

**LANDOWNERS OF CROSTHWAITE & LYTH
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT
THE ARGLES MEMORIAL HALL, CROSTHWAITE
ON WEDNESDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2013 AT 7:00pm**

Present: 43 Landowners were present
Mr J E Lambton of Carter Jonas was in attendance

Prior to the AGM Steve Doyle gave a most interesting illustrated talk about the butterfly population in Township Plantation, with some superb photographs. Steve demonstrated what a unique and important place Township is when it comes to butterflies, as it provides habitat for a substantial proportion of all known British species, and in particular several very rare species.

Prior to the main business of the meeting commencing, the Chairman expressed the very great sadness over the passing of Colin Park and John Walker, and a period of silence was kept in their memory.

16/2013 Apologies

Apologies were received from Martin Grace.

17/2013 Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting. He explained about the sad loss of two Trustees, Colin Park and John Walker. There had been progress with the Management Plan for Township. All the landholding had been Registered (with the exception of one very small parcel). There had been a very successful summer walk. A new concern is the Ash Die-back Disease, Chalara, upon which a wait-and-see policy has been adopted, with a decision to reduce cutting of Ash to a minimum.

18/2013 Minutes of Previous AGM

These were not read as they had been available on the website and at the Crosthwaite Exchange prior to this meeting.

The Chairman read extracts from the Minutes for the interest of those attending.

It was proposed by Matthew Dobson and seconded by Robert Sykes that they be adopted as a true record of the meeting, and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

19/2013 Matters Arising

None

20/2013

Accounts to the 31st October 2011

These had previously been finalised and signed off. Copies had been circulated at the meeting. Mr Sherratt explained that income in the year had increased by about £5,000, expenditure having decreased by about £9,000, resulting in a surplus of about £13,000, and also some unrealised gains from investments. The balance in the COIF accounts had increased from about £65k to £68k. Thanks were recorded to the Treasury, Alistair Mutch. It was proposed by Peter Hensman and seconded by Matthew Dobson that the accounts be adopted formally, and this was approved by the meeting.

Mr Sherratt recommended that, in future, the Treasurer should present the report to the AGM, not the Auditor.

21/2013

Reports from Trustees' Meetings

The Chairman informed the meeting that there had been four Trustees meetings since the last AGM and highlighted a number of points which had been discussed at those meetings.

There had been extensive discussions about the future management of the woodlands, with Tony Marshall committing a lot of work to a draft management plan. It was noted now that there was a greater need for formal documentation and approval of woodland work now that Colin Park is no longer with us, as it was anticipated that any woodland activity would be subject to more scrutiny than hitherto.

The difficulty over Registering Title next to Howe Fell Cottage was explained, as was the decision not to proceed with a memorial seat on the Allotment.

The Chairman commended the tenants of Whitbarrow Cottage for their continuing good work at the property, following the Trustees' significant investment in supplying new windows at the property.

There had been discussion about the incidence of disease in Larch, first mentioned in April 2012, but happily not yet seen on the Township.

It was also noted that there was some die-back of Juniper on the Allotment, but Bill Sharp thought this could be explained by natural causes, and advised that there are a great many young junipers becoming established, and that it was estimated that there were around 9,000 juniper plants on the Allotment anyway, although nobody knows who counted them all.

22/2013

Charitable Donations

There had been no requests for charitable donations, but the Chairman explained that funds were available, and invited people to consider making a request.

23/2013

Lease Renewals and Rent Reviews

The Agent advised that none were outstanding, although the Trustees have the option to serve Notice on Township Allotment for a review in April 2014 if they wish.

The Trustees had approved a reduction in the rent for Colin's Wood from £30 to £15.

24/2013

Woodlands

The Chairman explained the strong interest in the woodland management expressed by Butterfly Conservation, but that there was also a need to ensure that management was controlled by the Landowners and not by BC. It was recognised that some funds were made available through Butterfly Conservation. A draft management plan for Township Allotment had been prepared by Tony Marshall. The longer-term plan for Fellside Plantation had not progressed significantly, however it presents very different issues. The Agent advised that a new approach was being made to the Forestry Commission with a view to entering an EWGS Management Plan for which the work undertaken by Tony Marshall and others will be extremely useful.

25/2013

Spring Walk

The previous walk had been much enjoyed by many. There was a plan for a repeat walk, probably in June 2013, possibly led by Rob Petley Jones.

26/2013

Election of Trustees

The Chairman advised that two vacancies had occurred, and that this had been publicised with nominations requested. It had also been established that all the remaining Trustees wished to stand for a further year. Two nominations had been received, Tony Marshall (who had been proposed by Denise Park and seconded by Martin Casson) and James Park (who had been proposed by Martin Casson and seconded by Bill Sharp). It was proposed by Peter Sherratt and seconded by Douglas Blair that the remaining Trustees should be re-elected for a further year, with the addition of the two new Trustees, and on a show of hands this was carried unanimously.

27/2013

Appointment of Agent/Secretary

It was proposed by Alistair Mutch and seconded by Matthew Dobson that J E Lambton of Carter Jonas should continue in this role for a further year.

28/2013

Appointment of Honorary Treasurer

It was proposed by Robert Sykes and seconded by John Sceal that Alistair Mutch should continue in this role for a further year.

29/2013

Appointment of Auditor

It was proposed by Penny Mutch and seconded by Judy Goodland that Peter Sherratt should continue for a further year in this role.

30/2013

Appointment of Representative to Recreational Field Trust

It was proposed by Robert Sykes and seconded by Ewan Sale that James Park should be appointed to this position. James Park was happy to accept this, and it was approved by the meeting.

31/2013

Appointment of Representative to the Village Hall Committee

It was proposed by Robert Sykes and seconded by Claire Hensman that Mr Gordon Pitt should continue in this role for a further year.

32/2013

Any Other Business

None

33/2013

Date of Next Meeting

Date of next AGM, Wednesday 5 February 2014 at 7pm in the Crosthwaite Village Hall

There being no other business the Meeting closed at ???pm.

Signed
(Chairman)

Date