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**Your Credit Union Board of Directors and current committee members**

The Board of Directors are responsible for the long term strategic direction, development and success of the Credit Union and ensure that members are at the heart of all decisions. The Board meet on a monthly basis to monitor the Credit Union's progress and operational success in conjunction with the office manager.

All Board Members have been approved by the Prudential Regulation Authority

**Board Member Profiles**

* **Chair**
* **Claire Tolliday**

Claire is currently the head of Suffolk County Council Financial Inclusion and Advice Services (FIAS) and whose career includes many years working in Welfare Rights and Debt Advice.

**Claire will be standing for election at the 2021 AGM.**

* **Assistant Chair**
* **VACANCY**
* **Secretary**
* **Cathy Cunningham-Elliott**

I have worked in local government since 2001 having started working at Essex County Council then coming to Suffolk in 2015.

My roles have always been advisory roles within the area of benefits advice and information. My advice career started at a local CAB in 1992 and progressed from there though having taken out a couple of years to study Law as a mature student at the University of Essex.

I have always felt passionately about ensuring access to advice and information for everyone and particularly supporting people around their finances. I joined the Credit Union in 2019 and cannot underrate the role it can have in supporting people to save and access affordable finance.

**Cathy will be standing for election at the 2021 AGM.**

* **Treasurer**
* **Gail Burrows**

I have worked for Suffolk County Council since January 2006 in a number of roles. I currently work as an Independent Reviewing Officer in Children’s and Young Peoples Services (CYPS).

I have been a member of the Credit Union for over 10 years and joined as Treasurer and Board member April 2020. I became a member in the Credit Union because I believe it what it stands for with fair co-operative values to support its members. I am pleased to be able to give something back to the Credit Union.

Prior to working for the Local Authority, I worked for a national bank and when approached to consider the Treasurer role, felt my skills in finance would serve the role well and give me the opportunity to return to an accounting role, something I have always enjoyed. It has been a steep learning curve especially as since becoming Treasurer the country has been in lock down most of the time, so all the learning about the Credit Union accounting system and finances has been via Teams as face-to-face meetings with the Accounts Manager have not been possible.

I am looking forward to getting fully immersed within the role and being able to provide a good standard of work for the Credit Union.

**Gail will be standing for election at the 2021 AGM.**

* **Assistant Treasurer**
* **VACANCY**
* **Director – Money Laundering & Compliance Officer**
* **Russell Drake**

Russell is current Senior Technical Lead for Suffolk County Council IT Corporate Services.

Russell is currently holding both Money Laundering and Compliance Officer roles but we wish to split the roles.

**Russell will be standing for election as Money Laundering Officer at the 2021 AGM**

* **Director – Compliance Officer**

The Role of the Compliance Officer is to support the board of Directors to fulfil their duties and comply with all relevant legislation

* **VACANCY**
* **Director**
* **Philomena Convery-Moroney**

I have worked for Suffolk County Council since 2001 in number of roles within Children and Young people services; for example a residential childcare worker within the children homes, social Worker, Senior practitioner, consultant social worker. I am currently working in Safeguarding for Children and Young people as a Independent Reviewing Officer/ Child Protection Chair.

I was born and raised in Ireland, but I feel very Suffolk as I have lived and raised my family here for a long time. I joined the Credit Union in 2005 as a member and continue to use it over the years and promote it within my colleagues. I became a board member in 2019 and continue to support the Credit union because I really believe in what it stands for and the benefits it brings to it members.

**Philomena** **will be standing for election at the 2021 AGM**

* **Supervisory Committee**

The essential responsibilities of supervisory committee are:

* Monitor compliance with the law, model rules and policy.
* Ensure that operating practices and procedures safeguard the members’ assets.
* Report to the members at the annual general meeting and at appropriate opportunities throughout the year.

**Current members**

* **Lesley –** **Anne Hawthorne**

I joined Suffolk County Council in 1993 in Highways IT after having worked in IT for British Rail in London and not wanting to commute anymore! I am now in PC Skills in Resource Management and am responsible for the deployment of applications and security updates to all PCs and Laptops. Since studying for a Diploma in Bookkeeping, I wanted to continue my interest in finance so joined the Credit Union and was Treasurer for 4 years. In 2015, I stood down as Treasurer to let someone else take up the role as, unfortunately, I no longer had the time to commit to the role.

**Lesley – Anne will be standing for election at the 2021 AGM**

* **Julie Leeder**

Julie is currently a Finance Officer within FIAS and her role is assessing clients contributions towards their care.

**Julie will be standing for election at the 2021 AGM**

* Vacancy
* **Credit Committee/Loans officer**

The essential responsibilities of the credit committee are:

* Assess loan applications
* Report to the Board on the loan book
* Encourage policy and practice improvement

**Current members**:

* Claire Tolliday

**Claire will be standing for election at the 2021 AGM**

* Sarah Bradfield

I have been involved with Suffolk Credit Union for more than 15 years. I have previously sat on the Board of Directors and held the position of secretary. More recently I have been involved in the Credit Committee and credit control work.

**Sarah will be standing for election at the 2021 AGM**

* Taurai Hove

Taurai is currently the Senior Insight and Intelligence Manager for Adult and Community Services.

**Taurai will be standing for election at the 2021 AGM**

* James Bilson

James is currently a Facilities Officer for Vertas who provide facilities management for Suffolk County Council.

**James will be standing for election at the 2021 AGM**

* Vacancy
* Our Loan Officer is **Karen Walker**, but we need another Loan Officer
* Loan Officer – Vacancy

**Vacancies**

If you are interested in ensuring your Credit Union thrives and wish to be a Director, sit on one of our committees, or become one of our administrative volunteers, please contact **Karen Walker** to discuss further.

Tel: 01473 265000 or email credit.union@suffolk.gov.uk

You will need to complete a nomination form if you wish to be considered for a Director position or a member of one of the committees.