



MEMBERSHIP OF WORCESTERSHIRE AMBASSADORS

Worcestershire Ambassadors is a company limited by guarantee. The company number is 7718843, and it is registered in England. The registered office address is 71, Graham Road, Malvern, Worcestershire WR14 2JS. Correspondence address is Holly Hedges, 232 Malvern Road Worcester, Worcestershire, WR2 4PA.

We welcome membership enquiries and trust that you will find this information helpful.

WHO ARE WORCESTERSHIRE AMBASSADORS, AND WHAT DO WE DO?

Worcestershire Ambassadors was established in 2000 as an initiative of Worcestershire County Council. In 2003, the members took over control of the organisation and it has grown steadily to the current membership of over 190.

The original aims and objectives of the organisation have not changed; they are quite simply to promote everything that is good about the county and to encourage inward investment, trade, tourism and prosperity. All of our members carry substantial commercial or civic responsibilities and are committed to the success of the Worcestershire Ambassadors organisation and the success of Worcestershire. Members are drawn from the complete sphere of leadership positions in both the private and public sectors.

We work in partnership with other organisations such as Chamber of Commerce and LEP to encourage business growth and tourism, and have progressed trade links overseas. An annual presentation of Corporate Social Responsibility awards is made, and we recognise outstanding personal achievements with our Pride of Worcestershire award. We are consulted by, and work closely with, our County Council regarding a range of matters.

In January 2013 we became a company limited by guarantee, which means that all members guarantee the debts of the company up to £1 each should the company fail and become liquidated. Whilst members currently (and will continue to) receive a copy of our annual accounts they will in future be available from Companies House.

Our members hold networking events at their business to showcase their achievements, and these are opportunities for all members to be kept up to date about developments in the county and the achievements of county businesses. We also hold regular social events, lunches and dinners to provide information. The most important social event is our annual ball, held normally in October, and this has become a substantial fund raising event that supports our charitable giving to one or more selected charities each year. Our 2015 ball enabled us to make a donation of £45,000 to Prostate Cancer. Past donations have been made to Worcestershire Breast Unit Campaign, St. Richards's Hospice, Acorns Hospice, Worcestershire Community Foundation, St Pauls Hostel, Worcester Live, Onside and many other charities that provide support for residents of our county.

Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Worcestershire, Lt. Colonel Patrick Holcroft is president of the organisation.

The scheme is managed and administered by a board of 15 Directors, all of whom have specific responsibilities. A chairman is appointed for a two/three-year period by the board. Vince Hopkins is the Chairman for the 2015/18 tenure,

WHAT DO WE EXPECT OF OUR MEMBERS?

There are very few “rules” of the scheme. We have a memorandum that sets these out fully, but a brief guide is: Membership is personal and with few exceptions, is not ex-officio. Membership applications are considered by the management group who meet at least every month. If membership is agreed, an annual subscription of (currently) £100 is payable by banker’s order. With a cheque /BACS payment made on acceptance. The subscription covers a calendar year and is payable on 1st April. New member’s subscriptions cover them from the date of membership to 31st December in their first year. Members receive an exclusive lapel badge, framed membership certificate and leather folder when they join. Vince Hopkins will aim to personally deliver these to new members. Where a member’s experience is relevant, we expect contributions to consultation exercises and focus groups that help shape the future of the county.

There are some membership criteria to be observed; applicants should be of high integrity and personal standing, recognised as “a captain of industry” or “a person of high profile”. By this we mean someone who has been successful in their business, has a substantial stake in it as a senior partner, managing director or chief executive, and that the business has been established over a period of time and is of good repute. A person of high profile (in public life) means someone who is or has been significant in local or national government, charitable good works, or in the media, arts, sport etc. We also welcome applications from people who may not meet these criteria but who contribute to Worcestershire well and promote the county in a positive way. All membership applications will need a sponsor.

If you would like clarification of any of the above points, or any other relevant issue before deciding whether to apply for membership, please contact us by e-mail at tjhopkins64@gmail.com

To apply for membership, please complete the form on the next page and send it with your C.V., a digital photograph and your subscription (by completing the banker’s order mandate) to the membership secretary at Holly Hedges, 232 Malvern Road Worcester WR2 4PA. We will contact you if any further information is required before the application is considered by the board. If membership is not approved, we will destroy the bankers order mandate. Applications for membership will be accepted by e- mail to tjhopkins64@gmail.com but an original signed banker’s order mandate will be required. Your application will be assisted if you are sponsored by an existing member, failing which we may need to contact you in order to discuss the application with you informally

WORCESTERSHIRE AMBASSADORS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Applicant’s Name

Home Address

Business Name

Position

Business Address

Preferred Correspondence Address Home / Business

Website Address

E-mail Address

Home phone

Business phone

Mobile phone

Do you have a sponsor(s) who is/are currently a Worcestershire Ambassador? Please name them.....

Tjhopkins64@gmail.com