

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Forum, Forestdale at 8pm on 28th March 2022

PRESENT - Heather Govier (Chairman), Ted Forsyth (Vice Chairman), Linda Morris (Secretary), Sandra Crapper (Treasurer), John Bickerstaff, Dawn Gibbons, John Zareba and Jim Dunning.

Friends attending - Valerie Baldry and Liz Phillips.

Apologies for absence - Tony Flecchia, Neale Fox, Steve Budd,

1. Minutes of last AGM 25 March 2019 (none held in 20 and 21 due to pandemic) – agreed – with no matters arising not being considered at other points during this and the committee meeting this evening.

2. Election of Management Committee and Officers – all were re-elected but it was noted that the Treasurer would only remain in office until a replacement was found. Heather would start the search for a replacement via the Newsletter, her contacts and FB.

3. Report from the Chair – Heather's annual reports for 2020 and 21 had been circulated and put on the website prior to this meeting. There were no comments raised other than those to be considered in the committee meeting following the AGM.

4. Treasurer's Report - Sandra's report had been circulated and put on the website prior to the meeting and was noted. She suggested a gift be given to Alan Williams for his time reviewing the annual accounts. This was agreed. Gift Aid (approx. £1000) would be claimed during the current year for recent years not yet able to be claimed due to the vagaries of the HMRC website.

Sandra agreed to provide 'an idiot's guide' to how she fulfilled the tasks to help the new Treasurer settle in view of her impending retirement from the role. She was thanked for her hard work in setting up and managing the account systems now being used so effectively.

5. Membership Report – Sandra had now taken over the role of Membership Officer and reported there were currently 242 paid up subscribed members but more than 1000 Facebook followers. It was considered there was no need to make any concerted effort to try to convert these to subscribed members unless there was a particular funding stream that needed a boost e.g. perhaps further muddy path or Linden Glade improvements or another expensive project. .

Review of Membership Arrangements – Membership sub confirmed unchanged at £5.00 p.a. It was noted that many members make additional donations and making no change to the basic sub would not require any amendment to the current Standing Orders.

6. David Malins memorial bird feeding station (DMBFS) - This was set up in January and has attracted many birds (including long tailed tits) and birdwatchers in steadily increasing numbers since. It was agreed that donations in David Malins' memory need not be identified separately now from all the other donations in FSW beyond noting here that it seemed these amounted to about £125 via Just Giving and about £350 directly to our bank account. The set-up costs for the DMBFS were about £150 for the feeders and some food to augment supplies obtained from David's stock leaving about £325 for future expenditure on this project e.g. cost of the planned dedication/information board – see also minutes of committee meeting following this AGM for further details of this – and further food supplies/renewal of feeders etc as required.

7. Any Other Business – The Chair thanked all members of the Management Group for the work they have done throughout the year and was in turn praised for her work as chair, regular litter picking and poo bag retrieval and webmaster.

8. Next Meetings– A regular committee meeting immediately followed the AGM and the next would be held on Monday May 23rd, 8:00pm at the Forestdale Forum. AGM 2023 tba. **The AGM closed at 8.45 p.m.**