**Emsworth Residents Forum**

**Leadership Group**

**Information**

**Opportunities to join the leadership group**

Emsworth Residents Forum is a membership organisation that aims to influence the development of Emsworth so that it is fit for the changing world and continues to flourish. This is a wonderful opportunity to join a committed team of volunteers who shape the strategy of the forum, act as a voice for community interests and work with other community organisations to get things done.

**What we do**

The ERF has a broad remit to promote and improve the wellbeing of Emsworth for the benefit of its residents, and to protect the character of the area.  It does this by:

* Campaigning for Emsworth
* Working with and supporting other community organisations
* Effective communication – using the EMS, the website, social media platforms and public events to involve everybody, share information and celebrate success
* Building on the Neighbourhood Plan – keeping it up to date and making progress on priority themes and projects
* Involving the entire community – ensuring that the membership is truly representative and the agenda reflects this
* Maintaining effective links to our local authority and beyond – a productive partnership with our councillors, Havant, Hampshire, central government and other agencies

**The role of the leadership group**

The governance of the ERF is the responsibility of a leadership group elected by the members.

The terms of reference of the group include:

* Running the business of the ERF
* Appointing and overseeing workgroups
* Agreeing work priorities and the allocation of resources
* Preparing an annual work plan and budget and setting targets
* Recruitment of members and succession planning
* Considering applications for and awarding grants
* Developing the ERF including the move towards incorporation

Working groups

Formal committee time is kept to the minimum with most effort going into working groups concentrating on specific campaigns or project activity of one form or another. 3 principal workgroups exist at present and new members will be expected to participate on at least one of them.

***Neighbourhood Planning*** *work group – one of the core functions of the ERF*

***Communications*** *– keeping everyone in Emsworth informed of what’s going on including publishing the EMS*

***Outreach/ ‘Emsworth Together’*** *– bringing residents with common interests together to make things happen*

**What we are looking for**

We are looking for a number of new members to join the leadership group. We are skills-based, with members having one or more identified skills, relevant to the work of the forum. We are particularly looking for know-how in the following areas, though encourage anyone who is interested to apply:

* Town planning, architecture, landscape design and the public realm.
* The design and management of roads, footpaths and cycleways in any or all respects.
* The environment and sustainability
* Financial management and fundraising
* The management of membership organisations
* Communications and marketing
* Event management

**The commitment**

Group members are elected by the membership for a 3-year year term. It is intended that the leadership group will grow to 10-12 (including some co-opted members).

The committee meets 4 times a year during a weekday evening. Working groups also meet as necessary to address the workload they are dealing with. The arrangements for these meetings are flexibly negotiated to suit the participants and their other commitments.

3-4 evening public consultation meetings (including an AGM) are also held during the year and it is desirable that group members provide support at a proportion of these.

**The benefits**

The role is entirely voluntary and unpaid but…

…it is a rewarding one, where you will have the opportunity to use your expertise and experience for the benefit of the community; working to ensure that the town you have chosen remains a flourishing and humane place to live in. It also offers scope to develop experience in the governance of voluntary organisations, strategy development, public administration and project management.

**Interested?**

To find out more please contact Mike Ridley, secretary of the ERF ( secretary.erf@gmail.com) , for an exploratory chat.