

Sims Hill Shared Harvest Board elections

- All members are eligible & are encouraged to stand for election to the Board
- If you are interested, please provide a short bio (including relevant skills & experience & what you would bring to the work of the Board). This needs to be submitted 2 weeks before the meeting.

Every year, one third of the Board must stand down and may submit themselves for reelection if they wish.

From the Sims Hill Shared Harvest Articles of Association:

Elected Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall be elected by and from the Co-operative's Members. The composition of the Board of Directors following the first Annual General Meeting shall be as follows:

- (a) More than two and less than six harvest share Members;
- (b) Not more than two paid worker members;
- (c) Not more than two Supporter Members.

The commitment required from all Directors includes attending monthly Board meetings, reading minutes and papers, as well as a range of other tasks, which are open to negotiation according to your experience, skills and interests.

On election to the Board of Sims Hill, members will receive Board induction training, to include the role and responsibilities of Board members, a brief history of Sims Hill, a summary of successful grant applications, overview of important issues currently being addressed by the Board as well as the opportunity to ask any questions about the Board and how it works. The training will be organised to suit new Board members, and may be face to face or if agreeable, via a Skype call or similar.

How to be a Sims Hill Director (Board member)

During Board meetings and in carrying out their responsibilities Board members will

- remember that their first responsibility is to represent the members who own and control Sims Hill Shared Harvest Co-operative
- work together as a team, consistently presenting a unified front with respect to Board decisions
- satisfy themselves that information is adequate, particularly in relation to risk assessment and due diligence
- recognise the value of every member of the Board, and be open to other people's ideas and try to see their point of view
- avoid basing their opinions solely on personal knowledge or experience
- read documents and supporting materials before the meeting

- be willing to give and accept constructive criticism
- when appropriate, constructively challenge one another or others with whom they work as a Board
- not seek to dominate Board discussions, pursue personal agendas or behave, verbally or non-verbally, in a way that is aggressive, offensive or abusive
- take part in induction and training

Directors' duties and responsibilities

- The Directors are responsible for the management of Sims Hill's business
- Directors have the power to determine policies and procedures associated with membership including setting subscription levels

Board meetings

The Board meets monthly, currently on the second Tuesday of the month. Meetings are held at individual Board members' houses or a local venue and last from 1.5 to 2 hours

- The Agenda is agreed in advance by the Chair and the Secretary, and any papers are circulated in advance so that Directors are aware of discussions and decisions that need to be taken