

JANE ELLIS SEABROOK

Nominated as a result of Council recruitment process by Amanda Jones (Chair of Council) and Matt Pope (Deputy Chair of Council)

PERSONAL STATEMENT

I am a leader and senior manager with expertise in governance (corporate and board, profit and not-for-profit sectors), strategic development, business ethics, risk management and project development. I manage and work with teams of highly qualified and talented employees and consultants to conduct governance assessments and reviews and implement governance reforms and restructures to ensure organisations operate in accordance with their governing documents, the UK Corporate Governance Code, Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 to facilitate their long term sustainability. I have a Certificate in Business Sustainability from the Said Business School, Oxford University. I am an Australian qualified lawyer and a former partner in competition law at the Sydney office of Ashurst. Prior to undertaking a law degree, I completed a degree in archaeology and anthropology.

As for board / trustee experience, at present I am a co-opted member of the Sussex Archaeological Society's Governance, Audit and Risk Committee, the independent Chair of WaterAid International's Membership and Accreditation Committee, the interim Chair of the Worcestershire Cricket Foundation and a trustee with the Herefordshire Wildlife Trust.

As the owner of Ellis Seabrook Limited, I work extensively with companies that want to strengthen their corporate cultures and ethics – that is, their corporate governance, standards, and values – and to effect change across their organisation. This work includes reviewing organisations' current governance practice, supporting the trustees and management teams to improve their governance, accountability and financial reporting, reviewing and updating policies. Recent work includes working with the board and executive team of an international marine conservation charity with operations and subsidiaries located in some challenging countries. They want to ensure the board, global operations, governance structures and practices are consistent with best practice and meet corporate governance and Charity Commission requirements.

If elected as trustee, it is this experience and these collective skills that I offer to the Society. The Society is one of the UK's oldest archaeological county-based societies, the objects of which are to, in part, promote the study of archaeology and establish and maintain museums for the benefit of the public. Its own heritage is something for which the Society ought to be proud. For the Society to achieve its objects requires knowledge and experience in archaeology, museums and their collections and property management. However, it also requires robust governance structures and accountability to enable long term sustainability. It would be a privilege to join the board of trustees and to contribute my skills toward ensuring the continuation of the Society's work.