



MVT

Officers' Code of Conduct

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Previous Versions

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MVT Officers' Code of Conduct

Context: The Military Vehicle Trust is the World's largest organisation of ex-military vehicle owners and enthusiasts and is dedicated to "keeping our mechanical veterans alive". We have been a Registered Charity since 1987 and our Charitable Purposes are set down in a document called our "Memorandum of Association".

The Trust is established for the purpose of restoring and preserving military vehicles of historical interest and the preservation of books, drawings, records, documents, sound and visual recordings, films, photographs and other media and ephemera relating to such vehicles, their history and development, and promoting and encouraging the same aim in others.

Our Core Values are summarised in our three aims:

Conserve and Restore, Educate and Inspire and Honour and Respect

This document sets out the standards of behaviour and conduct of Officers of the Trust and is required by the Trust to enable them to stand the test of public scrutiny.

Officers of the Trust ('the Trust') include Trustees, Co-opted members of the Council of Management and Area Secretaries, all referred to as 'Officers'.

As a representative of the Trust.....

General Principles

- **I will ensure I understand the Trust's purposes, as set out in its governing documents and act in its best interests**
- **I accept my responsibility to ensure that the Trust is well run and is carrying out its purposes for the public benefit**
- **I will maintain an up-to-date knowledge and understanding of and abide by charity and other regulations relevant to my role, my role description and the policies and procedures of the Trust**
- **I will ensure that I understand and will abide by charity and other regulations relevant to my post**
- **I will uphold the Trust's commitment to equality, inclusivity, diversity and anti-extremism**
- **I will abide by the fundamental values that underpin the conduct of Officers:**

Accountability

Everything the Trust does will be able to stand the test of scrutiny by the public, the media, the Charity Commission, members, stakeholders, funders, Parliament and the courts.

Integrity and Honesty

These will be the hallmarks of all conduct when dealing with colleagues within the Trust and equally when dealing with individuals and institutions outside it.

Transparency

The Trust strives to maintain an atmosphere of openness throughout the Trust to promote confidence of the public, stakeholders, staff, charity regulators and Parliament.

Conflicts of Interest

- I will always strive to act in the best interests of the Trust as a whole and not as a representative of any group, considering what is best for the Trust and its present and future beneficiaries.
- I will declare any conflict of interest, or any circumstance that might be viewed by others as a conflict of interest, as soon as it arises.
- I will respect the judgment of the Council of Management and do as it requires regarding potential conflicts of interest.

Person to Person

- I will not break the law, go against charity regulations or act in disregard of Trust policies in my relationships with fellow trustees, officers, volunteers, members, or anyone I come into contact with in my role.
- I will strive to establish respectful, collegial and courteous relationships.

Protecting the Trust's Reputation

- I will not make public comments about the Trust unless authorised to do so.
- Any public comments I make about the Trust will be considered and in line with Trust policy, whether I make them as an individual or as an officer.
- When I am speaking as an officer of this Trust, my comments will reflect current Trust policy even when these do not agree with my personal views.
- When speaking as a private person I will strive to uphold the reputation of the Trust and those who work in it.
- I will not engage in or encourage extremism of any sort and will report any extremist behaviour that I encounter.
- I will respect Trust, Council of Management and individual confidentiality.

Personal Gain

- I will not personally gain materially or financially from my role, unless specifically authorised to do so,
- I will use Trust resources responsibly. I will document expenses and seek reimbursement according to procedure.
- I will not accept gifts or hospitality without the prior consent of the Council of Management

Enhancing Governance

- I will participate in induction, training and development activities for Officers.
- I will continually seek ways to improve Trust governance practice.

Removal and Resignation of Officers

I understand that substantial breach of any part of this code may result in my removal as an Officer of the Trust. Should procedures be put in motion that may result in my being asked to resign, I will be given the opportunity to appeal. In the event that I am asked to resign, I will accept the majority decision of the Trustees and resign at the earliest opportunity. Should I resign, I will inform the Chairman in writing, stating my reasons for resigning.