

FRIENDS OF HOB MOOR
www.friendsofhobmmor.org.uk
Minutes of the fifteenth Annual General Meeting
held on Wednesday 8th October 2014, 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, John Wood.

Members: Sue Cawood, Margaret Hainsworth, Frank & Margaret Weeden, Pauline Walker, Elizabeth Smith, Julian Spaul, Gina Spaul, John Dudley, Ann Gray, Gwen Berwick, Jenny Jagger, Sandy & John Monether, Stephanie Luxton, Richard Dalton.

Guest speaker: Derek Utley, Treemendous and Woodland Trust (part meeting).

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

1. Apologies: Malcolm Hainsworth, Shirley Jones, Anne Green, Sandra McCormick, Dinah & Mark Tyzka. Nancy & Peter Lidgett, Bernadette Linfoot, Jane & Seggy Segaran, Andy Wilson, Sue Wherrett, Rosemary Anderton, Dorothy Murphy, David McCloy and Hazel Hall.

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 Chair presented the Annual Report for 2013-2014. The committee met five times and work was concentrated in nine areas:

- The total number of members is up on last year to 146 (113 households) with 54 life, 54 six year, 11 standing order and 27 annual members. The more we can encourage members to move away from annual membership to any of the other types the better because it gives us more stability and reduced administration costs.
- The website had slightly fewer visitors than previous years , but our Facebook page has 108 likes. We thank David McCloy for maintaining the site but continue to look for a replacement.
- Hob Moor is at the end of its fourth of 10 years in the Stewardship Scheme. All capital works are completed, with fencing, footbridges and hedging all round the Moor. The wildflower meadow on Little Hob Moor will be expanded now the cabling work is complete. The next 6 years of Stewardship will focus on controlling the grazing and removing hay crops.
- Together with Jenny Cairns from the Council, a variety of walks and talks were offered, including our Winter and Summer solstice celebrations.
- The Friends of Hob Moor has not funded any new facilities this year. A project focusing on the archaeology of the south-west end of the main track on the Moor is still under discussion.
- 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 (eg Planning over the development on Our Lady's site at the edge of the moor), the police, the farmer and others. Jenny Cairns has attended some of our committee meetings and remains 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 were encouraged to do so and asked to contact Madeline Evans; members prepared to move to electronic communications will also receive more regular communication.

- We attended local events including West Bank Park Summer Fair and the new Foxwood Country Park Fair. This is a good way of keeping in touch with members and encouraging others to join The Friends. One Saturday morning, we also set up a table on the Moor to meet those not normally in contact with FOHM.
- Planning permission for 55 houses was granted in December 2013 on the site of Our Lady's school, despite letters from the committee, Friends and other members of the public, many of whom were concerned about the proposed increased number of houses on the development (almost double the figure in the Local Plan). Another 3 metres has been withdrawn from Stewardship to create a buffer zone around the site

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

The Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2014 were presented by the Treasurer. Acceptance of the Accounts was proposed by Gwen Berwick, seconded by Ann Gray and carried. The Treasurer explained that income had dwindled slightly because of the take-up of longer-term subscriptions, no income tax refund on gift aid, and no Hob Moor Fair. Expenditure had increased partly due to Our Lady's planning investigations and the search for a new Chairperson and Secretary. However, the group is still in a healthy state financially.

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 Ann Gray, seconded by Elizabeth Tomlinson, and carried.

5. Appointment of independent examiner of accounts

The appointment of David Ward as independent examiner of accounts, proposed by John Wood, seconded by Pauline Walker and carried.

6. Election of Officers

Peter Green had to stand down from the Committee after eight years service on the committee and Pam Hanley resigned from the role of Secretary. Imelda Havers was elected as Chairperson, proposed by Pam Hanley, seconded by Ian Tomlinson and Madeline Evans, and carried.

Richard Gray was re-elected as Treasurer, proposed by Peter Green, seconded by Sue Wherrett and Pam Hanley and carried.

Stephanie Luxton was elected as Secretary, proposed by Pam Hanley, seconded by Andy Wilson and Peter Green and carried.

7. Election of members of the Management Committee

Elizabeth Tomlinson had to stand down after 8 years' service on the Committee.

Madeline Evans and Pam Hanley remain for the second of their two years.

Ian Tomlinson was re-elected for a further two years, proposed by Ann Gray and seconded by Elizabeth Tomlinson

John Wood was re-elected for a further two years, proposed by Margaret Weeden and seconded by Richard Gray.

Jenny Jagger was elected for her first two year term, proposed by Ian Tomlinson and seconded by Peter Green.

11. Any other Business

After discussion about delivering Hob Moor leaflets to those new to the area, it was decided that the Committee would give further consideration to this matter.

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

Before the formal part of the evening Derek Utley, of Tremendous and the Woodland Trust gave an informative talk about the work of the two organisations.

AGM closed at 8.30pm