

Membership Details & Application Process

How can New Leaf help you to achieve your vision for a more sustainable future? Are you interested in using your skills and experience to promote means of living sustainably, educating others and raising awareness about the environment and ways of reducing reliance on scarce resources? If so, the following is intended to set out, in a semi formal manner, how the arrangement works and how you can formally apply ... but really, the best first step is to come and talk to us informally, to tell us about yourself, your background and what inspires you and we'll tell you about New Leaf, our ambitions and expectations. Contact wendy@herefordshirenewleaf.org.uk to arrange a chat.

What are the benefits of being a New Leaf Member

- The wide experience and support of other Members
- A legal structure that is recognised by many funders
- The opportunity to contribute to positive change in Herefordshire and beyond (including the development of Queenswood Country Park and Bodenham Lake as centres for sustainable living)
- A proven track record in delivering positive outcomes which makes us attractive to grant funders
- A wide set of skills and experience to support new projects.
- The structure to support ventures, which give opportunities for funded positions.

What are the requirements of a New Leaf Member?

- To support the achievement of our Objects via a variety of skills, experience and interest
- Members are required to pay the current annual subscription of £1 *in person* each year at a New Leaf meeting to maintain membership of our co-op.
- Attendance of regular bi-monthly (once every two months) New Leaf Team Meetings, which are held alternately at Queenswood and in the centre of Hereford. We only thrive as an organisation if Members are actively engaged and we request that members attend at least 50% of Member meetings throughout the year.
- A contribution towards the small proportion of our core work that is done on a voluntary basis
- That projects promoted and arranged using the New Leaf name or using New Leaf SD Ltd. as the responsible body will make a financial contribution towards our core costs (such as insurance, accounting and FCA subscription costs). We request that this is approx 10% of project funding.
- Members are expected to comply with the requirements of our Safeguarding and Health & Safety policies and where appropriate, the protocols of our partnership with Herefordshire Wildlife Trust

How do I become a New Leaf Member?

- You can apply to become a New Leaf Member by sending a copy of your CV to wendy@herefordshirenewleaf.org.uk along with a letter explaining why you would be interested to become part of our collective
- The New Leaf Committee will review your application and has the discretion to admit Members (individuals, corporate bodies or the nominee of any unincorporated organisation) who support our objects.

- The New Leaf Committee may refuse any application for membership at its absolute discretion.

What does it mean to be a New Leaf Committee Member?

- A Committee of 3-12 Members manages New Leaf business. They hold office until the end of the AGM in the year following their appointment.
- The New Leaf Committee meets regularly to manage the day to day business of New Leaf
- New Committee members are elected in accordance with such procedures as may be adopted by the Society from time to time. Each year the Committee elects a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer from among Committee Members
- Any member over the age of 18 can become a New Leaf Committee Member by making their interest known the current Committee, and standing forward for this role at an AGM.
- The New Leaf Committee may at any time co-opt any Member to fill a casual vacancy in the Committee
- A New Leaf Committee member shall declare an interest in any contract or matter in which s/he has a personal material or financial interest, whether directly or indirectly, and shall not vote in respect of such contract or matter
- Any projects using the New Leaf name must be approved by the New Leaf Committee in advance

What happens if I no longer want to be a New Leaf Committee Member?

The office of Committee Member shall be immediately vacated if you:

- a) Resign your office in writing
- b) Cease to be a Member
- c) Are removed from office by a majority vote in a General Meeting
- d) Fail to declare your interest in any contract
- e) Are absent from three successive meetings of the Committee during a continuous period of twelve months without special leave of absence from the Committee
- f) Become bankrupt or, in the opinion of a majority of the Committee, bring New Leaf into disrepute or are incapable on medical or psychological grounds of carrying out the functions of a Committee member

What happens if I no longer want to be a New Leaf Member?

Just come and talk to us and providing there are is no unfinished work that would impact on one of our funders or other stakeholders, we will simply agree when and how you leave. A simple letter to our Secretary will formalise that.

Are there any other rules about being a New Leaf Member or New Leaf Committee Member?

The full rules are contained in the Constitution, available on request.