

**LANDOWNERS OF CROSTHWAITE & LYTH
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT
CROSTHWAITE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL
ON WEDNESDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2017 AT 7:00 PM**

Present: 29 Landowners were present
Mr J E Lambton & Miss D Lund of Carter Jonas were in attendance

Before the formal business of the meeting commenced, the Headmaster of the School, Matthew Jessop, thanked the Landowners for their support of the school over the years. He advised that the school was now very well resourced, with four new rooms, and numbers were increasing.

14/2017 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Robert Moser, Alastair Mutch and Frances Herrod.

15/2017 **Chairman's Opening Remarks**

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting and advised that this was the 200th AGM of the Landowners. He was very pleased to be holding this AGM within the new accommodation at the school, which had been partly financed by the Landowners. The Chairman reflected on the loss of Penny Mutch and of Tony Schofield, previous Chairman from 1991 to 2008. He reminded the meeting that Mr Schofield had been instrumental in acquiring the recreation field for the Landowners. Five meetings had been held throughout the year, one of which was held electronically. The Chairman thanked the Trustees for their work, and also Alastair Mutch and Peter Sherratt for their work on the accounts. The Chairman also thanked Tony Marshall for the work he has carried out on Township Plantation, organising coppicing, moth evenings and butterfly work; as well as John Sceal for his work at Fellside Plantation including coppicing and other works. The Chairman advised that the boundary dispute at Howe Fell Cottage was now, hopefully, resolved and awaiting formalisation. There had been a motor cycle trial on the allotment, which was a successful event, and on the Queen's birthday, 21st April, a splendid beacon was lit on the allotment, even bigger than the Jubilee beacon, with thanks to the Sharp family and to John Grindey for helping to assemble the beacon.

Donations have been made to the School, the Memorial Hall, towards the insurance for the School mini bus and the restoration of the Court Rolls, and provision of a bike rack at the Memorial Hall.

16/2017 **Minutes of Previous AGM**

These had been made available prior to the meeting, but were summarised by the Chairman. It was proposed by Matthew Dobson and seconded by

Ewen Sale that they should be adopted as a correct record of the meeting, and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

17/2017 **Matters Arising**

None.

18/2017 **Accounts to the 31st October 2016**

These were summarised by J E Lambton who advised that income for the year had reduced from £23,767 to £18,633, mainly due to the reduction in Forestry Commission Grants. Expenditure had increased from £14,769 to £19,906 due to grants being made of nearly £13,000 (£5,500 the previous year). This resulted in a deficit of £1,273. However the unrealised gain on investments stood at £6,787 (£1,945 the previous year), meaning that the net movement in funds for the year was a positive £5,514, and thus the charity's assets brought forward on the balance sheet had increased from £152,304 to £157,818.

Ian Tomlinson proposed and Hartley Trotter seconded that the accounts be adopted by the AGM as a correct record, and this was approved by the meeting.

19/2017 **Reports from Trustee's Meetings**

J. Lambton provided a summary of the Trustees meetings held throughout the year on 23rd February 2016, 8th June 2016, 13th August 2016, 8th November 2016 and the 25th January 2017. There had been a meeting with Trevor Farrer regarding the Whitbarrow Geo Trail; plans for a Moth evening; discussions about the funding of the Butterfly Transect; debate about barriers in the plantation; plans for the Queen's 90th birthday; debates on investments and cash deposits; reports about the damaged water pipe at Whitbarrow Cottage and action thereon; agreement to a temporary lodge in the Whitbarrow Cottage garden; funding request towards Crosthwaite School, Memorial Hall kitchen; reports of grants received for EWGS; a report on the completion of the restoration of the Court Rolls; a motor cycle trial scheduled for the 4th September and a summer walk in late August; electronic meeting to authorise A Mutch to be a signatory to the bank account; agreement in principle to internal works at Whitbarrow Cottage; further negotiations regarding Howe Fell Cottage and costs; renewal and insurance and a debate about Trustees Liability Insurance; a debate about the removal of large timber from Township Plantation; discussion regarding the possibility of acquiring the freehold interest in Argles Allotment; and numerous other more minor administrative matters throughout the period.

