

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of CPRE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

held by Zoom at 6.00 pm on Monday 5 July 2021

Officers present:      Lady Gayle Robinson      Vice President  
                                 Paul Parsons                      Chairman  
                                 Robin Jones                      Acting Treasurer

Members/Proxies:      Members present in person:      13  
                                 Proxies:                                      14

### 1      **Welcome and Opening remarks by the Chairman**

The Chairman welcomed members to the Annual General Meeting and confirmed that the meeting was quorate. He extended a warm welcome to Lady Gayle Robinson, Vice President of CPRE Northamptonshire.

The Chairman thanked his fellow trustees and other volunteers for their work throughout the year. He hoped to be able to meet and thank volunteers in person at a social event later in the year. He also recorded his thanks to two retiring trustees, John Day and Andrew Powles, for their efforts on behalf of CPRE Northamptonshire.

He gave an update on the branch's financial position. A combination of an already weak financial position and the effects of Covid-19 had made it necessary to make the position of Branch Development and Education Manager redundant. That redundancy cost £8,500 and fundraising income fell by £7,500. As a result, 2020 had ended with a deficit of £10,697. He was pleased to report that the financial position was gradually improving thanks to the cost savings made. Covid-19 had continued to make fundraising events impossible although that situation seemed set to change. In October the charity would be holding its first face to face fundraising event for almost two years. He was very much looking forward to meeting members at a Drinks Party organised by one of our new trustees, Mary Miller and hoped to see an increase in membership over the coming year.

The Chairman gave a brief review of the year's activities. The Technical Secretaries continued their good work in the planning area, a new website was in place, together with a Facebook presence, two Planning Roadshows had been held, work continued on a Landscape Design Guide and preliminary work had started in relation to a campaign to achieve a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in Northamptonshire.

At CPRE National level a new report on hedgerows was being launched on 6 September 2021 and he had over the last week written to seven local MPs seeking their support.

### 2      **Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 16 November 2020**

It was resolved that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 16 November 2020, which had been previously circulated, be approved as a true record of that meeting.

**3 Election of Honorary Officers and Executive Committee Members for the year 2021/2022**

- The re-appointment of David Laing as President was proposed by Paul Parsons and seconded by Lady Gayle Robinson.
- The re-appointment of Lady Robinson as Vice President was proposed by Paul Parsons and seconded by Brian Skittrall.
- The re-appointment of Paul Parsons as Chairman was proposed by Brian Skittrall and seconded by Lady Gayle Robinson.
- The re-appointment of Peter Aiers, Sir Paul Hayter, Peter Hopkins, Robin Jones, Alan Mayes, Mary Miller and Brian Skittrall as Executive Committee members was proposed by Paul Parsons and seconded by Lady Gayle Robinson.

Robin Jones confirmed that the clause in the branch Articles of Association relating to the maximum period an honorary officer might serve prevented him from acting as Treasurer but that he was happy to continue as Acting Treasurer until such time as a suitable successor came forward.

It was resolved that all of the foregoing be elected for the year 2021/2022.

**4 Approval of the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020**

It was proposed by Paul Parsons and seconded by Brian Skittrall and it was resolved that the Report of the Trustees and the Unaudited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 be approved,

**5 Re-appointment of DH Kelland FCA as Independent Examiner**

Robin Jones proposed and Paul Parsons seconded and it was resolved that David Kelland of Meadows & Co Limited be re-appointed as independent examiner.

**6 Closing remarks by the Vice President**

Lady Gayle Robinson thanked those who had attended the meeting and said it was always good to see those who were happy to support CPRE. She looked forward to the resumption of member/fundraising events.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.