



### THAMES CHASE TRUST AND YOUR ROLE

Thames Chase Community Forest was established in 1990 and covers an area of 70 square miles on the edge of east London and south-west Essex. It is one of thirteen national Community Forests known as England's Community Forests.

Since 1990, the creation of Thames Chase has been driven by its approved Forest Plan: The Thames Chase Plan ([www.thameschase.org.uk](http://www.thameschase.org.uk)). The vision for Thames Chase is simple:

**By 2030, Thames Chase Community Forest will be recognised as an inspirational example of landscape regeneration where enhanced, connected woodland and green space has made a clear difference to wildlife and peoples' lives.**

Thames Chase Trust welcomes around 120,000 visitors per year to the Forest Centre complex, which includes the surrounding Broadfields Farm Community Woodland (owned and managed by Forestry England). The architecturally acclaimed Visitor Centre is the information hub for the entire Community Forest and includes a shop, refreshments area, and public toilets.

The complex also includes a 17th century barn, original stable block, refurbished Education Room, and farm cottages. The latter has been converted into office space principally for Thames Chase staff and the Forestry England Thames Beat team.

Our professional and friendly board of trustees are volunteers and oversee all aspects of the Trust's business and are supported by a dedicated full-time Director and a further team of twelve staff members. In addition, the organisation is strengthened by our highly valued volunteers, covering the Forest Centre complex, education, events, and practical conservation in the field.

Collectively, we create what has become to be known as the Thames Chase Family. Every member of this family has a pivotal role to play in delivering the Thames Chase Plan. It's a true team effort.

## SPECIALIST AREAS

At this time, the board of trustees is seeking individuals with interest and specialisms in the following areas of our business:

- Finance
- HR
- IT
- Natural Environment including the history and heritage of the Thames Chase Community Forest landscape
- Forestry
- Agriculture
- Health & Wellbeing
- Fundraising/Grants
- Community Engagement

## OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY

The objects of the Charity are to promote for the benefit of the public generally any charitable purpose within London and Essex and the Thames Gateway area and beyond connected with the enhancement and improvement, maintenance and protection of the environment and landscape and in particular to:

- promote, provide and enhance woodland for the benefit of the public
- promote the general improvement of agriculture and of industry and commerce, particularly in relation to woodland or forestry products
- promote and provide for the improvement of derelict land or harmful sites
- provide or help to provide for the general public facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation particularly involving the enjoyment of land and woodland as a public amenity (and in furtherance to help to provide safe and convenient routes and modes of transport for the public, for safe cycling, and for the development of facilities including nature trails, reserves and sanctuaries, horse and cycle and footways, parkland and visitor facilities and car parks)
- promote community participation in healthy recreation by providing facilities for playing particular sports
- educate the public in environmental matters, in ecology and provide better appreciation of the environments and ways of better serving, protecting and improving the same and education and training in all matters relating to the environment and its interaction with the social and economic wellbeing of the community
- promote the arts within the woodland and natural environments
- promote for the benefit of the public the ecology and use of the natural environment and all species living in it
- promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, enhancement and improvement of the environment and to educate the public in the importance of sustainable development in relation to all the activities of the Charity
- Further information about the Charity Commission which regulates charities in England and Wales can be found at:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission>  
(Thames Chase Trust registered charity number: 1115627)







## WHAT IS REQUIRED OF A TRUSTEE?

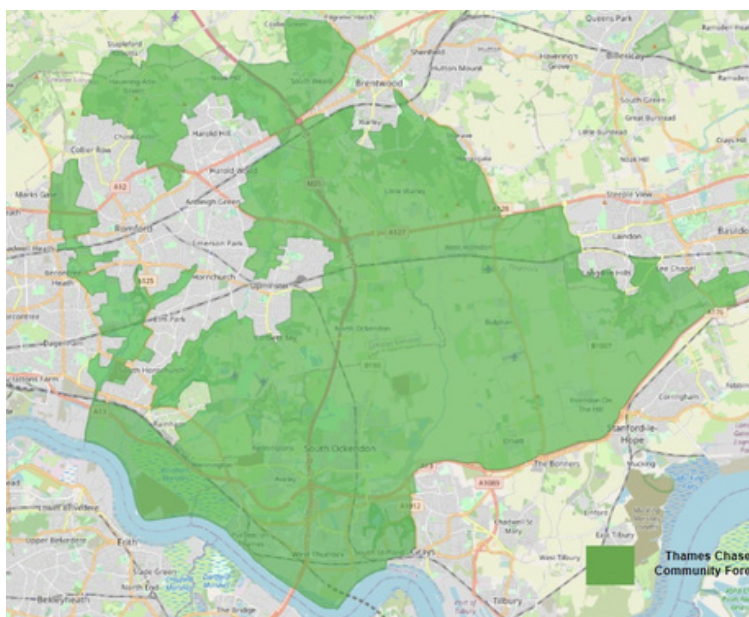
- to attend four trustee meetings per year plus the Annual General Meeting (AGM)
- to support and advise fellow trustees and the staff team throughout the year
- to gain an understanding of the Thames Chase Plan, Forest Centre complex and the overall functions, aims and objectives of Thames Chase Community Forest

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO APPLY TO BECOME A TRUSTEE?

If you are interested in applying to become a trustee of Thames Chase Trust, please submit a covering letter and CV outlining why you are interested, your experience and interests to Christine Burt (Chair) via email:

**[christine.burt@thameschase.org.uk](mailto:christine.burt@thameschase.org.uk)**

If you have any queries or would like to informally discuss the role of trustee prior to applying, please contact Christine Burt as above.



**Thank you for your interest in Thames Chase Community Forest**