

**LANDOWNERS OF CROSTHWAITE & LYTH
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT
THE ARGLES MEMORIAL HALL, CROSTHWAITE
ON WEDNESDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2011 AT 7:00pm**

Present: 34 Landowners were present
Mr J E Lambton of Carter Jonas was in attendance

18/2011 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Claire Hensman and Peter Sherratt

19/2011 **Chairman's Opening Remarks**

Mr Casson advised the Meeting that there had been five Trustees Meetings throughout the year covering a wide variety of topics including Title Registration, Turner Road access matters, a presentation by The Community Land Trust on local housing needs. On this point he advised that the Landowners did not wish to become involved as this was considered to be a departure from their main objectives as a conservation-based charity, and because it would bring a very substantial workload. However the matter is not completely ruled out.

Climbing on White Scar should now no longer be on the Agenda as the Landowners Trustees had made up their mind on the matter.

The Chairman advised about the change in structure of The Landowners, with Alastair Mutch acting as Treasurer, and therefore a reduced Carter Jonas accountancy role, with the fixed fee remaining the same, avoiding the need for any increase.

There had been much work with butterfly conservation within Township Plantation.

The Chairman recounted the saga of the travelling camper, his car, family and dog, in Fellside Plantation, the car being removed two months later.

20/2011 **Minutes of Previous AGM**

These were not read as they had been available for inspection at the Crosthwaite Exchange and on the website.

It was proposed by Rodney Sale and seconded by Matthew Dobson that they should be adopted as a true record and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

21/2011 **Matters Arising**

There were none.

22/2011 **Accounts to the 31st October 2010**

These were presented by Mr Mutch who advised that net income had reduced substantially to £1,505, although there had been a significant increase in charitable donations. Rents had increased, but overall income from property was reduced due to the absence of any woodland grants for the time being.

It was proposed by Rodney Sale and seconded by Oliver Barratt that the accounts be adopted as a true record of the financial activities of the Charity, and this was approved by the Meeting.

23/2011 **Reports from Trustees' Meetings**

The Chairman summarised several matters covered at recent Trustees' Meetings, including the rent review of Whitbarrow Allotment, Registration of Title, Turner Road access issues, Fellside Plantation management matters, donation for the Crosthwaite School play area, Community Lands Trust presentation, the possibility of involvement in a hydro scheme, butterfly conservation, Lyth Valley drainage issues.

It was noted that there was no longer any income from Whitbarrow Quarry since Natural England withdrew from any funding of that nature.

The question of possibly attempting to purchase adjacent Forestry Commission land was briefly discussed, and is being looked into by the Trustees.

24/2011 **Charitable Donations**

The following donations have been approved and made by the Trustees:

Refurbishment of the Crosthwaite School play area	£5,000
New playhouse at Crosthwaite School	£600
Toward children's party	£150

It has also been agreed to contribute £500 to the Crosthwaite Flower Festival.

It was also noted that during the recent very severe wintery weather the Parish Council had put up £1,000 towards the extra gritting of minor roads, and it had been agreed by the Trustees that The Landowners would contribute up to a further £1,000, but that this should be ideally directed towards the provision of plastic grit bins (which the Council will fill) in strategic locations. It was noted that this was necessary due to funding cutbacks in the Local Authority, and it was agreed that, wherever possible, the assistance of local farmers should be sought.

There was general approval towards funding the continuation of Laura Sivell's Butterfly Transect in Township Plantation in the event that Natural England cease funding this themselves, although it was thought that this funding was secure for the next two or three years.

25/2011 **Lease Renewals and Rent Reviews**

Mr Lambton advised that the rent of Township Allotment had been reviewed, and that the rent of Whitbarrow Cottage was due for review during the summer of 2011. It was noted that the latter may be linked to the possible provision of new windows, but that, in any event, the rent should reflect the degree of maintenance and improvement carried out by the tenants of this property.

26/2011 **Woodlands**

Two useful reports have been received by The Landowners – a comprehensive report from the Marshalls suggesting future management regimes, and a survey of the birdlife in the Plantation. A further offer of help from Martin and Dorothy Grace has been received.

A number of coppicing plots have been sold within Township Plantation, mostly to locals, but one to somebody from outside the Parish.

Colin Park advised that bracken bruising and scrub control had taken place throughout the year with groups of between 16 and 22 people, and that this programme is scheduled to continue until 2013.

Some butterfly pupae have been removed to Gatebarrow Nature Reserve. Some cannibalism had been detected within butterfly pupae. A suggestion had been received to collect cowslip and primrose seeds for scattering elsewhere. These provide food for the Duke of Burgundy Butterfly.

Colin is no longer shooting grey squirrels as he has given up his gun licence. Matthew Park is doing this instead, and has claimed a further 9, bringing the running total up to 476 grey squirrels.

Colin Park explained the difficulties he had had with a Mr Postlethwaite some time ago, and the difficult time he had had at Kendal Police Station as a result, and the false accusations levelled at him. This is one of the reasons why he no longer wishes to have a shotgun certificate.

Colin Park advised that, despite his problems, it had been a pleasure to serve the Charity.

There is a proposal to plant some further trees on Township Allotment, but it is recognised that this needs to be debated with the Sharps and Natural England before proceeding. A group of Trustees to walk the Allotment to identify potential areas for this work.

27/2011 **Spring Walk**

This is likely to take place in May 2011, and will be publicised around the Village and on the website.

28/2011 **Election of Trustees**

It was proposed by Bruce Worsley and seconded by Oliver Barratt that the existing 9 Trustees should be elected en bloc, and this was approved by the Meeting.

It was noted that, should there be any nominations for other Trustees, they should be made in good time before the next AGM, so that a formal election of Trustees can take place at the AGM.

29/2011 **Appointment of Agent/Secretary**

It was proposed by Oliver Barratt and seconded by Judy Goodland that Mr Lambton of Carter Jonas continue in this role for a further year.

30/2011 **Appointment of Auditors**

It was proposed by Rodney Sale and seconded by Matthew Dobson that Peter Sherratt should continue in this role.

31/2011 **Appointment of Representative to Recreational Field Trust**

It was proposed by Jim Bownass and seconded by David Stott that Mr Bruce Worsley should continue in this role for a further year.

32/2011 **Appointment of Representative to the Village Hall Committee**

It was proposed by Matthew Dobson and seconded by Robert Sykes that Mr Gordon Pitt should continue in this role for another year.

33/2011 **Any Other Business**

The Chairman thanked the Trustees for all of their help and support during the year.

Mr Desmond Holmes mentioned the existence of a small quarry in the northwest corner of the Allotment, and whether this area should be included in The Landowners Registered Title.

34/2011 **Date of Next Meeting**

Date of next AGM, Wednesday 1 February 2012 at 7pm.

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 8:15pm.

Signed Date
(Chairman)