

DRAFT Minutes of the Twenty third Annual General Meeting of FOLK held on Tuesday 15th November 2022 at The Wheatsheaf, Old Bath Road, Leckhampton

23.1 Welcome

The Chair, Mike Donnelly, welcomed members, committee members and guests to the twenty-third 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.

He began by explaining the photos that had been shown on the cover of the Annual Report depicting resurfacing of the main incline, volunteers at work, building of the drystone wall and the resurfacing of the Cotswold Way.

23.2 Apologies for Absence

Paul & Christine Ryder, Sue Marlow, Geoff Holt, Anne North, Angie Boyes, Maureen McBane, Sylvia Fry and Margaret Whalley.

23.3 Minutes of the Twenty Second AGM Held on 10th November 2021

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

Proposed: Serena Meredith, Seconded: Julius Marstrand.

23.4 Matters Arising

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

23.5 Chairman's Report

The Chairman spoke briefly about the Annual Report that had been previously circulated. Topics covered included: Committee Activities, the National Grid project, Membership, Major Works carried out, Work Parties, the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens, the CPRE award, Cycling on the Hill, the Secretary's report and a Financial report.

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

The Chairman concluded by thanking the executive committee for their support over the past year with particular thanks to Martin Wood for producing an excellent newsletter, Geoff Holt for his work in organising the work parties and Peter Niblett for administering the highly popular Facebook page.

Acceptance of the report was proposed Rachel Watson, Seconded John Harvey.

23.6 Accounts - 2022

The Annual report contained a summary of the financial transactions for the last year and the current position. Detailed accounts were available, on request, these showed income for the year of £870 and expenditure of £1,120. Total funds at the year-end were £2,363.

The treasurer explained that the main amounts committed or spent during the year had been tools and equipment for the work parties, insurance and signs directing cyclists. The main sources of income had been donations from local Parish Councils (£450) and members subscribing to the Cheltenham Lottery (£395).

The overall deficit for the year was just £250 and as such, subscriptions to the organisation were still set at nil.

Acceptance of the formal accounts was proposed by Serena Meredith and seconded by Guy Meredith.

23.7 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 Malcolm Geddes as Treasurer. He was to be replaced by Mark Dowie who had been proposed by John Harvey and seconded by Mike Donnelly.

There were three further nominations to the Committee, John Harvey, Peter Whalley (whose previous term had now ended) and Wendy Flynn; all had been properly nominated and since the number of nominations equalled the number of vacancies all were deemed elected.

All other Officers and committee members were to remain in post.

It was noted that Malcolm Geddes automatically became a co-opted member of the committee.

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

Mike Donnelly – Chairman

Mark Dowie - Treasurer

Tony Duffin –Secretary (including Membership)

Peter Whalley, Geoff Holt, Peter Niblett, Anne North, Clive Lewis, Morgan Miller, John Harvey, Wendy Flynn – Committee Members

23.8 Any Other Business

A question was asked enquiring the rationale for the Memorial Wall that was being built. MD replied that CBC had decided that there were as many Memorial Benches on the hill as could reasonably be accommodated. However, it was recognised that bereaved relatives and friends would often like a memorial and place where they could remember their loved ones. It had therefore been decided that, following the example of the wall on Cleeve Common, part of the drystone wall being built on Leckhampton Hill could be adapted to hold a number of plaques. This provision would raise funds for the preservation and enhancement of the hill. A bench or two would be provided at the site but no flowers or cuddly toys or other items would be allowed.

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 19:45, after which there was an extremely interesting presentation by Katy Allen the owner of the cows which now grazed the hill in the winter.