

The Bridge Collective CIC (Company number 6201528)

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Before you apply for membership, please carefully read the Membership Statement below.

BRIDGE COLLECTIVE MEMBERSHIP STATEMENT

Our Mission Statement

To be a company whose members are creating:

A democratic community where people who have experiences, beliefs, and feelings that have sometimes been labelled as mental illness are welcomed and can talk about these experiences freely, safely and without judgement;

a place to participate in friendship, support, learning, teaching, discussion, being active, and making a valid contribution both within the collective and the wider community.

What does Bridge Collective membership mean?

The Bridge is a Community Interest Company, meaning that its aim is to benefit the community and not to make a profit for private individuals. Members of the company are people who have chosen to take part in supporting and furthering this aim. As a member, you are part of the company, and the company is made up of its members acting together. Membership is about belonging to the company and commitment to its aims. Legally, the members are the owners of the company.

Members pay an annual subscription fixed in the Directors' Meeting. Their names and addresses are kept on a list held securely at the Bridge. As a member, you undertake to pay £1 towards any debts the company may have should it be wound up. You have no other financial liabilities.

Members elect directors annually at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Responsibility for the running of the company is delegated to the Directors, but members are invited to attend directors meetings, and can participate in any decisions made there. Decisions are made by consensus as far as possible. If a vote is held, the majority vote will be accepted except that the Directors have to veto any decision that would be illegal or against the interests of the company.

All directors are members of the Bridge, any member can nominate themselves for directorship, and second another nomination for directorship. Information about how to do this is sent to all members in advance of the AGM.

At any time any member can call for a general meeting of members, or call directors to account. The procedures for doing this are set out in the Articles of Association available from the Bridge office and on the Website.

Certain roles and positions within the Bridge, including being a Director and others agreed at the community meeting, are only open to members.

What can members expect from the Bridge Collective?

You will receive a newsletter 4 times a year.

You will get an invitation to an AGM once a year, where you will be entitled to vote.

You will receive a Bridge Information Pack: who we are, what we do, how we do it, groups, activities and contacts.

What is expected of a member?

To support the Bridge mission as set out in our mission statement. To support our collective approach.

To help to maintain a respectful and safe environment at the Bridge.

To attend the AGM if possible.

Note:

To keep up to date with what's happening at the Bridge please read the newsletter.

What membership records are kept and who can access them?

When you become a member of the Bridge, your name is added to our official Register of Members, along with your address and the date you became a member. No other information is kept on the register except the date your membership ends. When you cease to be a member the law requires us to keep this information for a further 10 years, after which we will delete it.

The membership register is kept in a locked cupboard and is only used to contact you with information related to your Bridge Collective Membership, including Newsletters and notice of Company Meetings and renewal of your subscription.

It is important that you are aware that the Companies Act 2006 allows members of the public to request to view or have a copy of the membership register in strictly defined circumstances. A person requesting this must state the purpose for requesting the information, which must be a "proper purpose". They must list anybody they propose to share the information with, and if they use it for any other purpose or share it with anyone else, they would be committing a criminal offence. If the Bridge believes that the purpose given is not a "proper purpose", or that the person requesting intends to use it for another purpose, the Bridge can apply to a court to refuse the request. To date, the Bridge has never received a request to view or copy the register.

If you have any concerns about this or would like to discuss the implications of this legislation further, please contact the Company Secretary.

If you wish to give us contact information (email address or phone number) to receive information about Bridge Collective events and activities, this will be kept separately from the Members' Register and will not be shared without your permission. You will need to give us written consent to keep this information and there is a separate form for this.

If after reading this you would like to be a member of the Bridge Collective, please complete the form below and return to:
The Company Secretary, The Bridge Collective CIC, Unit 4, King Street Business Centre, Exeter, EX1 1BH

I have read and agree to the Bridge Collective Membership Statement. I wish to become a member of the Bridge Collective CIC.

Name..... (please print)

Signed.....

Date.....

Address (please print):

Post Code:

I enclose my annual subscription of £10 (£5 if paid between 1st November and 31st April)

I enclose a donation of (optional)

Your subscription will be due for renewal by the following 31st May (or 31st May the following year if paid on or after 1st May).