

**Minutes of the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust**  
**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 4pm at Shipley Park**

**In attendance:**

Amanda Elahi (Trustee)  
David Renwick (Trustee)  
Kathy Bosley (Treasurer)  
Nigel Huish (Vice-Chair)  
Paul Lynch (Trustee)  
Tim Graham (Trustee)  
Wendy Furness (Trustee)  
Jo Smith (Chief Executive Officer)  
Alex Rogers (Company Secretary)

6 members (the register of attendees is retained by the Trust)

The Chair welcomed everyone and noted that apologies received would be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

The Chair made reflections on the successes and achievements of the Trust and communities over the last year particularly in the context of growing challenges including government changes to legislation highlighting that the Trust will stand firm against this erosion and keep pushing for better environmental protections.

The Chair highlighted the Trust's goal of 30% of land managed for wildlife by 2030 and updated on the work the Trust has undertaken with Biodiversity Net Gain and urban rewilding highlighting that a community approach is central to the Trust's work.

The Treasurer presented the annual accounts to March 2023.

The Treasurer stated that income and expenditure had both increased and that this had strengthened the organisation. The Trust's staff headcount has risen from 65 to 82.

The Treasurer stated the Trust's reserves remain in a good position with £3m held at the end of the year.

The Treasurer informed that a new financial director was appointed, and the financial director and the Treasurer attended the audit meeting and both were happy with the results. It is the fourth year the Trust has used BHP as their auditors, there should have been a retender process in 2022 however as the previous financial director resigned this did not happen and the retender process has been postponed to 2023. Although the Trust is happy with the current auditors a retendering process is in place to support best practice.

The Chair noted that the Treasurer is stepping down and thanked them for their contribution to the Trust's work.

**1 Apologies for absence**

Cara Turton Chambers (Trustee)  
Charlotte Cremers (Trustee)

Gillian Foxcroft (Trustee)  
Lynn Crowe (Trustee)  
Jim Dixon (Trustee)

## **2 Approval of the Minutes of the 60<sup>th</sup> AGM (Annual General Meeting) Held on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2022.**

The minutes of the 60<sup>th</sup> AGM were accepted unanimously by a show of hands.

## **3 Adoption of the Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for 2022-23**

The Adoption of the Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for 2022-23 was carried unanimously by a show of hands.

## **4 Appointment of the Trust's Auditors**

The Chair proposed the reappointment of BHP as the Trust's Auditors for the current financial year.

**The decision was carried unanimously by a show of hands and BHP Chartered Accountants were appointed the Trust's auditors for 2023/2024**

## **5 Election of Trustees**

The Chair explained that Trustees remain in office for three years from the date they are elected and may stand for re-election at the end of the three year period provided they have less than six years' service.

One trustee, David Renwick is nominated by the Board for re-election.

### **David Renwick**

Proposed by: Kathy Bosley

Seconded by: Wendy Furness

**The decision to re-elect the above Trustee was carried unanimously by a show of hands.**

The Chair noted that Amanda Elahi and Charlotte Cremers will be standing down as Trustees and thanked them for their contribution to the Trust.

One trustee, Tim Graham is nominated by the Board for election.

### **Tim Graham**

Proposed by: Nigel Huish

Seconded by: David Renwick

**The decision to elect the above Trustee was carried unanimously by a show of hands.**

The Chair stated that a trustee recruitment campaign will be undertaken in the near future based on skills gaps within the current Board.

With there being no questions and no other business, the Chair thanked all for attending and the meeting ended at 4.33pm.