

Note: Subject to approval at next AGM

FAVERSHAM FOOTPATHS GROUP

MINUTES OF AGM ON 15 NOVEMBER 2018

The Group's third AGM was held at 7.30pm on 15 November 2018 in the Jubilee Room at the Alexander Centre. 26 Members were present.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

1. Trevor Payne (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting, including Andrew Hutchinson from KCC's Public Rights of Way and Access Service, who was to give a presentation after the official business was concluded.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. There were apologies for absence from Roy Campbell, Derek Carver, John Chadwick, Cllr Mike Cosgrove, Cindy Davis, Tom Harding, Pam and Alan McLean, Ann Osborne, Colin Simmonds, Brian Turner and Jackie Westlake.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AGM ON 9 NOVEMBER 2017

3. The minutes were approved.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM

4. There were no matters arising that were not covered in the Executive Committee's report for the present meeting.

REPORT ON WORK OF GROUP SINCE 2017 AGM

5. The meeting had before it a report by the EC, which had been circulated in advance, setting out the Group's activities since the previous AGM. Trevor Payne highlighted the successful outcome of the public inquiry in January 2018, which approved the Orders to establish a Creekside path at Faversham Reach and Waterside Close. This had originated in representations by Andrew Osborne and the positive result owed a good deal to the representations made by Group members and others. Patience would now be required while KCC took all the preparatory steps needed to open the path.
6. Trevor also mentioned the representations made by the Group about the England Coast Path, the solar farm proposals at Cleve Hill, the Duchy of Cornwall development proposals off the A2 and the Creek bridge. But there were also many other issues, often related to actual or proposed developments, in which the Group took an interest. He emphasised that it was very helpful to the Group, in making representations, to be able to point to a healthy number of members, so support from members who did not take part in the Group's walks was very important. Those walks, however, had proved a good means of increasing the Group's membership and he thanked Linda Harrison for organising and leading them.

REPORT BY TREASURER

7. Julian Saunders briefly introduced his report on finances and membership, which had also been circulated in advance. He drew attention to the fact that the Group's current paid-up membership of 77 people compared with 65 a year ago. The Group's finances were healthy, with a small surplus having been built up during its first couple of years.

ELECTION OF NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

8. Trevor Payne said that no new nominations for Officer or Member positions had been received and, since all the existing Officers and Members of the Executive Committee were content to stand again for election, he recommended that they should all be re-elected. This was agreed. Accordingly, the following will continue to serve on the Executive Committee: Trevor Payne (Chair), Julian Saunders (Treasurer), Brian Caffarey (Secretary), John Coulter (Member), Andrew Osborne (Member), Anne Salmon (Member) and Nick Williams (Member).

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FOR 2019

9. The meeting agreed that the subscription for 2019 should remain at £5.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS RELATING TO THE GROUP

10. No other matters were raised.

Trevor Payne declared the meeting closed at 7.40pm.

Andrew Hutchinson, KCC's Public Rights of Way and Access Manager for East Kent, then gave a presentation about the work of the Service, including the challenges it was facing as a result of financial restrictions. His presentation also touched on the Definitive Map of Footpaths, the England Coast Path, enforcement action, volunteer assistance, the 'Lost Ways' project and the timetable for implementing regulations under the Deregulation Act 2015 and KCC's Rights of Way Improvement Plan.

18 November 2018