

## Director/Trustee

Ambos Community Trust Fal trustees play a vital role in making sure that the organisation achieves its core purpose to promote Community-led placemaking along The Fal River area.



Figure 1: The Fal River area we serve

Ambos Trustees have a strong sense of belonging to the area and desire to promote Ambos' values, which are to;

### Nurture Belonging

- Enhance people's connection to place, nature and each other.
- Support the development of intentional communities that look outward; welcoming places, committed as much to the prosperity of the wider neighbourhood as they are to their own flourishing.
- Foster dynamic governance and consent-based decision making to encourage democratic participation.

## **Promote Resourcefulness**

- The thoughtful gathering and sharing of skills, funds and ideas to make places that are as brilliant as they can possibly be.
- Use knowledge and collaborative learning to inspire the conversation around design and living, both within Ambos projects and beyond into the wider community.
- Sharing space and stuff. Be well-balanced and thoughtful to ensure resources are well utilized.
- Making and mending is important to us, we want to put an end to a throw away culture.
- Make things easily accessible on foot or bike, cars are designed for but not prioritized.

## **Encourage Diversity**

- Ensure equality of opportunity to encourage a diverse mix of individuals and families to get involved.
- Encourage alternative models of land ownership outside of the market to increase people's choice.
- Use business models, by virtue of their collective approach, to encourage mutual benefit over individual gain and increase people's opportunity to be part of a social enterprise.

## **Be long-lived**

- Encourage creative participation and explore our imaginations to ensure that places remain vibrant, relevant and fit for present and future generations.
- To encourage regenerative lifestyles, by creating and maintaining green space for play areas, growing food and medicine and wildlife habitats.
- A place that through its proximity to existing community and facilities inspires regeneration beyond its borders. For the long run.

## **Aim for Exemplary**

- We are 'placemakers' not developers - We support the Community Land Trust movement to reinforce the importance of 'Building Belonging' rather than building developments.
- Provide stable, secure, long-term homes through mutual ownership models, where investment is about way more than money, and where the sense of ownership is about the place and a vision of the people living there.
- Mindful of environment and ecology, drawing on the latest technologies and techniques to keep the footprint small.

Our Trustees collectively oversee the management and administration of the Community Land Trust (Registered as a Community Benefit Society- soon to be

charitable). Trustees also ensure that Ambos has a clear strategy and that our work and goals are in line with our vision. Just as importantly, they support and challenge Project Crews to embody Ambos' mission to:

- Secure and hold local land in perpetuity
- Enhance assets for future generations
- Facilitate and support people wanting to set up cohousing & mutual home ownership societies
- Educate and raise awareness of more collaborative & neighbourly ways of building and living

Board members have a collective responsibility. This means that trustees always act for the benefit of the group and not as individuals.

### **Duties:**

- Support and provide advice on Ambos' purpose, vision, goals and activities.
- Approve operational strategies and policies and monitor and evaluate their implementation.
- Oversee Ambos' financial plans and budgets and monitor and evaluate progress.
- Ensure the effective and efficient administration of the organisation.
- Ensure that key risks are being identified, monitored and controlled effectively.
- Review and approve Ambos' financial statements.
- Keep abreast of changes in Ambos' operating environment.
- Contribute to regular reviews of Ambos' own governance. Attend Board meetings, adequately prepared to contribute to discussions.
- Use independent judgment, acting legally and in good faith to promote and protect Ambos' interests, to the exclusion of their own personal and/or any third-party interests.
- Contribute to the broader promotion of Ambos' objects, aims and reputation by applying your skills, expertise, knowledge and contacts.

As a small CBS, there will be times when the trustees will need to be actively involved beyond Board meetings. This may involve scrutinising board papers, leading discussions, focusing on key issues, providing advice and guidance on new initiatives, presenting externally, or other issues in which the trustee has special expertise.

### ***What we are looking for***

We are looking for people willing to bring energy, enthusiasm and commitment to the role, and who will broaden the diversity of thinking on our board.

You do not need previous governance experience – we will provide a full induction and training.

## Personal skills and qualities

- Willingness and ability to understand and accept their responsibilities and liabilities as trustees and to act in the best interests of the organisation.
- Ability to think creatively and strategically, exercise good, independent judgement and work effectively as a board member.
- Effective communication skills and willingness to participate actively in discussion.
- A strong personal commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion.
- Enthusiasm for our vision and mission.
- Willingness to lead according to our values.

## Crew membership

Ambos currently runs 2 projects.

Fal Cohousing Neighbourhoods (code name Project FalCoN)

and

SPUD youth Cornwall

Ambos trustees should be aware and take interest in all projects, but we encourage trustees to participate and focus on the development of one project during their term and promote crews to follow the 'Pirate' Code:

---

NO SURPRISES

---

FORGIVE FAST

---

KEEP YOUR EGO IN CHECK

---

BE YOUR WORD

---

TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

---

UNLIMITED IMAGINATION

---

ARGUE THE ISSUE NOT THE PERSON

---

Figure 2: The Pirate Code : [Click to go deeper into each attitude.](#)

## ***Terms of appointment***

### **Terms of office**

- Trustees are appointed for a minimum of a 6-month term, to a maximum of 10 years.
- This is a voluntary position, but reasonable expenses are reimbursed.

### **Time commitment**

- Attending a minimum of 12 Board meetings annually. Currently meetings are held both remotely on Microsoft Teams and in various venues in the Fal River area.
- Attending 1 training day within each term.

Thank you for considering joining our Board. We welcome any feedback and suggestions to improve this document.

### **Volunteer Enquires to:**

Miguel Fernandez

07974705237

[hello@ambos.org.uk](mailto:hello@ambos.org.uk)