

# FRIENDS OF HOB MOOR

*www.friendsofhobmoor.org.uk*

**Minutes of the Eleventh Annual General Meeting  
held on Wednesday, 13 October 2010, 7.30 – 8.40pm  
West Thorpe Methodist Church, West Thorpe, York**

## **Present at AGM**

**Committee:** Simon Palmour (Chairperson), Michael Spencer (Treasurer), Gwen Berwick (Secretary), Madeline Evans, Peter Green, David McCloy, Elizabeth Tomlinson

**Members:** Malcolm Hainsworth, Ian Tomlinson, Christine Theaker, Julian Spaul, Gina Spaul, Sue Cawood, Toni Jackson, Val Everard, Margaret Gravely, John Gravely, Peter Lidgett, Nancy Lidgett, Anne Paver, Jayne Liddell, Will Hayler, Margaret Weeden, Frank Weeden, Anne Leggett, Patricia Palaeologina, John Dudley

**CoYC Ranger:** Jenny Cairns

The Chairperson welcomed members to the meeting and thanked them for coming.

### **1. Apologies**

Gerald Downs, Pauline Walker, Elizabeth Smith, Margaret Hainsworth, Dinah Tyszka, Mark Tyszka, Shirley Jones, Tanya Durkin, Daphne Hamilton, John Wood

### **2. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting**

The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were agreed and signed as a correct record.

### **3. Presentation of the Annual Report**

The Chairperson presented the Annual Report for the year 2009-10. The report outlined nine areas of work on which efforts had been concentrated over the course of the year:

- further development of the website, including a new layout and slide-show.
- attendance at local events, and the distribution of leaflets to homes nearby.
- walks and talks: a joint programme with the Council, including birds, wild flowers and plants, bats, the ecology of the moor and a ghost walk.
- improving facilities: installation of the two new benches and production of our new colour leaflet about Hob Moor.
- practical work, eg litter clearing, tree and skylark monitoring, updating the information boards and looking out for any threats to the moor.
- liaison, eg with the Council, police, planning department, cycle officers, farmer and Environmental Agency. Jenny Cairns, the new Council Ranger for Hob Moor, has been a welcome and efficient newcomer to the role.
- monitoring the management plan: together with the Council, FOHM commissioned a new ecological study of the moor from Martin Hammond, updating his previous report of 2001, with recommendations for future management.
- issuing of the twice-yearly newsletter.
- stewardship: the Council's bid for money under Natural England's Stewardship Scheme has been successful. This means that additional money will be available for the care and management of the moor over the next ten years. FOHM will liaise with the Council over the implementation of the scheme.

After the presentation of the report, a number of points were raised from the floor:

- The former pedestrian gate next to the Lidl site has not been replaced, but a new one will be installed once the right of way has been officially confirmed.
- The new hedge next to the housing estate is in a poor condition. Jenny Cairns will follow this up.

- There was a suggestion that if there were problems relating to planning permission at the Our Lady's site, a petition could be raised among members.

#### 4. **Presentation of the accounts and determination of the annual subscription**

The Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2010 were presented by the Treasurer. Acceptance of the Accounts was carried following a proposal by Malcolm Hainsworth and seconded by Peter Green.

The Management Committee's recommendations for subscription arrangements were also accepted. The proposal was made by Simon Palmour and seconded by John Gravely.

The subscription rates for 2010-11 are:

- £2 per person for one year (remains unchanged)
- £10 per person for six year membership
- £20 per person for life membership.

A member who is a bank manager suggested that we consider offering the convenient option of paying subscriptions by standing order, and will discuss this further with the Treasurer.

#### 5. **Appointment of independent examiner of accounts**

The appointment of David Ward as independent examiner of accounts was proposed by Madeline Evans, seconded by Malcolm Hainsworth and carried.

#### 6. **Election of Officers**

Written nominations had been received for Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer, one for each post. The following people were therefore re-elected to post:

- Chairperson: Simon Palmour
- Secretary: Gwen Berwick
- Treasurer: Michael Spencer

#### 7. **Election of members of the Management Committee**

Peter Green and Madeline Evans remain for their second year. David McCloy was re-elected, having been proposed by Ian Tomlinson and seconded by Julian Spaul. Elizabeth Tomlinson was re-elected, having been proposed by Gwen Berwick and seconded by Patricia Palaeologina. John Wood, who had been co-opted to the committee in last year was elected for a further year, proposed by Madeline Evans; seconded by David McCloy. Ian Tomlinson was also elected onto the committee, proposed by Michael Spencer and seconded by Peter Green.

The committee is now complete but a further three further members can still be co-opted.

The chairperson extended a warm welcome to anyone who was interested to come along to a committee meeting to find out what is involved.

#### 8. **Any other Business**

There was no further business. Refreshments were then served, giving members the opportunity to chat to each other and discuss issues informally.

Before the formal part of the meeting Nancy Irwin, a researcher at York University, gave a very enjoyable illustrated talk on bats: fascinating facts, figures and anecdotes, as well as the place and value of bats in the urban environment. She welcomes interest from the public in her department's bat surveys and has offered to provide training and lend machines to volunteers who wish to help.