

Minutes of the Twenty second Annual General Meeting of FOLK held on Wednesday 10th November 2021 at The Wheatsheaf, Old Bath Road, Leckhampton

22.1 Welcome

The Chair, John Harvey, welcomed 30 members, 12 committee members and 6 guests to the twenty-first AGM of FOLK. The meeting commenced at 19:05. It was noted that all the papers relevant to this meeting had been circulated with the most recent newsletter.

22.2 Apologies for Absence

Paul & Christine Ryder, Andrew Bishop, Anne North.

22.3 Minutes of the Twenty first AGM Held on 20th January 2021

The minutes of the twenty first AGM were accepted and signed as a true record of the meeting.

Proposed: Peter Niblett, Seconded: Mike Donnelly.

22.4 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising not covered in this AGM's report.

22.5 Chairman's Report

The Chairman spoke briefly about the Annual Report that had been previously circulated.

Topics covered included: Covid 19, Committee Activities, National Grid Landscape Enhancement Initiative, National Grid Funding, Membership, Major Works carried out, Work Parties, Cycling on the Hill, Secretary's report, Financial report, plans for the coming year and the Memorial Wall proposal.

Further details can be found in the Annual Report presentation, available on the FOLK website, or on request to the Secretary.

Specific mention was made of the plans to signpost routes for cyclists that would segregate them from walkers thus avoiding conflict. It was pointed out that there were users of the hill other than cyclists and walkers and it was asked why signposting did not extend to users such as horse-riders. In reply, the chairman said that the current project only took in the wooded area mainly near the incline and as such it was likely that only cyclists and walkers were affected.

A further question asked about the possibility of maps showing the cycling routes. Wayne Sedgwick, the CBC Ranger, said that this was being considered and could happen after the main works to create 20 specific mountain bike tracks, this would involve the blocking of some tracks to bikes, using fallen deadwood.

The Chairman concluded by thanking the executive committee for their support over the past year. Particular thanks were given to:

Martin Wood for producing an excellent newsletter, Mike Donnelly for his work in maintaining notice boards and publicity.

Geoff Holt for his tireless work in organising the work parties and Peter Niblett for administering the highly popular Facebook page.

Acceptance of the report was proposed: Geoff Holt, Seconded: Peter Niblett.

22.6 Accounts - 2021

The Chairman's report contained a summary of the financial transactions for the last year and the current position. Detailed accounts were available, on request, these

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showed income for the year of £953 and expenditure of £1,787. Total funds at the year end were £4,788.

The treasurer explained that the main expenditure during the year had been repairs to the trailer and refurbishment of the notice boards. Subscriptions to the organisation were still set at nil and the main sources of income had been donations from local Parish Councils and members subscribing to the Cheltenham Lottery.

Acceptance of the formal accounts was proposed by Mike Donnelly and seconded by Julius Marstrand.

22.7 Election of Officers and Executive Committee members.

The Chairman presented a chart showing the proposed officers and committee members for the year ahead. The main change was the retirement of John Harvey as Chairman. He was to be replaced by Mike Donnelly who had been proposed by Tony Duffin and seconded by Geoff Holt.

There were two further nominations to the Committee, Morgan Miller and Mark Dowie, all other committee members were to remain in post.

All were elected unanimously.

It was noted that John Harvey automatically became a co-opted member of the committee.

The final list of Officers and Committee members was as follows:

Mike Donnelly – Chairman

Malcolm Geddes - Treasurer

Tony Duffin –Secretary (including Membership)

Peter Whalley, Geoff Holt, Peter Niblett, Oliver Pointer, Anne North, Clive Lewis,

Mark Dowie, Morgan Miller, John Harvey – Committee Members

22.8 Any Other Business

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 19:30.