

# CCA – Trustee Recruitment Intro

## 1. What is Crowborough Community Association?

Crowborough Community Association is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (association model), having acquired this status in 2022. Its principal charitable objectives are (paraphrased).

- a) To provide facilities in the interest of social welfare for recreation and leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants of Crowborough and surrounding villages
- b) To establish or secure the establishment of a community centre and maintain and manage the same for the furtherance of these objectives.

The Association owns Crowborough Community Centre in Pine Grove, Crowborough, on a leasehold basis from Crowborough Town Council but the Council has no part in its management. The day-to-day operation of the Community Centre is managed by a full-time employed manager, contracted part-time duty managers (currently 5), zero-hours duty managers (currently 4) and one part-time caretaker/cleaner. The annual turnover is ca. £175,000.

## 2. The Association's vision

To become the recognised champion of social and cultural interests and aspirations in the local community.

## 3. The Association's mission

To continue to run Crowborough Community Centre as an attractive vibrant venue at the heart of the community and to consider other opportunities to help the local community.

## 4. How could you make a difference as a trustee of CCA?

The board is looking to supplement its numbers with trustees who bring high level, appropriate skills such as marketing/publicity, IT and technical. The board members act as supporters and advisers to the management and are expected to take an interest in all aspects of how the community centre is run.

Trustees are expected to show commitment to the CCA by serving at least 3 years. However, the CCA aims to comply with the Charity Governance Code with no trustees serving more than 9 years.

The board of trustees meets 6 times a year on alternate months with the expectation of an additional 'away' session each year.

## 5. A history of Crowborough Community Association

The CCA was formed in 1974 by a group of local residents who felt that the cultural and social life of Crowborough needed improving. Their mission was to build a community hall in which cultural and social events could take place. They identified a location

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where today's community centre stands, designed the building and had a model of it made. However, they were never able to secure the land from the owner, the district council, so instead bought an existing building in Croham Road but which was a poor reflection of their ideal.

The hall was used by various groups and societies which met there and for events put on by the CCA. However, in time the building suffered from lack of investment and lacked facilities which people were coming to expect. So, by the early 1990s it was dilapidated and under-used. Local people were starting to grumble vocally about the lack of community spirit in Crowborough, attributed to a large degree to there being no-where to meet.

During a large public meeting in 1993 about supermarkets, the more burning issue of the need for a community hall was vociferously raised. Following that meeting, a group of local councillors got together to pursue the possibility of developing a centre fit for modern purpose.

The CCA continued to exist, running its hall, while the project to deliver a new community centre was pursued by a steering group of councillors. After a while it was clear that the project needed to be pursued under the umbrella of a recognised organisation and this became possible as trustees of the CCA retired and were replaced by members of the steering group.

After years of negotiations and fund raising, the CCA (by now a limited company) acquired a 125 year lease from Wealden District Council of the land on which the community centre now stands. The annual ground rent is £1. After many set-backs, the funding was secure, and building began at the end of 2011. The Centre was opened in 2012. Wealden District Council subsequently sold the land to Crowborough Town Council which is now the CCA's landlord.

## 6. Other documents which you might find helpful

The latest approved accounts: [CCA Accounts 2023](#)

The constitution of the CCA: [CCA Constitution](#)

Note: These are available on the Crowborough Centre website  
[www.crowboroughcentre.info/about-us](http://www.crowboroughcentre.info/about-us)

### **Essential guidance from the Charity Commission:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3>

### **A Charity Commission eligibility form which all trustees have to sign:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/confirmation-of-charity-trustee-eligibility>

Thank you for your interest in the CCA and we look forward to your application to become a trustee.