



**MINUTES OF THE 39th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 26th APRIL, 2017,
IN ST ANNE'S HALL, AYLESBURY ROAD, WENDOVER**

1. PRESENT

Mrs. M. Clayton (Chairman), Mr. A.E. Mogford MBE (Vice-Chairman), Cllr S. Bowles, Cllr R. Duggan, Mrs W, Gray, Mr J.Mayhead CBE, Mrs S. Potter, Dr G. Williams

In attendance: Mr. S. Bishop, Mrs. A. German, Miss J. Hacking, Mrs C. Harrington, Mrs. G. Newman, Mr. M. Ryan, Mr A. Robson

2. WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed Mr John Mayhead as the Trustee representing The Wendover Society following the retirement of Mr Mike Beard. She introduced and welcomed Mr Steve Bishop and Mrs Caroline Harrington as 'Trustees Designate' with a view to the future of the Trust and succession planning, once agreement had been received from The Charity Commission.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the 38th Annual General Meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Petitioning against HS2 Hybrid Bill: This was felt to have been largely a waste of time. The Chairman was still waiting for HS2 Ltd to give assurance regarding the Trust's properties. Thanks were expressed to the Chairman, Mr Mogford, Cllr Duggan and Mrs Gray for all the effort they had put into the petitioning process.

(b) Plaque in St Mary's Church in Memory of Lionel Abel-Smith: After several years of trying to achieve this, the stonemasons had placed it in the wrong position. They had agreed that they were in error and intended to rectify their mistake, but this necessitated making a new stone plaque.

(c) Plot at Little Hampden Close: Mr Mogford was thanked for all the work he had done on this. The application for Planning Permission was currently on the AVDC website. The Parish Council had made no objections.

5. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Chairman nominated Mr Mogford to serve again and Cllr Bowles seconded this. There being no other nomination, **Mr Mogford was elected Vice-Chairman nem.con. for one year.**

6. RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF FOUNDATION TRUSTEES TO A MAXIMUM OF 7

The Resolution “*That the maximum number of four Foundation Trustees as established in the Deed of Settlement of the Wendover Community Trust (now known as The Lionel Abel-Smith Trust) dated 12th December 1977 be increased to a maximum of seven*” was passed unanimously. The Clerk was asked to submit the minute to the Charity Commission to secure approval.

7. INDUCTION OF NEW TRUSTEES

Mrs Gray introduced this by saying how helpful she had found being able to accompany Mr Mogford on interviewing applicants for grants when she had been a new Trustee. Discussion emphasised the difficulty of asking very sensitive and personal questions; the possibility of having an 'aide memoir' check list; the need to know what other grants/benefits were available.

IT WAS AGREED THAT EXISTING TRUSTEES WOULD FORWARD THEIR THOUGHTS/EXPERIENCE TO MRS GRAY AND THAT CLLR DUGGAN, MRS GRAY, MR BISHOP AND MRS HARRINGTON WOULD MEET AND PREPARE A SET OF PROPOSALS WITH THE AIM OF ALL TRUSTEES MEETING IN SEPTEMBER TO CONSIDER THESE AND REACH AGREEMENT ON THE BEST WAY FORWARD.

8. REPORT OF THE MANAGING AGENT

Mr Robson's report had already been circulated and he updated the Trustees on recent developments with the properties and was thanked for all the work he had done on this.

9. PROPERTY MATTERS AND FINANCE

In order to plan ahead at this time of financial constraint for the Trust arising from the necessary major refurbishment of No 6 Pound Street together with expenditure on No 17 Pound Street, Mr Ryan circulated two documents showing future financial monitoring. This illustrated that it was likely that money given as grants could be increased to more normal levels by 2019 and 2020.

10. PROPOSAL FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF THE TRUST'S PROPERTIES

This was suggested as a safeguard against damage to the cottages in Pound Street from HS2 construction. Mr Robson explained that such photographs would only be a snapshot of the condition of the properties on the day taken. The Chairman said that both the House of Commons and the House of Lords Select Committees had been reassured that the record of their hearings would be sufficient protection for the Trust and that it was highly unlikely that construction works would cause any damage to the Trust's properties. In view of Mr Robson's advice, she agreed that a photographic survey should not be undertaken. She would continue to press HS2 Ltd for assurance regarding the cottages.

11. TREASURER'S REPORT

It was suggested that the construction of HS2 should be added to 'Risk Management' in the Trustees' Annual Report.

Mr Ryan explained that the format of the accounts was different this year due to changes in the Charity Commission's requirements. Income had increased during this financial year, but so had costs due to expenditure on 9 Pound Street. The net assets of the Trust had also increased due to gains on the stock exchange. He clarified the situation with regards to the Trust's shares managed by Rathbones: It was necessary this year to revalue the, Mr Robson had given his estimation of the value and this was the figure used in the accounts. Mr Ryan said that the accounts would change slightly after they had gone to the Independent Examiner and he would then circulate the final agreed form to the Trustees.

12. APPOINTMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT EXAMINER OF ACCOUNTS

It was agreed that this be decided at a future date.

13. GRANTS AWARDED DURING THE YEAR

Dr Williams questioned whether the grant to Aylesbury Youth Action had been spent on Wendover. This was unknown.

IT WAS AGREED THAT THE GROUP ESTABLISHED TO CONSIDER THE INDUCTION OF NEW TRUSTEES COULD ALSO CONSIDER HOW TO FOLLOW-UP MATTERS SUCH AS THIS.

14. (a) UPDATE ON WENDOVER YOUTH CENTRE

A report on the Youth Centre written by the Chairman, Mr Tony Playle, had already been circulated. As this was the last year for payment of the £10,000 per annum promised in 2015, there was discussion whether the Trust could commit to support the Youth Centre in the future. **The Trustees agreed that they wished to do so and promised a MINIMUM of £2,000 in 2018.**

(b) UPDATE ON WENDOVER SWIMMING POOL

Mrs Harrington said that this was a huge success: the lease has been sorted, the boilers were working well, it was still run by volunteers, it had the support of the community and swimming schools wished to use the pool. Gratitude was expressed for the Trust's support in the past.

The plan now was for major work on the changing rooms, the aim being to provide a facility for 20 – 30 years. The design had been approved by Buck CC and the Landlord. The tender process had been undertaken with the result that there was now a shortlist of two. The cost would be about £200,000. There had been a number of offers of grants and the pool itself was contributing £65,000 so the total currently available was £175,000. The plan was to proceed, but this would empty the bank account, so fund- raising would recommence and other projects would be put on hold.

The Trustees agreed that this was brilliant progress and congratulations were offered.

15. CONSIDERATION OF CURRENT APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS

A total of 21 applications for grants had been received. Following discussion, **a total of £7,880** in grants was awarded. These were distributed as follows:-

Education: £2,250

Elderly: £700

Individual: £3,030

Organisations: £1,900 In addition the third promised payment of £10,000 to the Youth Centre awarded in 2015 would be paid.

Full details of the grants awarded at the meeting are listed separately.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) **Date of Annual Meeting in 2018: Wednesday 25th April at 12.30 in St Anne's Hall**

(b) **A date to meet in September would be arranged by The Clerk.**

The meeting closed at 5.35 pm