The Landscape Trust; Arnside and Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2018 held on Friday 8th June 2018 at 7.30p.m. at the Heron Theatre, Beetham

1. **Apologies for Absence:**

   Lucy Baron, John Wilson, Fiona Newey, Ray Waltham, Val Stevens, Malcolm Stevens, Peter Delaney, Leslie Edkins, Michael Peak, Tim Tranter, Richard Daley, Sheila Hughes-Hallett, Pat Walsh, David Walsh, Bill Johnston, Phillip Pacey, Jill Smith, Mike Redman.

   74 members were present

2. **Minutes of AGM 2nd June 2017**

   These were accepted as a correct record (proposed Ralph Henderson, seconded Bob Pickup) agreed by a majority show of hands.

3. **Matters Arising**

   There were none

4. **Chairman's report**

   The essence of the document is reproduced in the report to the Charity Commission submitted by the Trust.

   Fiona Allen confirmed the purchase of a portion of Warton Mires and the opportunity which then arose to buy more land at Coldwell, which was considered to be of great conservation value. The trustees decided (on receipt of offers of substantial interest free loans for up to ten years) to buy this land and completion has now been achieved. An appeal will be launched soon to raise the necessary funds to repay the loans. The naming of the site will be put out to consultation. She described the continuing collaboration with the RSPB, NT, NE at Gait barrows.
   The grants scheme had been a success with payments to Arnside Sailing Club, RSPB Warton Crag conservation, and the Swifts in the community project.
   She offered thanks to all the volunteers (at least 3,000 hours for the year) who contributed to the Trust's success, especially the conservation volunteers and the Reserves group, Events, especially Peter Standing and the leaders of walks etc., the Keer to Kent delivery team and the officers.
   She reminded members of the need to comply with the new General Data Protection Regulations.

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The difficulties encountered by the Trust, its officers and others relating to the editorship of Keer to Kent was described with an assertion that this issue was now closed so the Trust could continue, during the next year, to develop its communication with members, develop a new business plan, organise the Coldwell land purchase appeal, work on succession for events and install 5 new trustees.

5. Treasurer's report

Adoption of accounts, as approved by the trustees at the meeting in May.
The accounts were agreed and accepted – proposed by Ann Kitchen, Seconded Peter Stevens and passed by show of hands.
Colin Patrick asked questions relating to the payments to the new editor of Keer to Kent. The treasurer gave details of the increases in costs and the various offsets which made the effective increase approximately £1200 per annum and gave a detailed breakdown of the budget for the next year. It was suggested by the treasurer that the retail price of Keer to Kent be kept under review by the committee.
Recommendation for membership fee – no change proposed – although a proposal may be made next year to be effected in 2020.

Sheila May sought to ask a question and stated that she had a portfolio of emails relating to her disagreement with the trustees. She stated that the minutes were incomplete and that four extra pages in Keer to Kent, prepared in the manner which had been suggested, was not practical in her view. The meeting pressed for the statement to be curtailed and she reluctantly sat down.

6. Secretary's report

The secretary had nothing to report not covered elsewhere except to explain some errors in the description of the voting system and apologised for any confusion caused and also mentioned the mis-attribution of one of the proposals to the wrong member. He suggested that the AGM may be moved to allow the papers (if any) which need to be sent to members to be included with the second edition of Keer to Kent to reduce postage costs.

7. Election of Officers:
The following officers are willing to serve for the next year with no alternative nominations:
Chairman: Fiona Allen
Treasurer: Ray Anslow
Secretary: Michael Warren
Vice-chairman Colin Peacock (Elected by the trustees)

A block re-election was proposed by Ken Kitchen and passed by a show of hands.

8. Resolutions:

(i) In accordance with the Charity Commission's guidance in its governance code, trustees must consult with members should significant changes to

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the Landscape Trust's services or policies arise for consideration and no significant changes shall be actioned without such consultation having taken place.

Steve Benner spoke in support of this resolution and Ann Kitchen, Ken Kitchen and Peter Standing spoke against. It was defeated by show of hands.

(ii) All Decisions must be taken within meetings and must state:

i. **The exact wording of any proposal and who proposed it**
ii. **A summary of the discussion on each item of business**
iii. **Information used to make decisions**
iv. **Details of the decision i.e. who voted and how and the action required**.

Sheila May spoke in support of an amendment to this resolution which was defeated by show of hands, as was the original resolution.

Colin Patrick spoke in support of this resolution which, after a few comments from the floor, was defeated by a show of hands.

(iii) That a minute secretary be appointed immediately (Fee paid if volunteer cannot be found).

~~This resolution~~Colin Patrick spoke in support of this resolution for which there was some support from the floor but which was defeated by show of hands.

(iv) Opportunities to serve the Trust, both voluntary and paid, shall be advertised to all members

This resolution was withdrawn due to irregularity in its presentation.

9. Election of trustees:

Forms were given to members for a vote to elect 5 trustees from 6 candidates. Forms were analysed and counted and summary sheets signed by two tellers (Ruth Ainsworth, Colin Peacock) and countersigned by the scrutineer and returning officer (Jim McQueen). 73 completed ballot papers were counted, not all voters selected 5 candidates. The count was as follows:

Steve Benner 67; Roger Cartwright 69; Gary Marsh 68; Sheila May 10; Robert Pickup 72; Peter Stevens 59.

The following were therefore elected:

Steve Benner, Roger Cartwright, Gary Marsh, Bob Pickup, Peter Stevens.

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10. **Reappointment of Independent Examiner: This was agreed.**

11. **Date and Time of Next Annual General Meeting: To be notified**

A Presentation on Walking in Arnside and Silverdale by Peter Standing during the vote count was well received.

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