20/2017 **Charitable Donation**

It was reported that charitable donations had been made throughout the year to Crosthwaite School (£10,000) Argles Memorial Hall Cycle Rack

(£57), Restoration of Court Rolls (£400), and refurbishment of Crosthwaite Exchange Kitchen (£2,368).

No further formal requests for funds had been received, although there was brief discussion about the possibility of funding a new ride on mower for the sports field, and the need for a footpath between the School and the Church.

21/2017 **Lease Renewals and Rent Reviews**

The rent of Township Allotment was last reviewed on 5th April 2015, and could be reviewed on the 5th April 2018 if notice was served before the 5th April 2017. J. Lambton advised that there were no plans at this stage to serve notice.

Whitbarrow Cottage rent review was last reviewed on 1st December 2015, and is next renewable on 1st December 2017.

22/2017 **Woodland**

Tony Marshall presented his report for 2016. There had been four firewood plots. EWGS annual grant of £1,500 received with a further £435 for capital works. The Butterfly Conservation work continues as does the Butterfly Transect which reveals generally declining numbers although some species have improved. Grey squirrel control continues, and one red squirrel spotted. Ash die back disease has arrived, but sanitation felling is not taking place, as some trees may be resistant. Robert Sykes had a walk over the Township for the Pteridological Society to study ferns. There had been a summer walk led by Dr Peter Standing at White Scar.

John Sceal presented his report for Fellside Plantation where there had been little change; one coppice plot, with mostly windblown trees being taken. It was intended that the bicentennial footpath will eventually make a figure of eight, and give better access for coppicing, but the path was not currently being well used. Chris Taylforth is doing grey squirrel control.

23/2017 **Township Allotment**

Bill Sharp summarised the position. The allotment is now grazed entirely by cattle, with no sheep. They are in a ten year agreement with Natural England, who have recently inspected. Six years of the agreement are left to run. Juniper numbers appear to be increasing.

24/2017 **Election of Trustees**

The Chairman advised that an invitation had been issued for nominations as Trustees in the Parish magazine. None had been received by the deadline, and all the existing Trustees were prepared to stand for a further year. It was proposed by Mr D Blair and seconded by Mr E Sale that the

existing Trustees should be re-elected on block, and this was approved by the meeting.

25/2017 **Election to Treasurer**

It was proposed by Mr D Stott and seconded by Mrs C Hensman that Alistair Mutch should be re-elected as Treasurer for a further year, and this was approved by the meeting.

26/2017 **Appointment of Agent/Secretary**

It was proposed by Mr M Casson and seconded by Mr Ewan Sale that Mr Julian Lambton should be reappointed as Agent/Secretary for a further year, and this was approved by the meeting.

27/2017 **Appointment of Auditors**

It was proposed by Mr R Smith and seconded by Mr R Sykes that Mr P Sherratt should be reappointed as auditor for a further year, and the meeting was in favour.

28/2017 **Appointment of Representative to Recreational Field Trust**

James

It was proposed by Mr D Stott and seconded by Mr H Trotter that Mr Park should be appointed for a further year, and this was approved by the meeting.

29/2017 **Appointment of Representative to Village Hall Committee**

It was proposed by Ann Smith and seconded by Roger Smith that Mr Gordon Pitt should be appointed for a further year and this was approved at the meeting.

30/2017 **Any Other Business**

Bill Sharp said that some hounds may be seen on the allotment in future weeks, but this is for trailing, not hunting.

It was mentioned that Walks/Open Days are usually published in the Parish Magazine and on the website. A suggestion was made for a further Fern Walk.

Reports are being received of firewood having been stolen from Near Fellside Planation, also a roll of wire netting.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr O Barratt for the Chairman and the Secretary.

31/2017

Date of Next Meeting

The Trustees meeting Wednesday 14th June 2017.

The AGM meeting Wednesday 7th February 2018.

There being no other business the meeting concluded at 8:05 pm

Signed Date

(Chairman)