

Friends of Gedling House Woods

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 28th June 7.00pm

Football Centre, Carlton le Willows Academy, Wood Lane, Gedling

- **1. Attendees:** Andy Newton, Frank Knowles, Paul Sergent, Dan Straw, Craig Bowen, Chris Hollingsworth, Peter Wood, Linda Wood, Jane Richardson (GBC)
- 2. Apologies: Amanda White, Evelyne Potter, Carole Whitely, Andrew Topliss, Claire Topliss

3. Last AGM minutes/matters arising

Minutes agreed as representation of meeting.

4. Election of Committee Members

Nominations have been received by members of the association for six people to sit on the committee, which has an ideal membership of seven. The following members were reelected unopposed:

Frank Knowles, Paul Sergent, Craig Bowen, Andy Newton, Chris Hollingsworth, Dan Straw

5. Appointment of Committee Officers

Dan Straw proposed Frank Knowles to be re-appointed as Chair for a further two years following the expiration of the latest two-year tenure. Paul Sergent seconded this, and Frank was re-elected as Chair unanimously.

As Chair, Frank Knowles nominated Craig Bowen to retain in post as Treasurer which was unopposed.

Frank Knowles nominated Dan Straw to retain post as Member Secretary and interim Committee Secretary which was unopposed.

It was noted the role of Committee Secretary remains vacant and we welcome nominations from Members to fulfil this post.

6. Treasurer's Report

Craig Bowen summarised the Treasurers Report with the following:

Annual accounts are being finalised by the appointed accountants (R J Bailey Accountancy & Taxation Ltd).

Gedling Brough Council have reinstated the grant of £5,000 per year which funds the maintenance/activities requiring the use of contractors (weed spraying, mowing and baling, tree maintenance).

The grant from Natural England has been limited due to reduced visits from the local nursery due to ongoing access issues.

Asset register continues to be maintained and assets depreciate year on year. 2022/2023 costs were £6,900.00 with income of £8,300.

7. Proposal to re-appoint R J Bailey Accountancy & Taxation Ltd

Craig Bowen proposed to re-appoint the existing accountants which was seconded by Frank

Knowles and was unopposed.

8. Chairmans Report

Frank Knowles talked through the Annual Report (see copy on our website Home> Reports> AGM Minutes).

9. Any other business

Jane Richardson asked if the group was aware of the 'Biodiversity Net Gain' initiative which is coming into force later this year. This will require all planning applications to GBC to provision for a net gain in biodiversity either through the planned development or by contributing to local bio diversity initiatives. This presents an opportunity for FGHW to receive additional funding.

Action: Dan Straw to research the scheme and present findings to FGHW Committee.

A question from the floor was asked regarding prevalence of incidents on the reserves due to out of control dogs. It was discussed that the dog walkers code of conduct, the relationship the group have developed with professional dog walkers and support from the local community has meant that incidents have been minimal and where they have occurred, the perpetrators often do not return to the reserves.

Attendees thanked the committee and FGHW volunteers for the work they do to maintain the reserves.

Meeting closed at 8.00 pm