



# VIEWFIELD GARDEN COLLECTIVE

**Viewfield Road, Portree, Isle of Skye IV51 9EU**

Rosie Somerville is stepping down as a trustee and as Chair at the AGM. Rosie has been involved with VGC since its inception in 2006, and was one of its founders along with Vicki Samuels. The remaining trustees would like to offer heart-felt thanks to Rosie for her long service and dedication to Viewfield Garden Collective. Rosie's ideas have shaped VGC over the years and formed it into the organisation we see today. We recognise just how much effort, skill and passion Rosie has given to VGC, and we wish her all the best for the future.

The five remaining trustees (Gordon, Richard, Louise, Alison and Christine) are standing for election at the AGM. In addition, we have co-opted two new trustees who will also stand: Andy Crofts and Laura West.

**Andy** says: *'I'm a keen gardener and have worked in community gardening and outdoor education. I enjoyed nearly three decades of allotment gardening in the city and I am currently transferring my skills to a Skye garden, mainly for my own enjoyment, but with a wee bit of salad growing for local hotels.'*

*In my twenties I lived for several years on Skye and Raasay, where I worked at Raasay House as an outdoor education instructor.*

*After other work directions I changed direction ten years ago and was involved at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh on their Edible Garden Project as a community gardener for several years. There I mainly worked with a variety of community gardens and groups on food growing and cooking. I was also involved in an EU food security project.'*

**Laura** says: *'After this challenging start to my volunteering at Viewfield Garden in 2020, I have discovered that this Garden is not only a valuable educational resource for our Skye community, but a place of regular, calming, and inspirational activity for those lucky enough to attend.'*

*In the past 20 years of living on Skye I have been involved (usually as Secretary, but also a regular committee member) in a couple of voluntary organisations, such as the original "Studio Trails" (2003 to 2005) and also the Home Farm Allotment Committee. I have my own small business doing bespoke bookbinding ([www.laurawest.com](http://www.laurawest.com)) where I regularly take*

*commissions and work with designers, printers, writers and tourism businesses such as distilleries, hotels, guest houses, etc.*

*I would love to help promote the Garden's projects and have ideas for raising funds, using my own skills and perhaps teaching other volunteers to contribute. As I am now semi-retired I have more time to commit to volunteering and also to becoming an active member of the committee.'*

**The full list of trustees standing for election at the AGM is:**

1. Andy Crofts
2. Gordon Higgins
3. Richard Hiles
4. Louise Kerr
5. Alison McLaggan
6. Christine Toms
7. Laura West