



COMMUNITIES FIRST WESSEX (Trading as Community First) Directors' Biographies

Beverley Jones



Beverley has been a resident of East Hampshire (Alton) for the last 38 years.

Lived and worked in Hampshire since leaving college in Winchester. Trained as a teacher and taught in several schools in the county. Became a full-time youth and community worker and was the county officer for a large voluntary youth organisation covering Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Developed and managed the first community school in the county. Eventually moved into the world of adult learning and training. Retired early as a vice principal of a large further and higher education college in north Hampshire and then helped develop the adult and training services of Hampshire County Council over a nine-year period.

“Because of my background I have a good understanding and knowledge of the voluntary community sector and its interface with various statutory organisations in Hampshire. Until recently I was a board member of an international adult and community learning organisation, chairman of the North Hampshire bench of magistrates and the Prince’s Trust in Hampshire.

I became associated with Community First East Hampshire some 8 years ago and took a lead role in merging the organisations that work with Havant and Winchester to form Communities First Wessex (trading as Community First). Now fully retired I spend my time on travelling and the further development and growth of Communities First Wessex. I hold a Master’s Degree in Business and Administration.”

Trevor Lewis



Trevor has a BA in Economics and History. His career has involved developing and implementing large-scale IT systems solutions across a wide range of industries. Company director for thirty years, including roles as MD, CEO and Chair.

His wide range of experience and skills include General Management, Change Management, Sales and Marketing, Tendering for Contracts, Product and Service Development, Finance, HR, Consultancy, Project Management, Mergers and Acquisitions. He has worked in the voluntary sector for a number of years, including being Chair of a CVS, Winchester Area Community Action, now part of Community First. He is used to working at senior level with local authorities.

Trevor's other interests include being Vice-Chair of Home-Start Winchester and District. He enjoys hill walking, theatre, literature, art, watching rugby and cricket.

He says: "I believe that with austerity budgets and funding cuts to many services, charities, local authorities and individuals must join together to mobilise resources to mitigate the impact of these cuts on those in most need in our society. I am very pleased to be a part of Community First which, as the CVS for around 40% of Hampshire, is locally at the forefront of this activity."

Clive Graham



"I qualified as a teacher and youth worker and initially worked for 12 years in Rutland and Leicestershire as a youth and community tutor/teacher based at a Community College. I have a B. Phil in Education.

In 1985, I moved to Andover, Hampshire, and worked for a further 26 years as a Community Education Manager based at a Community School to manage locally based adult learning, youth work, extended services and community education.

For the 10 years before retirement, in 2010, I also managed the community based Andover Adult and Family Learning provision which was initially funded through a sizeable European Social Fund grant. The provision made a significant contribution to engage "hard to reach" families and adults in learning whether to improve their literacy and numeracy skills and/or to take steps to return to learning to gain new qualifications. A dedicated Information and Advice Service was externally funded to support many of the learners to return to work. The provision was an excellent example of inter-agency collaboration and partnership working both with the voluntary and statutory sectors.

I am a keen mountain/hill walker and still enjoy an airy rock scramble on a sunny day."