

MINUTES

Meeting	73rd Annual General Meeting
Date	22 October 2022
Time	2pm
Location	Whisby Education Centre

Present

Geoff Trinder (President), Brian Tear (Vice President), Anita Quigley (Chair), Julian Purvis (Honorary Treasurer), 14 other members of the Trust, four members of staff and 231 members represented by proxy

Item

In advance of the Annual General Meeting, members had received a copy of the AGM Notice, a Proxy Form and the Annual Review for the year ending 31 March 2022. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic and associated social distancing rules, attendance at this year's meeting had been restricted and members had been required to book their attendance in advance.

- 1 Minutes of the 72nd Annual General Meeting held on 23 October 2021 were approved.
- 2 A summary of the Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2022 was set out in the Annual Review. The full Annual Report and Financial Statements had been available to members on request and were on the Trust's website.

The Chair reported that 2021/22 had seen the Trust overcome the practical difficulties of the Covid pandemic and get on with delivering for nature. The world leading Environment Act and the international commitment summarised as 30% of land and sea protected by 2030 (30 by 30) should be positive external drivers for delivering the Trust's new strategy.

The pilots of the new Environmental Land Management scheme, intended to replace European based funding, are underway with two in Lincolnshire, the Trust working closely with a range of farmers and land managers.

The acquisition of land at Bourne North Fen is an exciting new approach to nature reserves, providing 'nature-based solutions' to issues such as water quality and climate change. The Green Investment Greater Lincolnshire project led by the Trust is investigating opportunities for trading biodiversity, water and carbon credits from such sites to generate income.

Other projects underway during the year include the conclusion of Love Lincs Plants with a series of Lincspirational Shows. Dynamic Dunescapes in Lincolnshire, one of nine UK projects working to restore coastal sandunes, some of Europe's most at risk habitats.

The new membership database has been successfully implemented thanks to great work of the team.

Item

The new trustees recruited during the pandemic have settled in well as has the new Chair.

Looking ahead the Orsted funded Wilder Humber project will see seagrass and mussels returned to the estuary. Campaigning for good government policy and legislation remains vital and using our strength as a grassroots organisation and partnership with other NGOs. The Trust is preparing to celebrate its 75th anniversary.

The Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022 was accepted.

- 3 Copies of the audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 had been available to members on request and were on the Trust's website. An overview of the detail was in the Annual Review.

The Honorary Treasurer reported that the surplus was not all that it seems. Funding for land acquisition is seen as income but not as expenditure as the Trust has the asset. Some project funding is also recognised in the accounts even though no cash has been received and the expenditure will spread over future years. This will no doubt lead to a deficit in 2023.

Legacy income along with membership are key pillars providing important unrestricted income and both held up well in the year.

In response to questions the Honorary Treasurer highlighted the importance of selling the vision when promoting legacies and the value of Area Groups recruiting new members and supporters

The audited Financial Statements were accepted.

- 4 It was resolved that Wright Vigar Limited be re-appointed as auditors for 2022/23. This followed a tendering process undertaken earlier in the year.

- 5 To elect Trustees

Members had been advised in advance of the meeting that three nominations were being recommended by the Board of Trustees: Anita Quigley, Robert Oates and Joanne Woolley. All nominations were approved.

Following the formal business of the meeting, the Chair advised that Julian Purvis would be standing down as Honorary Treasurer and Trustee after this meeting. She paid tribute to his contribution.

The meeting was closed.