



AGM 2026

Information Pack



Durham
Wildlife Trust
From Tees to Tyne

Durham Wildlife Trust Annual General Meeting

12th October 2026 6pm

Information of the agenda is provided below. Members are encouraged to submit any questions they may have prior to the meeting so that full responses can be provided and shared at the meeting. There will also be the opportunity to submit questions during the meeting.

Agenda

- 1. Apologies for absence**
- 2. Minutes* of the 2025 AGM**
- 3. Adoption of Annual Report and Consolidated Accounts**
- 4. Chair's remarks**
- 5. Election of members to the Board**

The members on the following pages are seeking election as Trustees. Each candidate will briefly present their biography and reasons for seeking election to the Membership. Members will be asked to vote on a resolution approving the election of each candidate. There are sufficient places available on the Board for all candidates to be elected if approved by the membership. All candidates have participated in a selection process to assess their suitability and eligibility and are recommended to the membership by the Durham Wildlife Trust Board.

6. Confirmation of auditors -

Members will be asked to vote on a resolution to confirm Robson Laidler Accountants Limited as the Trust's auditors for 2026-27.

* see separate document

Close of the formal meeting to be followed by presentations on the Trust's recent work, its refreshed strategy, and how this will shape future plans.



Trustees seeking election to the Board



Harvey Neve - seeking re-election

Born in Norfolk and having lived in Durham for over 30 years, I've been fortunate to enjoy outstanding natural beauty and wildlife on my doorstep throughout my life. This has given me both a deep appreciation of its importance and an understanding of its fragility.

As a long-standing Trust member and, for the past four years, a Trustee, I'm acutely aware of the importance of our work. I live in Bishop Middleham, where I chair the Parish Council, with Trust reserves on our doorstep including the new Bishop's Fen which was created as part of the Brightwater Project, of which I was also a Trustee, which engaged our community in a wide range of environmental and cultural initiatives which has now concluded successfully and left a lasting, positive legacy.

The work of the Trust is more vital than ever and as a time-served senior manager in the Civil Service and Private sectors, with experience across health and education, I bring skills in programme governance and delivery, together with expertise in the use of Digital, Data and Technology to support our work and engage our communities and membership. During my current term as a Trustee, I've also chaired the Development Committee and contributed to the national RSWT advisory group for Digital Transformation.

I'm accustomed to working with a wide range of stakeholders, including central and local government, charities, funders, regulators, elected Councillors and MPs and local communities. I also maintain an extensive professional network that will continue to benefit the Trust.

I would be a privilege to continue serving as part of the Trustee team, supporting the work of the Trust for a further term.





Sarah Envy

Sarah Envy is being recommended to members for appointment as a Trustee following our trustee recruitment process.

Sarah is currently an Engagement Manager with the National Lottery Heritage Fund, where she works with a wide range of organisations and stakeholders across natural and cultural heritage.

Her role includes assessing grant applications of up to £10 million and advising organisations on project development, partnerships and sustainability. She has also developed a strong understanding of regional priorities around biodiversity, landscape recovery, climate resilience and community engagement with nature.

Importantly, Sarah already has some direct knowledge of Durham Wildlife Trust through her involvement with our water vole recovery initiative, which has given her insight into our ambitions and approach to species recovery and biodiversity.

She brings strengths in strategic thinking, stakeholder engagement and project management, supported by an MSc in Disaster Management and Sustainable Development and a project management qualification. Sarah is particularly motivated by creating opportunities for communities to engage with and benefit from the places around them, and by improving access to and the quality of our natural and cultural heritage.

The Recruitment Panel feel that Sarah will bring a valuable combination of skills, experience and enthusiasm to the Board, and we are very pleased to recommend her appointment as a Trustee to members today.

