have over thirty-five years of Managing Wood End Advice Centre and helped develop the CIAS format. I maintained a constant presence on WEAIC’s management committee and for periods of time held executive roles such as chairperson and treasurer.  |
| 1. John Lowe

Elected at 2016 AGM | I am a Charted Accountant by profession and have since qualifying in 1996 spent a number of years in retail financial services covering different roles and companies. In more recent years I have been employed by Coventry Building Society as Finance Director which is a full Board position. My role encompasses all aspects of the Society’s financial operations including the raising and management of funds necessary to support future planned growth. I have a detailed knowledge of accounting and finance, and am used to operating at a senior level within organisations. I play a direct role in the formulation and delivery of the Society’s strategy. I am local to Coventry and am keen to be involved in a small, focussed organisation where I can use my skills to provide support to local communities. Particularly communities where there are high levels on inequality. |
| 1. Alan East

Elected at 2016 AGM | I am a Solicitor-Advocate (Higher Rights in Criminal Proceedings). Please note the following skills and experience: -* Organised, objective decision making: I have managed large caseloads as a practitioner and managed students as a lecturer. I can prioritise a workload and efficiently respond to difficult issues. I have and can make difficult decisions objectively and dispassionately. For example, as a Senior Crown Prosecutor when making decisions to charge criminal offences or within Higher Education when dealing with student complaints or assessment issues.
* High level of communication and oral skills: I am an accredited duty solicitor having successfully completed assessments in advocacy. I have extensive experience as an advocate in the Magistrates’ Court and Crown Court, appearing as a defence solicitor and prosecutor. As a lecturer I communicate to large groups of students on a daily basis. As President of Warwickshire Law Society, I chair meetings.
* High degree of written skills: I have passed assessments in drafting to become a Solicitor-Advocate. I have extensive experience drafting legal documents such as court applications, skeleton arguments, legal arguments, indictments, and ancillary applications. As a lecturer I have published articles in peer-reviewed journals.
* Management Skills: I have managed a commercial business and made difficult decisions on finance and human resources. As President of the Warwickshire Law Society I have management responsibilities for the Society business.
* Good relationships with other organisations and professionals: I have worked closely with external organisations such as the Police Force, Probation Service and Court Service. At present I have a good relationship with the Law Centre in Coventry as part of my interests in social welfare.
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