

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

NORTH SHROPSHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD & FARM WATCH ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on Thursday 23 March 2017 at the Tern Hill Hotel at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT were:

Val Povall (Wem), Dave Roberts (Chairperson), Andrew & Jackie Carter (Shawbury), Ted Scales (Market Drayton), Hazel Roberts (Bryn Estyn), Ray Hewitt (Bryn Estyn), Herbie Skitt (Towers Drive), Janet Nowill (Coton), Steve Corbishley (Mill Lane, Higher Heath), Roger Ashton (Lee Brockhurst), Pete Pring (Valley View Mkt Drayton), Leslie Pemberton (Pinewood Rd, Shawbury), Jane Roberts (Mytton Estate, Shawbury), Graham Turnbull (Hollinwood, Whixall), Jean Pennie, (Norton in Hales).

Also present was Clive & Jacki Dyer (Shropshire Wildlife Trust). (Guest Speakers).

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed those present.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Paul Johnson (Eckford Park, Wem), Carolyn Whitfield (Steel Heath), Catrina Cornwall (Adderley), David Edge (Loppington), Don & Vicki Thorne (Wem), Pam Dodd (Ash Magna), John McGuinness, Tony Savil (Higher Heath), Debbie Scales (Market Drayton), Russ Currie (Mytton Estate, Shawbury).

3. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on 24 March 2016:

It was proposed by Andrew Carter and seconded by Roger Ashton and that these should be accepted as a true record. All in favour.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

There were no matters arising

5. GUEST SPEAKER

Clive and Jackie Dyer gave a most interesting and informative talk about the Shropshire Wildlife Trust which was founded in 1962. They described the work of the trust and said that they have 10,500 members in Shropshire with 500 active volunteers. They carry out botanical surveys including bird and butterfly surveys. They have a turnover of £1.8M with 15 active branches in the county. They organise both walks and family events and have 40 nature reserves. They showed us pictures of the three reserves, Quarry Wood at Hinstock, Molverley Meadows and Wem Moss and described the work that they undertake at the three reserves. The Chairman thanked Clive and Jackie Dyer for coming and speaking to our Members.

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON THE YEAR 2016 – 2017

The Chairman (Dave Roberts) gave his report on 2016/17 as follows:
Our AGM on 24th March 2016 was not quorate so we were unable to vote on the committee. Our guest speaker was Steve Loveridge who spoke on crime prevention.

An Extraordinary AGM was held on 30 June and fortunately had enough members to vote on the new Committee.

The guest speaker was Charmaine Woolley a Cyber Crime Coordinator. She showed us how Social Media like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter Linked In and Google are all areas where security can be compromised. She said we should check status settings to make sure personal information is personal not Public

On 13th October our speaker was Gary Higgins, the Director of Security Services for Smart water. He talked about Smart water, how it works and the new concept of Smartwater Villages

On 29 September 2016 we manned a stall at an event organised by Market Drayton Seniors' Enterprise to incorporate the Police & Crime Commissioner's visit to Festival Drayton Centre. The PCC had been double booked so sent along his Deputy. Unfortunately the event didn't bring in as many people as were hoped.

The Chairman stated that we have lost several schemes as the following coordinators have resigned due to health issues/moving/other pressures: Margaret Gibbons, Peter Turner, Ann Watson, Peter Aspin, Alison Chadwick, Chris Jeffries and Ian Henderson.

However we have gained several new Coordinators who have stepped into the breach: Paul Johnson (Eckford Park), Graham Turnbull replaces Alison Chadwick and Catrina Cornwall (Adderley) and Jean Pennie (Norton in Hales) replace Chris Jeffries.

He thanked coordinators for their hard work as without them the Association would not work.

7. WEB SITE

Steve Corbishley reported that the old web site has now gone and that the new web site which is a free site (Hugo Fox) is now up and running and up to date. Members can now access Agendas, Minutes of Meetings and advice. It also links to Facebook. Members are invited to contact Steve with any information they think should be added.

8. TREASURERS REPORT

The Treasurer, Andrew Carter went through the copy of the accounts which had been audited by Alan Denison. He said that the secretarial expenses were down and that we had gained £1,000. £10,181.55 is held in the account. Andrew Carter said that a vote of thanks should be given to Alan Denison for auditing the account; this was proposed by Jean Pennie and seconded by Roger Ashton – all in favour.

9. PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE CONSTITUTION

The Chairman told the meeting that to be able to be quorate we needed to amend the Constitution to reflect a change from 15 to 10 in order for voting to take place. This had been necessary as at the previous AGM there were not sufficient members present to be able to vote the Committee in. An email had been sent to all Coordinators to poll their scheme members requesting any objections to be sent to the Secretary. No objections had been received. A vote was taken by those Coordinators present (representing their scheme members) and all were in favour of the change. The Charities Commission will be contacted in order for the amendment to be implemented.

9. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

POSITION	ELECTED	PROPOSER/SECONDER
Chairperson	Dave Roberts	Steve Corbishley/Andrew Carter
Vice-chairperson	John McGuinness	Andrew Carter/Jackie Carter
Secretary	Jackie Carter	Jean Pennie/Steve Corbishley
Minutes Secretary	Val Povall	Jackie Carter/Andrew Carter
Treasurer	Andrew Carter	Roger Ashton/Janet Nowill
Membership Secretary	Debbie Scales	Jackie Carter/Graham Turnbull
Web Site Managers	Steve Corbishley	Jackie Carter/Andrew Carter
Farm Watch Reps	Roger Ashton	Steve Corbishley/Andrew Carter
Publicity	Vacant	
Co-ordinators Rep	Andrew Carter +Ted Scales	Steve Corbishley/Les Pemberton
Rep for West Mercia NW	Graham Turnbull + Jackie & Andrew Carter	Ted Scales/Roger Ashton

All members present voted in favour.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that despite the Police saying that Smartwater was to be rolled out at Higher Heath, they did not turn up at the Village Hall for the meeting. The Chairman recommended that they approach the Parish Council to find out what's happening.

Jean Pennie asked if we had any more alarmed Padlocks. There is no stock left but if there was a demand we could perhaps get some more. Jackie will look into cost.

Les Pemberton asked if we have access to tradesmen or what used to be a 'Handyman Service'. The Chairman said that Citizens Advice may have a list or there are Websites like Checkatrade or Trustmark.

There was a query over the fact that the next two meetings were Management meetings. Jackie explained that as attendance at Coordinators meetings was so low it was decided that we would not have a meeting in June, it was awkward arranging for speakers when so few members turned out.

The next Coordinators meeting will be Thursday 19th October.

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.