

Colin Smith

“I became a Trustee three years ago having held no such role previously with no direct involvement with disability or mental health challenges.

It has been great to work with a group of people who are totally committed to improving the lives of disabled people and promoting improved wellbeing, particularly in these increasingly difficult times and I’ve been greatly impressed by the successes we have achieved and by the stories our people and partner organisations are able to tell.

My experience working with the Trust’s highly motivated and talented team and fellow trustees is inspiring, rewarding and meaningful.

During my time as a trustee I have been particularly struck by the challenge of understanding competing needs, prioritisation and encouragement of cooperative approaches.

Seeking to secure ‘best’ use of its people and financial resources is at the heart of being a Barnwood Trust trustee.”



Trish Jay

“I became a Trustee in 2019, wanting to become more involved in the work of the Barnwood, having seen the important work that they do in Gloucestershire for people with disabilities and mental health challenges.

Having worked in the health service for most of my career, I am impressed with the strong commitment to learning and service development at every level within the Trust and this includes Trustee development too.

Board meetings having been challenging during Covid, however it is a pleasure to work with fellow Trustees who are committed to Barnwood’s vision and work in partnership to achieve it.”



Pippa Jones

“As a Trustee of Barnwood I have learnt so much from the staff and other trustees- as an example I took part in a session run by the staff on mental health issues and the impact of the pandemic.

Georgia shared research that the team had collected about escalating need for mental health support and the serious impact that delays in accessing timely and appropriate support was creating for individuals and their families/carers.

Trustees asked questions, shared their personal insights, and thought hard about how Barnwood could best respond.

We were challenged to think about how to respond to the very immediate needs of people but also to take a long-term look at how the statutory and voluntary sector could work together better.

There were different views and that's what being a Trustee is all about- listening to others as well as sharing what you think, so that the whole becomes greater than the sum of the parts.”

