



Minutes of the CPRE Annual General Meeting

Held at the Golden Fleece Inn, Thirsk

On Friday 10th May 2013 at 7pm

Lord Crathorne, the President of CPRE North Yorkshire opened the meeting by welcoming members to the AGM. He highlighted issues which were pertinent to all CPRE members including the National Office Briefing Note on the Growth and Infrastructure Act. Lord Crathorne explained that nationally CPRE were focussing on planning and campaigning matters, in particular how to achieve better planning, the National Food Webs (he encouraged District Groups to produce their own web), the transport toolkit which investigates local travel choices and the NPPF Anniversary Briefing Note all of which can be found on the main CPRE website: www.cpre.org.uk. The meeting was attended by 15 people.

Apologies for absence

Apologies were received in advance of the AGM from: Alan Lodge, Dr Guy Woolley, Dalton Peake, David Goodman, Tom and Margaret Chalmers, Jean Glover, Miles Garnett, Rev. John Booth, Pauline Ohr. Apologies were received during the meeting from David and Jo Clarke.

Adoption of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 25.05.2012

The minutes were considered to be a true and accurate record of the last Annual General Meeting. This was proposed by Mr Healy and Seconded by Roger Bennett.

Matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda

There were no matters arising from the minutes as reported that were not on the agenda.

Financial matters: 2012 Accounts, for acceptance and endorsement

Dr Kristin Whalley reported that there was a typographical error as listed in the accounts for 2012 on page 19 of the Annual Report. Under the heading 'Meetings and Administration' for Hambleton the report should read '0' thus making the '£53'. Due to this error, the overall total for expenditure on meetings and administration for North Yorkshire therefore should read '£3,229' and the overall total for expenditure should read '£14,357'. It was explained

that this error was due to an un-cashed cheque and the amount would therefore be coming forward in the following year's accounts. Due to this, there was also an error in the opening and movement columns on the table on page 19 for Hambleton. The 'Opening' figure should read '£4,306' and the 'Movement' should read '£298'.

John Gill explained that Redcar and Cleveland members would have received Annual Reports that had the correct figures included within them as their reports were posted after the error had been spotted. He stated that the County was in a good financial position. He reported that there would be further expenditure in the coming month due to a planning invoice and that the treasurer would need payment.

John Gill reported that there were now a total of 147 unassigned members in North Yorkshire whereas last year there were only 18. This is dealt with in his report within the Annual Report so was not discussed further.

With regard to the Paton Legacy, Dr Kristin Whalley reported that £9,242.75 had been distributed to different causes and was happy to show members a list detailing all expenditures as required.

Dr Kristin Whalley Proposed the financial report as accurate, this was seconded by Roger Bennett.

Mr Healy complimented John Gill for his presentation of the accounts. Lord Crathorne added he had found the Annual Report very interesting.

Election of Officers. The following have been nominated:

Chairman: Alan Lodge, Proposed: Roger Bennett, Seconded: Julia Marley

Secretary: John Gill, Proposed: Dr Guy Woolley (prior to meeting), Seconded: Dr Kristin Whalley

Auditor: The Barker Partnership, Proposed: Dr Kristin Whalley, Seconded: Roger Bennett

John Gill explained to members present that following the retirement of David Clarke as Chairman last year, no replacement had been found. The Trustees placed an advert on the 'Reach' network site and Alan Lodge applied. He was interviewed by a panel of Trustees who believed he would have the right credentials for the position and had an impressive CV, so was co-opted Chairman by the Trustees, however, it had to be approved at the meeting. Roger Bennett reported he had been on the interview panel and that he believed Alan was committed to the aims of CPRE. Alan could not attend the AGM as he had a prior holiday commitment in Malaysia, so John Gill would contact him and let him know the positive outcome of the voting.

Mr Healy stated that he had used 'Reach' before and asked if Alan had been the only candidate. It was reported that he was.

The issue of a 'Treasurer' for the group was discussed. John Gill explained that he had employed Pauline Ohr, however, as she is an 'employee' there is some uncertainty as to whether or not she can become a Trustee. John Gill is to investigate this.

At the last Trustee meeting, the Barker Partnership was recommended as Auditors to take the place of J W Smith of Malton.

Julia Marley asked whether or not Alan Lodge had said that he would be the group's Treasurer and questioned whether it was correct to appoint an Auditor without a Treasurer being present. Dr Kristin Whalley stated that she did not believe that the Chairman and Treasurer should be the same person and that she is very satisfied with the way Pauline has completed the accounts for the past year. Roger Bennett stated that he believed that the Auditors should not be controlled by the Treasurer and that it was correct for the Trustees to appoint an Auditor and it be agreed at the AGM. (Barkers will therefore be appointed).

It was agreed by all members present to unanimously accept nominations of representatives from the District Braches:

Coastal: Dalton Peake

Craven: Julia Marley

Hambleton: Roger Bennett

Harrogate: Linda Potter

Ryedale: Julie Hepworth

Swaledale: John Gill

Wensleydale: Dr Kristin Whalley

York and Selby: Dr Guy Woolley

Any Other Business

Mr Healy stated that he had heard complaints from people regarding the Pickering Flood Alleviation planning application submitted by the Environment Agency. He reported that members of the public seemed upset that clay would be transported along the A170 from Northallerton to Pickering and then along Park Street. He asked if anyone from the Ryedale Group was aware of this.

Julie Hepworth responded that the Ryedale District Group was very aware of it and that all statutory consultees and interested parties were currently being consulted by Ryedale District Council regarding the application and the suitability of the road network to support the heavy goods vehicles etc. The North Yorkshire Moors Railways have stated that they could not transport the product via rail. The situation is being monitored.

Presentation

Following a short break for refreshments, Brain Walker gave an excellent presentation entitled the 'Fuzzy Forest'. Brian is a retired Forestry Commission Environment Manager, who has lived in Thornton Le Dale for the past 19 years. He has a wealth of experience in this sector having spent the majority of his working life (and late teens) in environmental conservation. His presentation included information regarding why the Forestry Commission initially created 'Forests' and how they are being modified to reflect the past, present and future needs of both people and the environment. Prior to his retirement, Brian was responsible for looking after the ecology and archaeology of the 20,000Ha of woodland owned by the Forestry Commission in Yorkshire including 16 Sites of Special Scientific Interest, 235 Scheduled Monuments and over 2000 other sites of interest.

