

Projects Officer

Greensand Country Landscape Partnership

3 days a week, including some evening and weekend work.

9 month fixed term contract.

SCP 23 (£26,999 for full-time equivalent) per annum pro rata, plus contributory pension scheme and travel expenses.

Introduction

Are you a general all-rounder, with a multitude of skills, a can do attitude and a joy for being with people? Do you have passion, enthusiasm and are you highly motivated? If this sounds like you we'd love to hear from you! If you are the right person we can offer you a varied, rewarding role where you will use your strong communication and advocacy skills, very good stakeholder and project management experience, and will genuinely be able to make a difference for people and the Greensand Country landscape.

You will be supporting the Programme Manager to deliver this £3.1 million Landscape Partnership Programme, you will be monitoring and supporting the Project Managers who are delivering our 90 projects, will be delivering some of the projects yourself and be supporting our Communications and Marketing, promotion of our landscape brand and be setting up and managing some of our events and ensuring our meetings go like clockwork.

You will work as part of a supportive Greensand Country Landscape Partnership team and assist and work collaboratively with other members to take forward the aims and objectives of the Programme.

The projects are part of an exciting array of projects being delivered by a Landscape Partnership for Greensand Country, a distinctive landscape area consisting of the



Greensand Ridge and associated river valleys, located principally in Central Bedfordshire (see map on page 5).

We are thrilled to have funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund to run our programme of exciting projects which will help us raise awareness of the heritage value of this landscape and to reverse the gradual decline in the distinct landscape character.

We have also had the exciting opportunity to create and deliver a destination brand for the Greensand Country.

You will be busy and will be part of a supportive and friendly team, where you will have a willingness to roll up your sleeves and 'muck in'. You will also have autonomy and will be encouraged to use your own initiative. You will have a passion for landscape heritage, great communication and project management skills, and the capability to bring together, engage and enthuse a range of people in the activities and objectives of our projects.

This is an important role for this Landscape Partnership. Greensand Country is located in a relatively densely populated area of central England, with around one million people living within 20km of the area. Our research shows that not many people know about the Greensand Country and the area is not well promoted. It is too 'secret' and people do not have a strong sense of place. Yet there is a strong landscape character and compelling heritage, with some major threats but distinct opportunities. If we want people to cherish this landscape and protect it for the future, we need to engage them in the spirit of this beautiful space and its rich natural and cultural heritage.

What is the Greensand Country Landscape Partnership?

'Greensand Country' is an area of distinctive, beautiful and loved countryside, based on a band of higher ground stretching from Leighton Buzzard to Gamlingay, rising out of the surrounding clay vales. It contains all of Bedfordshire's remaining heathland, more than half of its woodland, and more surviving historic parkland than any other landscape in the country, often surrounding notable manor houses. This landscape character is a legacy of its underlying Greensand geology, which led to much of it being regarded as 'marginal land' not suitable for agriculture, as well as its management over centuries by major estates.

However, the area's distinctiveness has been weakening over decades due to modern development and the changing economics of land use. Key habitats are becoming



fragmented and unsustainable in the longer term; views both of and from the area are being lost or impaired; houses are being built of the wrong vernacular; and traditional heritage skills are dying out. Just as significantly, there is a low level of awareness locally of the significance of the area's landscape value and heritage.

The Greensand Country Landscape Partnership has been formed by bringing together a diverse range of local bodies, to raise awareness of the heritage value of this landscape and to reverse the gradual decline in its distinctiveness.

Our vision is for the Greensand Country to be a living and working landscape that is cherished by present and future generations.

By 2021 we will have reversed the gradual decline in the area's landscape character, and created a strong, community led partnership and strategic framework to promote the area's interests and secure the necessary long-term financial and community investment to sustain the area's distinctive natural and built heritage.

Outline terms and conditions

1. *Employer:* Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity
2. *Period:* 9 month fixed term contract.
3. *Working hours:* 3 days a week.
4. *Place of work:* As this project is jointly hosted your place of work may be at BRCC's offices at Cardington, Bedford or The Greensand Trust Offices at Maulden Wood, Bedfordshire or Rushmere Country Park, Heath and Reach or you may work remotely.



5. *Salary*: £26,999 pa prorata (For full-time equivalent - SCP23) based on a 35 hour week.
6. *Expenses*: Mileage is paid at 45p/mile for car users
7. *Holidays*: 175 hours (25 days for FTE) holiday per annum, and 56 hours (8 days) bank / Public holidays prorata. Total 231 hours (33 days) leave including all bank holidays.

To apply

Please send:

1. A CV which shows us how your knowledge, skills and experience fit the role as described in the person specification and job description.
2. A supporting statement which describes:
 - a. The experience and knowledge you have which would enable you to carry out the role as described in the job description.
 - b. How you fit with the selection criteria as set out in the person specification.
 - c. Why you would like this role.
3. The monitoring form

Please e mail these to Claire Poulton at claire@greensandcountry.com.

An information pack, the Job Description and Person Specification for the role and more information including our Landscape Conservation Action Plan can be found on www.greensandcountry.com

The application deadline is 25th September 2020. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to an interview on 9th October 2020.

For an informal chat about the post, please contact Claire on 07534484971.



