



Trustee Recruitment 2023



PK Porthcurno Registered charity no: 1189090
Registered address: Eastern House, Porthcurno, Penzance, Cornwall, TR19 6JX

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in PK Porthcurno, Museum of Global Communications. In this information pack we provide a background to the charity and the role and responsibility of the Board of Trustees for potential applicants.

PK Porthcurno is entering an exciting new phase in its development and we are keen to strengthen our existing Board with the recruitment of at least two new Trustees. We are looking for individuals from a broad range of backgrounds, who can offer enthusiasm, commitment and positive thinking to help us deliver our mission. The particular skills and experience we seek are detailed in the pack and include education, environmental responsibility, inclusivity and relevance, and cultural strategy. However, we would also like to hear from individuals who do not meet these specific criteria but who believe they could contribute to our thinking and future success.

If you would like to learn more about our work, please read on and hopefully you will be inspired to apply.

PK Porthcurno

PK Porthcurno is an award-winning museum that explores the story of how the world connects. From 1870, when the first undersea telegraph cable came ashore here from India, to the arrival of fibre optics which carry virtually all our communications today, the sands of Cornwall's most idyllic beach have hidden some of the world's greatest communications secrets.

PK Porthcurno is a centre for the education of the public in the history and technology of international communications and provides access to an internationally recognised resource.

In its iconic white building just off the beach, PK Porthcurno is a celebration of the pioneering achievements of unsung heroes, and the power of human ingenuity in the quest to connect people and places. Here, we transformed the way the world connects. PK Porthcurno is for people who want to understand how a once uninhabited valley in Cornwall became the heart of worldwide communications, how it remains so today, and what might happen tomorrow.

User access is provided by events and exhibitions, schools workshops, learning outreach, demonstrations of working equipment, access to collections for research and online access.

OUR VISION:

A world where people are inspired by the past, understand the science and technology that connects them, and use that knowledge to imagine and shape a better future.

OUR MISSION:

We enable people to explore the connected world, understand the history, science and technology of global communications, and consider what this means in their own lives.

OUR VALUES:

Inspiring: we love what we do and hope to inspire others by sharing our enthusiasm and inviting their participation

Progressive: we are forward thinking, adventurous and not afraid to try new things

Relevant: we engage people with our collections and stories and how these relate to their own lives

Sustainable: we work towards a sustainable world and aim to do no harm

Open: we create an inclusive and open environment which welcomes respectful discourse

Governance

PK Porthcurno is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), overseen by a Board of up to 12 Charity Trustees and associated sub-committees. The Board meets 4 times per year, plus ad hoc meetings as required. Most meetings are conducted remotely.

Duties of a Charity Trustee

The duties of a Charity Trustee are set out in law and can be summarised as follows.

A Charity Trustee must:

- Ensure the charity is carrying out its purposes for the public benefit
- Comply with the charity's governing document and the law
- Make sure that the charity complies with its governing document
- Comply with charity law requirements and other laws that apply to the charity
- With co-trustees, make balanced and adequately informed decisions, thinking about the long term as well as the short term
- Act in the charity's best interests
- With co-trustees, put appropriate procedures and safeguards in place and take reasonable steps to ensure that the charity's resources are managed responsibly
- Act with reasonable care and skill
- Ensure the charity is accountable
- Be able to demonstrate that the charity is complying with the law, well run and effective.

Who are we looking for?

We seek to recruit new Charity Trustees to enhance the skillset of the Board. Of particular interest are individuals with a strong background in:

- Education (especially school age and families)
- Environmental responsibility
- Inclusivity and Relevance
- Cultural Strategy

We are also keen to hear from individuals who do not meet these specific criteria but believe they could contribute to our thinking and our future success and resilience.

How to apply

If you are interested in becoming a Trustee of PK Porthcurno and think you have what we are looking for, we would love to hear from you.

Applications should include a recent CV and a covering letter of no more than two sides outlining your interest in joining the PK Porthcurno Board and how your skills and experience will contribute to our future plans. These should be addressed to the chair, Professor Gareth Parry (gareth.parry@pkporthcurno.com). Interested applicants are also welcome to contact him for further information before applying.

The closing date for applications is 5pm, 31st March 2023. Interviews will be held mid-April with new Trustees inaugurated at the July 2023 Board meeting.

We use a Diversity Audit Questionnaire to monitor the effectiveness of our recruitment process. We ask that you complete the anonymous questionnaire which can be downloaded from our website https://pkporthcurno.com/museum_news/trustee-recruitment/. For a paper copy of the questionnaire please call 01736 810966.

Completed questionnaires should be returned to kay.dalton@pkporthcurno.com.