

Minutes of 18th Annual General Meeting of Friends of Anderton and Marbury (FoAM) on 15th May 2017

The Meeting opened at 7.45pm and 67 persons attended.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Clive Brookes.

2. Minutes of the Last meeting

As in previous years, Minutes of the last meeting (17th AGM) have been posted on FoAM's website, foam.merseyforest.org.uk. There were no amendments and the Minutes were accepted by the meeting.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Chair's Report

Alan Redley reported that the Group had held another varied and successful series of events during the year and had successfully completed a number of projects. He introduced a video to show these achievements. Thanks were given to Graham Walker for the video production and events booklet, which he also produced.

Alan explained the difficulties of the current situation in Cheshire West and Chester Council due to austerity measures and the efforts which have been made to make Councillors and the Senior Leadership Team aware of the work done by FOAM.

Sue Fernandez has been the regular point of contact in the Council over the past couple of years and Alan thanked Sue for her support and wished her well in her retirement.

Alan formally thanked Chris Moseley and David James for all their help during the year. Chris is moving to a new position within the Council and FOAM formally recognised his invaluable, much respected support and the time he has always given to FoAM. In closing, Alan thanked all volunteers for their help during the year.

5. Treasurer's Statement of Accounts

Copies of the accounts were handed out and David Bullock presented the Treasurer's Report and highlighted the following:

- The biggest project of the year was the building of Pod's Hide, named in memory of Pete Antrobus. The project involved FoAM, local businesses, Rangers, volunteers and Pete's family and friends. The resulting hide is open to all visitors and is already proving to be a well-used asset.
- Finances remain sound and funds are available for future projects.
- Investment has been made in the Workshop. CWAC has also invested and picnic and park benches have been made for Marbury and Anderton.

- Thanks go to Steve Penwill for checking the accounts.

6. Report from Membership Secretary

Jim Jeeves presented the Membership Secretary's Report. Jim highlighted the following:

- Life Members are 37
- Individual Members are 78
- Household Membership is 56
- Complimentary memberships are 8
- Total Membership is 235, a slight decrease from last year.
- Jim thanked those who sent a stamped addressed envelope for their membership cards as this helps preserve funds

Jim was standing down as Membership Secretary and was warmly thanked for all his hard work.

7. Election of Officers and Committee for 2016/17

The Chair reported that Debbie Antrobus has offered to take over as Membership Secretary and Mike Allen has joined the Committee.

The new members were elected unanimously and existing members of the Committee re-elected unanimously for 2017/18.

Officers:

Alan Redley Chair (& Projects and Grants)
David Bullock Treasurer
Anna Cooper Secretary

Additional Committee Members:

Mike Allen
Debbie Antrobus Membership Secretary
Clive Brookes
John Ellaby
Frances Findlay
Jacqui Hutton
Jim Jeeves
Mary Jeeves Publicity
Joanne Redley Newsletter
Graham Walker
Brenda Yates

Ranger Cheshire West and Chester
Clare Olver The Mersey Forest

8. AOB

Debbie Antrobus thanked everyone who was involved in making the Pod's hide project happen.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm