The Friends of Nore Barn Woods Minutes of the 22nd Annual General Meeting held at 11am on 13th July 2024

Held at

Attendees:

Chairman Roy Ewing
Treasurer: Pam Ewing
Secretary: Madeleine Cox

Committee: Barry King-Smith, Clare Jury, Paul Scales

Members: Val Cameron, Roger Chaddock, Zena Chaddock, Henry Christian, Margriet Christian, Mike Davidson, Liz Dixon, Maggie Gebbett, Hilary Munro, Hugh Mudford, Roger Powell, Peter

Rowles, Mike Thomas, Peter Wallbank.

Public: Judy Knapp, Nia Cary

Apologies: Amanda Marshall, Steve Leniston, Neil Botterill, Ann Fox-Robinson.

Minutes of 2023 AGM

With no matters arising, all voted in favour of acceptance of the Minutes by a show of hands.

Treasurer's Report

Pam presented the 2023 accounts (which had been on the FONBW website since January 2024). The accounts had maintained an even keel since her report at the 2023 AGM and due to receiving more than had been spent there was in fact a surplus of £40.

All voted in favour of acceptance of the Treasurer's Report by a show of hands

Chairman's Report

See separate report.

Election of Trustees

The candidates were as follows: Chairman Roy Ewing

Treasurer Pam Ewing Secretary Madeleine Cox

Committee: Barry King-Smith, Paul

Scales, Val Cameron

Val Cameron put her name forward for election to the Committee and this was approved. The election of the trustees was formally accepted with all voting in favour by a show of hands.

Any Other Business

Following on from the Management Plan, which is the precursor to applying for a Local Nature Reserve, Madeleine proposed a vote of thanks to Roy, Barry and Paul for all their work in preparing both the Plan and a Local Nature Reserve document and the frustrating time spent in trying to get HBC to approve the Management Plan which is still awaiting 6 months on.

Pam and Madeleine both proposed a Vote of Thanks to Roy for his almost daily work in the woods.

With Clare stepping down from Committee after 9 years, she was presented with a gift of flowers.

Q&A

Mike Thomas was concerned that FONBW's charitable status might be jeopardised if monies were not spent. Roy replied saying the Charity Commission recognises the need to hold monies to spend on major projects.

MikeT questioned the state of the path on the south side of the woods which gets very muddy when wet and forces walkers into the woods. Roy been in touch with Steve Mountain of HBC, and has been quoted a sum of £40K to repair the path. We may be able to get funds from CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy).

Peter Rowles asked whether the Green Party councillors should be approached to assist Barry, Roy and Paul in getting HBC to speed up approval of the Management Plan. Barry replied that we had tried to get a meeting with Councillor Reuben, but that it had not happened. Barry is chasing another date.

The Chairman closed the AGM at 11.25am and invited everyone to enjoy the refreshments provided by Pam.