

Ripon Museum Trust People Committee External Member

The Committee Structure

The Ripon Museum Trust Board has been aware that as the organisation has grown so too has the need to ensure that it is properly governed. Trying to look at all aspects from curation to HR, from learning to volunteers etc in some detail at every board meeting has become impossible to do. Some areas of activity have not been getting sufficient examination. The board therefore decided to devolve some of its work to four committees each chaired by a trustee with staff, volunteers and external members as appropriate to its area of responsibility. These committees are Finance & Marketing, Learning & Curation, Business & Operations and People.

The People committee will have specific responsibility for:

- Workforce Capacity and Organisation
- Recruit and Retain - the most effective team to meet our business objectives
- Learning and Development
- Workplace Environment to include managing HR issues
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
- Managing HR issues

We would like external members with experience, skills and interests relevant to the People Committee to join the existing members in order to bring a fresh or alternative view. This is an ideal opportunity for a volunteering professional to share and grow their experience. As this is a new structure, we are suggesting up to 5 meetings over a one year tenure.

Why not get involved? We would like to hear from you by October 31st.

To apply either email your contact details with a brief description of your experience and interest to admin@riponmuseums.co.uk or contact the chair of the committee directly mandywhitehead@btinternet.com with your telephone number so she can call you for a chat.

History and Background

The Ripon Museum Trust was established in 1982 and runs three museums in the heart of Ripon. The Workhouse Museum, Prison and Police Museum and Courthouse Museum are all situated in historic buildings and tell the story of the buildings themselves, the people who lived and worked there, and the history behind how these institutions came to be. Our offer is truly unique in that, while you can see other museums of a similar nature elsewhere, you can't see all three in one place. We show all aspects of law and order, justice, crime and punishment, poverty and social justice combined into one place.

Our mission is to enrich the lives of all who experience and are inspired by our historic law and order sites and collection so that they gain insights into, and are provoked into thinking about, how the treatment of offenders and the relief of the poor have developed over the last 200 years. We will be a model of the ways in which the past is used to create a deeper, more compassionate and more equitable society.

We also want to enhance substantially Ripon's sense of place and to improve the wellbeing of our volunteers and our local community.

Our vision is to be the most engaging and admired small museums in the country delivering our mission with pride and integrity.

We have a team of over 140 volunteers who work tirelessly to look after the museums, deliver first-rate customer service, run an award winning education programme, curate our buildings and collections and build partnerships in the community. These volunteers are supported by a staff team of 5FTE who co-ordinate the efforts.

The Trust has recently been awarded the status of National Portfolio Organisation by Arts Council England, and will be expanding our programme to offer significant outreach work across North Yorkshire. With the help of the Heritage Lottery Fund, we have also purchased the Workhouse site in Ripon, arguably the most complete workhouse site in the country.