The Watercress Way

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

8pm on Thursday 16 June 2021

At Couch Green, Martyr Worthy

This meeting reports on the period from June 2021 until June 2022.

The 9 Trustees are the only members of The Watercress Way. Members of the public were invited as observers.

Attending: Jackie Porter, Mike Collis, Tony Langridge, Chris Brunskill, Stephen Jeffery, Brigid Taylor

Apologies: Clive Cook (Trustee), Julie Fullstone (Treasurer), Emma Banks (Trustee), Jim Thompson, Kim Adams

1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on 16 June 2021: Agreed Matters arising: None

Meet the Trustees: Since our last AGM Kim Adams and Jim Thompson have retired. There experience and commitment will be greatly missed although they will still support us as volunteers. Lynsey Robinson has had to resign due to pressure of work. She will continue to support us.

We have recruited Brigid Taylor who has a strong background in local government and in planning. She will be a great asset to the team and is working with Emma on the Watercress and Winterbourne project.

Trustees and roles:

Jackie Porter, Chairman Clive Cook, Vice Chairman Mike Collis, Secretary Julie Fullstone, Treasurer Stephen Jeffery, Volunteer organiser Emma Banks, Fundraising, Communications and Community Chris Brunskill, Website Tony Langridge Brigid Taylor

2. Report from Chairman:

 Annual report: Progress so far and plans for 2022 – 23: Jackie introduced the written report which is available via our website. The sections on Our vision and Our mission build on the Strategic Plan.



Key points:

- Increase in public engagement following the pandemic. Resumption of Sponsorship links with local businesses. New website courtesy of brilliant work by new Trustee Chris Brunskill.
- \circ Successful campaign to stop the infill of Itchen Stoke bridge with support from HCC.
- Improving the route: permissive path in Itchen Abbas and new Right of Way through Top Field, Kings Worthy
- \circ Successful Dawn to Dusk Day in April 2022. Sale of Watercress Way calendar
- Successful bid for a Watercress and Winterbourne grant to establish a volunteer network and to run 10 events led by Trustee Emma Banks.
- Brushcutter training for 2 new people

Future Plans focus on completion of projects which were paused during the pandemic.

3. Report from Treasurer:

- Accounts to year end April 2022: The annual accounts have been independently verified and submitted to the Charity Commission.
- **Current funds:** £11 360.39 of which £9 359.75 is restricted Focus for the coming year is to spend the restricted funds earmarked for projects like the ramp at Couch Green to improve Access for All, the Watercress and Winterbourne events, installation of 3 benches and the guide book.
- 4. Public Question Time: No members of the public present
- 5. Date of next meeting: 16 June 2023

Mike Collis Secretary, The Watercress Way 17 June 2022