

**LANDOWNERS OF CROSTHWAITE & LYTH  
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
HELD AT  
THE ARGLES MEMORIAL HALL, CROSTHWAITE  
ON WEDNESDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2014 AT 7:00pm**

**Present:** 28 Landowners were present  
Mr J E Lambton of Carter Jonas was in attendance

---

18/2014      **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Claire Hensman, Penny and Alastair Mutch, Mary Harkness, Gordon Pitt, Hartley Trotter, John Holmes, Robert Sykes.

19/2014      **Chairman's Opening Remarks**

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting and remarked that this AGM was being held in less sad conditions than was the case last year. He was pleased to report that Penny Mutch had returned to the parish, and wished her well. He explained about the motor cycle trial on the allotment, which had occurred for many years, and appreciated that this was a sensitive matter, but it had become a local tradition. The Landowners wished this to continue, so long as there was no conflict with their Tenants, the environment or the ability to claim grants on this land. There had been a very inspiring spring walk and moth evening in spring 2013, despite being a bit chilly. The Chairman expressed his thanks to all the Trustees, their Agent and Alastair Mutch as Treasurer for the work carried out in the previous twelve months. He mentioned in particular Tony Marshall's work on progressing the EWGS application. The Chairman was sorry to report that the planning application submitted by the Park family, vigorously supported by the Landowners and other locals, had been refused. Finally the Chairman advised that he had recently visited past Chairman Tony Schofield, whose health had deteriorated, and he had passed on the Landowners best wishes to him.

20/2014      **Minutes of Previous AGM**

These were reviewed by the Chairman, but were not read out in full as they were available on the website and at the Exchange. The Chairman mentioned in particular the increased surplus in the accounts, reports about Larch disease, Juniper die back and the lack of requests for funding. New Trustees were elected.

It was proposed by John Sceal and seconded by Oliver Barrett that the minutes should be adopted as a true record of the meeting, and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

- 21/2014      **Matters Arising**  
None.
- 22/2014      **Accounts to the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2013**  
Alastair Mutch not being available, these were presented by Peter Sherratt who advised that income had decreased by about £4,500, as the one off payment for the Grant of Easement was not repeated. However expenditure had also decreased from £5,600 to £4,100. This included the transfer of £1,000 to the Building Reserve Fund which now stands at £3,000. The total asset value of the Charity had increased from approximately £126,000 to £141,000.  
  
It was noted that some figures were missing from the third column on the accounts.  
  
The accounts had previously been adopted by the Trustees and signed.
- 23/2014      **Reports from Trustees' Meetings**  
The Agent advised that there had been four Trustees' Meetings during the year, and then raised points from each of the meetings which included the election of new Trustees; debates on cash deposits; support for Laura Sivell; the summer walk; use of the Turner Road; progress of the EWGS; the management of the allotment by Mr Sharp; rent reviews; unauthorised removal of stone; action regarding Japanese Knotweed; revised policy for firewood plots; grant to St Mary's Church; boundary issue behind How Fell Cottage; motorcycle trial; lack of Juniper disease and Larch disease; increase in deer control; lone working with chainsaws and chainsaw courses; orienteering event; review of open access provisions.
- 24/2014      **Charitable Donations**  
It was reported that there was no request for the annual donation to the Children's Party, as it had not occurred this year. It had been agreed in principle to support the Playgroup, although no formal request for funding has so far being received. St Mary's Church requires significant funding for remodelling, disabled wc's, increase circulation area, but this is yet to be finalised.
- 25/2014      **Lease Renewals and Rent Reviews**  
It was noted that Whitbarrow Cottage rent was reviewable every two years and was next due in July 2015. The rent of Township Allotment was due in April 2015 providing notice is served prior to 5 April 2014.
- 26/2014      **Woodlands Management**  
Tony Marshall presented his report for 2013. In Township Plantation several firewood plots had been worked by locals. Butterfly conservation held two work parties, and supplied some funding to create a new ride. More Norway Spruce had being removed from Colin Wood. Several hundred cowslips had been planted to help the butterfly population, grown from seed gathered locally. Significant time and effort had being expended

progressing the EWGS application to obtain grant aid, and it was expected this would be approved shortly. The summer walk by Rob Petley-Jones was well attended as was the moth evening. The butterfly transect revealed generally declining numbers due to the poor previous summer, but others, such as the Duke of Burgundy, were increasing.

At White Scar there had been little action, except that a management plan has been prepared, and some maintenance work to remove invasive species and recreate glades will be carried out in the next few months.

The Chairman advised that the Landowners are keen to support the ongoing butterfly transect. He also noted that Crosthwaite School is using Fellside Plantation for recreational and instructive activities, and this was greatly appreciated.

Peter Sherratt wished to record his thanks to Tony and Heather Marshall for their work on the Landowners woodlands.

**27/2014 Township Allotment**

The Chairman reported that he had met with Bill Sharp, and was impressed by the continuing management, although this is now changing now that it is in a Higher Level Stewardship Scheme. Only cows may graze the allotment now. Bill Sharp reported that there were more young Juniper, but also Thorns were growing again with no sheep to nibble them off, but this also meant that some heather was regenerating. It was noted that horse riding activity had stabilised and was not increasing, with no reported problems. Hound dogs are occasionally trained on the allotment, for which Mr Sharp receives appropriate recompense.

**28/2014 The Spring Walk**

It was agreed that there should be a walk either in the spring or the summer, to be arranged later.

**29/2014 Election of Trustees**

The Chairman advised that a notice had been placed in the Parish Magazine inviting nominations for new Trustees to be sent in to the Agent at a fixed date. None had been received, and as all of the existing Trustees were willing to stand for a further year, all the current Trustees, namely, Messrs Casson, Sykes, Dobson, Stott, Sceal, Park, Marshall and Mrs Hensman and Mutch were duly re-elected on block, and this was proposed by Jim Bowness and seconded by Peter Sherratt, so the election was duly confirmed.

**30/2014 Election of Treasurer**

It was proposed by Martin Casson and seconded by Jim Bowness that Alastair Mutch continue in this role for a further year and this was approved by the meeting.

**31/2014 Election of Agent/Secretary**

It was proposed by Oliver Barrett and seconded by John Sceal that Mr Julian Lambton should stay in this year for another year, this was approved by the meeting.

32/2014      **Appointment of Auditors**

It was proposed by Martin Casson and seconded by John Sceal that Messrs Mutch and Sherratt should continue in this role for another year and this was approved by the meeting.

33/2014      **Appointment of Representative to Recreational Field Trust**

It was proposed by Mr Stott and seconded by Mr Sceal that Mr James Park should continue in this role for a further year and this was approved by the meeting.

34/2014      **Appointment of Representative to the Village Hall Committee**

It was proposed by Mrs Judy Goodland and seconded by Mr Eaun Sale that Mr Gordon Pitt should continue his role for a further year and this was approved by the meeting.

35/2014      **Any Other Business**

The Chairman reported that, in 2015, The Landowners of Crosthwaite and Lyth will celebrate 200 years since the organisation came into being by an Act of Enclosure in 1815. The Chairman considered that this occasion should be marked by an appropriate celebration, and asked for any ideas to be fed to him.

36/2014      **Date of Next Meeting**

The next AGM, Wednesday 4 February 2015.

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 7:54pm.

Signed ..... Date .....  
(Chairman)