

July 2022

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest about the post of Chief Executive Officer of Farnham Maltings.

In 1969 Farnham Maltings was established as an arts and community centre. Since then, it has grown into a successful cultural organisation, with nearly 100 employees, that serves the town of Farnham and now works across the borough, region, nationally and internationally to encourage people, as makers and audience, to see and create art. Farnham Maltings is a registered charity.

We believe that by encouraging people to be actively creative; connecting with others different to ourselves; and by articulating new ideas we will foster a happier, healthier, and more inclusive set of communities. We instinctively gravitate to the margins, aspire to be generous, seek out surprising partnerships and delight in working with people who can do things better than us.

There is a core of successful activities - a flourishing craft festival programme, contemporary theatre programme, film and satellite broadcasts, music and comedy events, as well as our work to tell the story of Farnham through the Museum of Farnham. We are a well-used and popular set of buildings - over 400,000 people attend each year. We have strong and supportive relationships with Arts Council and our local authorities, a hugely capable and diverse team, an inclusive and creative culture and a financially resilient multi-million-pound business model. Besides our work in Farnham, we have developed a regional role through *house*, a 180-venue network across the southeast and lead a growing international strand of work through *caravan*. We were also the driver of Farnham becoming England's first World Craft Town.

During the pandemic Farnham Maltings played a central role in responding to the immediate needs of our community by working with the town council and others to coordinate a helpline, organising prescription pick-ups and shopping for the vulnerable, establishing a hardship fund and running a share store. Out of this has grown a new programme of work to tackle social isolation and health inequalities.

The role of Chief Executive Officer is to lead the organisation into its next phase. This role can have a unique influence on the community far and wide - drawing in new talent, ideas and audiences and visitors. We know to be successful we will need to adapt, learn, respond to new possibilities, make the best of our resources, work collaboratively, and remain confident in our purpose.

It is an exciting time to join Farnham Maltings. Not only have we successfully overcome the challenges of the pandemic, but we also have an established business plan for 2022-23 and ambitious multi-year plans in motion with our key stakeholders.

The attached job description should give you a good sense of the main duties and scope of the role. We are looking for somebody who can develop, with others, an innovative vision for what we can achieve. We seek an inclusive, progressive, and experienced leader with a proven track record of delivery, someone who recognises the value of the arts, who can

draw the best out of the people they work with, is keen to take on new challenges and wants to continue to grow the impact of Farnham Maltings on the lives of people.

If you wish to apply, please submit your CV, a covering letter (no more than two pages) explaining why you would wish to be considered for the role and how you meet the person specification. Send your application, with the completed Equal Opportunities Monitoring form to [ceo.recruitment@farnhammaltings.com](mailto:ceo.recruitment@farnhammaltings.com) by the deadline of 14 August 2022. We will follow up with applications by the end of August with interviews taking place in September. References will be requested.

All the very best with the application,

Michael Maher  
Chair