

## **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Renewable Heritage Trust held on 21 October 2009 at Malton Fire Station**

**Present: Trustees** Mo MacLeod (c), Dave Mann, Chris Fawdington, Mel Fox, Val Hood, Paul Lister, Martin Phillips. The Patron Fred Strickland-Constable and three friends were in attendance.

**1. Apologies** Dylan Hayes.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting** The minutes of the last AGM held on 22 April 2009 were accepted. The last AGM was delayed due to late completion of the accounts. From now on the AGM will be held within three months of the RHT's accounting year end 31 July.

**3. Matters arising not covered in the agenda**

The website has not been updated as the volunteer who was going to do this has now left the area.

The funding application to Awards for All was unsuccessful due to insufficient funds.

Expressions of interest were made to the Leader fund. Those for a second screw and the fitness trail were rejected. A bid for woodland management and woodland craft courses will be considered at the December meeting. This delay may allow us to be funded without breaching the requirement that organisations should not have received more than €200,000 in the previous financial year.

**4. Trustees' report**

Mo noted that at the AGM in April she had drawn attention to the previous vandalism and again the site has been plagued by vandalism and theft of some cable, tools, copper pipes and hot water tank. Despite this and slow progress on the grid connection there have been positive achievements.

- Talks about the Mill and visits to the Mill have continued, ranging from school groups to picnickers and the public have been using the site;
- There have been regular volunteer groups helping;
- The Archimedes screw has been generating successfully;
- The waterwheel modifications are in progress and this too will be generating soon;
- The grid connection has proved very frustrating, but all parties have now agreed the location of the transformer, the trench has been dug and the majority of the cable safely installed. About 60 m were stolen and will have to be replaced. The legal wayleave and deed with the owners of the Hall have not yet been signed;
- The solar hot water system was installed and worked successfully, but the tank and all the copper pipe work in the granary were stolen following a break-in;

- The brickwork in the phase 2 of the building restoration has been repaired and with donated professional help, costs to complete the restoration are being estimated prior to a funding bid.

The trustees report will be put on the website.

## 5. Treasurer's Report

Chris summarised the period of one of consolidation. The accounts for 08/09 have been approved and sent to Companies House

Chris noted that although donations were down on the previous year, gift aid was up. This is due to Trustees claiming expenses and returning them to the Trust as a donation on which gift aid can be claimed.

This is the first year with income for electricity from the Renewable Obligation Certificates (ROCs) that the Trust can claim for generating renewable electricity.

The Trust should focus on fund raising to increase unrestricted funds.

Chris thanked all those professionals who have helped the Trust through the Prohelp system – Philip from Harawells solicitors, Tina from Schofield Sweeny solicitors, Frank for QS help and Jez from Alan Wood partners, structural engineers. The Charity Bank and our accounts PK accountants have provided invaluable financial help. Architectural help may also be available for detail on phase 2.

## 6. Progress reports

**Howsham Power Company.** The new company to sell the electricity has been set up, registered and Articles of Association prepared. Once the bank account mandate is complete it can be registered for VAT

**Deed.** The deed between the Trust and the owner of the Hall has been prepared and sent to the latter's solicitor. She has not responded to date. Chris has spoken to the owner's agent and he has promised to try and speed this up.

**Grid connection.** NEDL have submitted a wayleave application to the Hall's solicitor but again no response. Once agreed, the installation of the transformer could take up to 4 weeks.

**Waterwheel generator.** The engineering company BDC are currently installing the equipment so that the waterwheel will also generate electricity. The hope is that this will mean the mill is considered a new hydro unit so that it will qualify for the new feed-in tariff that will replace the ROC system for supporting renewable electricity generators from 1 April 2010.

## 7. Phase 2

During a brief discussion on making progress on phase 2, it is likely that the Trust will be in a position to apply for a pre-application grant to the Heritage Lottery fund by the end of this year. What is missing is an estimate of costs, but with help from Jez and Frank (structural engineer and quantity surveyor respectively) an estimate can be prepared. A

grant would require 5% of costs from the Trust (which can include volunteer time) and 5% from another organisation.

#### **8. Elections**

No nominations had been received for the positions of chair, secretary or treasurer. Mo pointed out that she had done five years and would like to hand over to someone else by the time of the next AGM. Mo was nominated by Mel and seconded by Val to be chair for another year. She was elected unanimously. Chris and Martin were nominated by Mo and seconded by Val for Treasure and Secretary respectively and both were elected unopposed. Other trustees agreed to continue to serve.

#### **9. Any other business**

Mo drew attention to the article about the Mill in the latest edition of the Howardian Hills AONB newsletter.

The trustees agreed to buy a marquee offered to us for £109.99

A report by the police on security has been received. A security company is making a no-obligation visit on 30 October. Mo will be there any other trustee who can make it.

Val is making progress on the phone line and it was agreed that if BT accept, it should be a residential line.

#### **10. Date of next meeting**

**The next AGM will be held on 20 October 2010, venue to be confirmed.**

## List of actions

Action	Who	Progress
Submit REACT grant to RDC for repairs and security	Mo	Awaiting costings from Dylan. Add in other costs above.
Price up security system	Dylan to pass costs to Mo	As above.
Prepare person spec for fundraiser and first application to Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	Mo/Mel	Low priority
Cost of digger hire	Dave	
Get accounts inspected	Chris	Started
Legal costs for easement deed	Chris/Mo to include in AHF bid.	
Photo and press release of Malton school visit	Martin/Mo	Requested from Rob Stone.
Request photo show for AGM from Tony	Mo	
Contact Stone Trough about a fundraiser	Mo	