

THE HOLLINGBOURNE MEADOWS TRUST LIMITED

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Cardwell Pavilion, Greenway Court Road,
Hollingbourne ME17 1QQ on 8 March 2023

Present: Shaun Cardwell (Trustee/Director)
Liz Jordan (Trustee/Director)
Ben Williams (Trustee/Director)
Seven other members and supporters: Sam Booth, Janet Britton, Judith Mills, Michael Mills, Andrew Snowdon, Ian Willy, Liz Willy.

1. **Chair of Meeting**

Shaun Cardwell took the Chair and welcomed all those attending.

2. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from: Hugh Fox, Maureen Lee and Allan Smedley.

3. **Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 8 March 2022**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 8 March 2022 were approved.

Proposed: Michael Mills

Seconded: Sam Booth

4. **Report of the Board of Trustees/Directors**

Shaun Cardwell addressed the meeting and presented a review of the activities of the trust in the period since the last Annual General Meeting.

5. **Adoption of the Trustees Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2021**

Liz Jordan referred to the Income and Expenditure Summary and explained 2021 showed total income of £30k and total expenditure of £33k to give a deficit for the year of £3k. The Funds Analysis showed a surplus of £13k remaining in the Project 100 fund and illustrated the extent to which the remaining funds were held as property with a limited amount available for future maintenance.

The Trustees Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 were received, approved and adopted.

Proposed: Michael Mills

Seconded: Ian Willy

6. **Election of Trustees/Directors**

Shaun Carwell retired by rotation and offered himself for re-election. No other nominations had been received.

The re-election of Shaun Cardwell was unanimously agreed.

Proposed: Andrew Snowdon

Seconded: Sam Booth

7. **Any Other Business**

There were no other matters to be dealt with as part of the formal business of the AGM.

8. **Update on Plans for 2023 and General Discussion**

- It was noted a tree had not been planted in the meadows for the Queens Platinum Jubilee and agreed that, as an offer had been made to cover the cost, a tree should be planted to commemorate the Coronation.
- The acquisition of the Section 106 land from the developers of Woodcut Farm is in progress with solicitors. The developers will plant deciduous native woodland and maintain it for two years. The seven acres of land need to be kept as woodland in perpetuity and are being acquired at no cost with a fund of £50k to cover maintenance. There will be no public access to the woodland.
- Grants of £10k from the National Lottery and £17k from the Environment Agency have been applied for.
- The trustees would like more of the villagers to become Friends of the Meadows and make a monthly donation. Of the 500 households in Hollingbourne only 40 are currently Friends of the Meadows producing annual income of £6k.
- Suggestions for increasing support from the village included requests in the Parish Magazine, a sign explaining the Meadows are private land which cost £x to maintain, and a sign to point out that the Meadows are fully funded by volunteer donations.
- There have been problems when poo bins are full and it was agreed there should be a notice on each bin asking that another be used if this one is full.
- It was agreed to investigate the possibility of a QR code linked to PayPal to enable donations to be made at the entrances to the Meadows.
- The trustees/directors had each received a letter from a strategic land and property investment company expressing an interest in acquiring the land owned by the company. It was understood their ultimate aim would be residential development.
- The trustees are still seeking assistance at management level and wish to recruit additional trustees/directors, as well as volunteers for fundraising activities. A monthly volunteer morning was suggested to provide a structure for assistance in the Meadows and also a survey in the Parish Magazine to ask how villagers are able to help.

The meeting closed at 8.13pm