

**Minutes of the fourteenth Annual General Meeting
held on Wednesday 30th October 2013, 7.30pm
West Thorpe Methodist Church, West Thorpe, York**

Present at AGM

Committee: Peter Green (Chairperson), Richard Gray (Treasurer), Pam Hanley (Secretary), Madeline Evans, Ian Tomlinson, Elizabeth Tomlinson.

Members: Sue Cawood, Malcolm Hainsworth, Margaret Hainsworth, F & M Weeden, Pauline Walker, Patricia Palaeologina, Kate and George Kirman, Elizabeth Smith, Philippa Plitt, Andrew Waller, Julian Spaul, Gina Spaul, John Dudley, Toni Jackson, Ian Everard, Val Everard, Alan Purvis, Claudine Purvis, Isobel Funnell, Elspeth Thornton.

Smarter York Officer: Jenny Cairns.

Guest speaker: Dan Calvert, Environmental Technician, City of York Council (part meeting).

The Chairperson opened the meeting by welcoming the members and thanking them for attending.

1. **Apologies:** Gwen Berwick, Shirley Jones, Anne Green, Sandra McCormick, Dinah & Mark Tyzka. Nan Saeki, Nancy & Peter Lidgett, Martyn and Val Buckman, Michael Spencer, Bernadette Linfoot, Ann Gray.

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**

Before presenting the Annual Report for 2012-2013, the Chair gave particular thanks to Jenny Cairns for all her support over the past few years. The committee met six times and work was concentrated on nine areas of work:

- The website had slightly fewer visitors than previously. We are grateful to David McCloy for maintaining the site but continue to look for a replacement. There is a new Facebook page.
- Hob Moor is at the end of its third of 10 years in the Stewardship Scheme. Most capital works are completed, including fencing, footbridges and wildflower meadow enhancement. The remaining seven years will concentrate on managing the moor.
- Together with Jenny Cairns from the Council, a variety of walks and talks has been offered. New successful additions this year have been Winter and Summer solstice celebrations.
- The Friends of Hob Moor has not funded any new facilities this year. Elizabeth Smith is in liaison with University of York's Department of Archaeology about the possibility of a project focusing on the archaeology of the south-west end of the main track on the Moor.
- Practical work continues with litter clearing and tree monitoring, updating the information boards and keeping checks on threats to the Moor.
- Liaison continues with a variety of COYC departments (e.g. Planning and Cycle officers), the police, the farmer, Environmental Agency and others. Jenny Cairns has attended committee meetings as our main Council point of contact.
- The Newsletter has been produced twice annually, with Madeline Evans continuing in the editorial role. Member feedback indicates that this continues to be one of the most valued activities of the organisation. Anyone willing to switch to receiving the newsletter electronically should contact Madeline.
- We attended local events including Hob Moor Day and West Bank Park Fair.
- The Committee had a special meeting to discuss two topical issues: the planning application to develop housing on the site of Our Lady's school and the withdrawal of Council funding for summer fairs.

4. Presentation of the Accounts and determination of the annual subscription

The Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2013 were presented by the Treasurer. Acceptance of the Accounts was proposed by Elizabeth Tomlinson, seconded by Martin Hainsworth and carried. The Treasurer explained that take up of Life Membership led to the expected reduction in subscriptions received but this was offset by a one-off Gift Aid refund from 2 earlier years.

It was agreed to retain the subscription at the current level of £2 for the forthcoming year, as recommended by the Management Committee. Proposed by Pauline Walker, seconded by Madeline Evans, and carried.

5. Appointment of independent examiner of accounts

The appointment of David Ward as independent examiner of accounts, proposed by Margaret Weeden, seconded by Elizabeth Tomlinson and carried.

6. Election of Officers

Peter Green was re-elected as Chairperson, proposed by Elizabeth Tomlinson, seconded by Margaret Hainsworth and Madeline Evans, and carried.

Richard Gray was re-elected as Treasurer, proposed by Madeline Evans, seconded by Martin Hainsworth and Ian Tomlinson and carried.

Pam Hanley was re-elected as Secretary, proposed by Madeline Evans, seconded by Ian Tomlinson and Martin Hainsworth and carried.

7. Election of members of the Management Committee

Ian Tomlinson, Elizabeth Tomlinson and John Wood remain for the second of their two years.

Madeline Evans was re-elected for a further two years, proposed by Elizabeth Tomlinson and seconded by Ian Tomlinson.

8. Membership of Friends of Hob Moor and Committee

The Chair highlighted the issue of falling membership which now stands at 135 and, in particular, the reduced size of the Committee. He warned that two members will have to retire from the Committee next year and new volunteers are keenly sought.

9. Our Lady's RC Primary School Site

Members' attention was drawn to the letters that the Committee had sent on the organisation's behalf expressing concerns about the proposed development. Members with concerns were encouraged to contact the Planning Department at the Council on an individual basis.

10. Future Summer Fairs

The Chair explained why it was impractical for the Committee to take over from the Council in running the annual event. Suggestions were made about having smaller replacement events, with possibility of support from Energise and Friends of West Bank Park.

11. Any other Business

There was no further business.

Refreshment was then served, giving members the opportunity to chat and discuss issues informally.

Before the formal part of the evening Dan Calvert, Environmental Technician at the Council, gave a brief overview of the impact on Hob Moor of Council budget cuts and re-organisation, then took questions from the floor.

AGM closed at 8.30pm