



Annual Meeting- 11th October 2023 (online)

-Minutes

Attending- Richard Bearman(RB), Nigel Boldero(NB), Katie Bristow (joined late-KB), Alan Davies(AD), Diane Davies(DD), Jane Ellis (JE), Frances Evans(FE), Victor Flute (VF), David Garrett(DG), Sarah Hanson(SH), Angela Makinson(AM), Po Midwinter (PO), Tabitha Nolan(TN), Tim O’Riordan(TO), Carol Sharp(CS), Irene Tibbenham(IT), Lesley Webdale (LW), Alex Webster (AW) (18)

1. Welcome and introduction

Nigel Boldero (NB) welcomed those attending. He stated that there had been 8 voting forms submitted by those not able to attend the meeting, and that they had all voted in favour of all the matters requiring a vote.

2. Election of Chair for the meeting

NB sought any nominations and put forward Tim O’ Riordan as Chair. No other nominations came forward and TO was approved to chair the meeting.

3. Approved Minutes of Annual Meeting 2022

These were noted and there were no matters arising.

4. Nominations:

1. Network Support Team: NB stated that he intends to stand down as Convenor in around 6 months’ time and that steps will be taken to recruit a new Convenor.

- Convenor: *Nigel Boldero*
- Deputy Convenor: *Maddy Goodall*
- Treasurer: *Dr.Diane Davies MBE*
- Membership Lead: *Frances Evans*
- Media and Communications Lead: *Hari Kirupaharann*

The above were approved unanimously.

2. Ambassadors

The role description previously circulated was **approved unanimously**. The following people were **approved unanimously as Ambassadors**:

- *Katie Bristow (Director of Operations- People & Animals UK C.I.C.)*
- *David Garrett (Head of Knowledge Transfer- Garden Organic)*
- *Sarah Hanson (Associate Professor in Community Health- UEA)*
- *Tim O’Riordan (Emeritus Professor, President of Norfolk CPRE and NALC)*

RB sked whether anyone else was able to become an ambassador and how the current list had been recruited. NB advised that members of the former *Network Advisory Group* had been asked if they wished to become an ambassador and that any other members could put themselves forward, as they were invited when today’s meeting was notified. Anyone else interested should contact NB to discuss. TO suggested that a meeting of the ambassadors in the next couple of months would be a good idea,

and NB agreed to arrange this. NB also indicated that personal profiles of each ambassador would be added to the Network website.

5. Annual Review and Plan 2023/24

NB outlined activities of the network in the past year and set out key priorities for the coming year. RB asked if the Green Care festival would be around the same times as this year. NB said that it was probably going to be at the end of July/beginning of August as this year, but that firm dates had yet to be fixed. He acknowledged that it would make sense to get these fixed as soon as possible so that diaries can be blocked out.

DG suggested that member projects could be asked to host meetings to lighten the load on the Support Team. NB agreed and would look to projects to host face to face meetings (probably in the Spring/summer).

TO mentioned the prospects of a general election next year and the run up to this would be a great opportunity to highlight green issues and seek political commitment to addressing these. He said that there was great willingness locally for organisations to collaborate on green issues and we should seek to build on this, with the Ambassadors playing a key part in forging local links.

6. Finance

1. 2022/23 Accounts and Auditors report

DD presented the previous year's accounts. **There was unanimous approval of these.**

The Auditor's Report was also approved unanimously.

2. Budget 2023/24

DD commented on the need for us to seek further funding if we are to cover our basic costs and it was suggested that a funding bid might be in order as part of this. NB commented that we had had excellent financial support for the forthcoming Green Gathering. **The Budget was approved unanimously.**

3. Auditor for 2023/24

NB gave thanks for Mr. A. Korolus' support and he was **approved as the Auditor for the coming year.**

7. Any other business

No other business had been received.

NB mentioned the Eco futures event in Norwich this coming Saturday at which he will be manning a display for the network and offering children the chance to plant broad beans.

He also mentioned the forthcoming **Green Gathering** which is shaping up very well.

NB asked the four new Ambassadors to introduce themselves, and he also introduced Frances Evans, our new Membership Lead.

TO thanked those attending and closed the meeting.

Nigel Boldero 12th October 2023