

SLEAFORD NAVIGATION TRUST

Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting held on Monday 22nd May, 2023

Apologies:

Pat Taylor, Dave Pullen, Becca Pitcaithly, Faith Hopkins.

Minutes of the last AGM:

The minutes were approved as a true record, proposed by Becky Franks, seconded by Gavin Scott.

Directors' Report:

It was recorded that the report had been circulated. Chris Hayes summarised the contents and noted it as being the twenty-sixth annual report.

Its reception was proposed by Sue Sowerby, seconded by Mel Sowerby.

Thanks were extended to all committee members, members and volunteers for the work that they carried out on behalf of the Trust.

Accounts and Auditors' Report:

The accounts and report were communicated to the meeting. Their reception was proposed by Debbie Scott, seconded by Mel Sowerby.

The appointment of Amanda Jay of Sleaford as the Company's Auditor and the authorisation of the Directors to fix her remuneration was proposed by Judy Head, seconded by Becky Franks. Gavin & Debbie Scott declared an interest and abstained.

Election of Directors:

The following Directors stood for re-election, Debbie Scott and Penny Carnell. Both were duly elected unanimously.

Any Other Business:

Chris Hayes reported on the activities of the Trust so far in 2023.

There was no further news as yet regarding the works at Haverholme by-wash and lock.

The application to the North Kesteven Shared Prosperity Fund for the trip boat project had been successful. This meant that a steel-built trip boat to carry 12 passengers had been commissioned with a build slot in March 2024. It would be fitted out and crewed by volunteers and would operate between The Hub and Cogglesford Mill.

It was expected the grant would cover the cost of the build, fit-out, crew-training and insurance together with the building of a landing stage at Cogglesford and, possibly, the clearing of excess reed, weed and silt from the route of the boat.

The income from passenger fares would cover the cost of operation, boat and river maintenance together with additional crew training.

There were opportunities for volunteers to fit out and crew the boat and it was hoped this would increase membership in the Sleaford area. As well as being of benefit to tourism it was hoped the project would extend awareness of the heritage of the Navigation and appreciation of the waterway.

Trust volunteers had attended Woodhall Spa Country Show the previous day, May 21st, when interest had been expressed in the project plans. A number of children attending the show had enjoyed the activity of knotting dragonflies at the Trust stand.

Chris ended by thanking those present for their continued support for the Trust.