

Annual General Meeting of the Burley in Wharfedale Community Trust

Minutes of meeting held at 7.30pm at the Parish Centre on Tuesday 8th January 2019

Present: Duncan Ault (DA) Chairman, Andrew Wriglesworth (AW) Secretary, Ian Rigarlsford (IR), Mark Elsworth (ME), Lorraine Hughes (LH), Simon Hills (SH), Andrew Plaxton (AP), Jan Edwards (JE).

1. Apologies for absence

Niccola Swann (NS), Harvey Bosomworth (HB), Tom Sumner (TS), Sylvia Tilford (ST), Nick Turnbull (NT), Robert Savile (RS).

2. Minutes of the meeting held 9th January 2018

These were noted and approved without amendment

3. Matters arising.

It was noted that:-

Email bulletins had been issued during the previous year.

The matter of the zip wire was still ongoing.

Burley Community Council (not to be confused with BWCT or any other village organisation) only existed in connection with the lease of the roundhouse and had no other purpose other than perhaps as an additional village 'voice'.

4. Chairman's address (was received as follows:-

Burley in Wharfedale Community Trust (BWCT), a registered charity, has had another excellent year with a continued increase in membership numbers. Total membership receipts (including donations) were £8284 (2017/18 £7484) with numbers for this year totalling 845. Some of these memberships were received after the year end. The computerised membership system continues to help with both administration and improved communication to members including a quarterly news letter and increased online collections. Our thanks go to Malcolm Fisher for his assistance with this project. We continue with our popular quarterly draw.

In addition to funds obtained from membership the Trust has received significant income from donors including the Waitrose and Coop Community funds, and two legacies from the wills of Michael Cocks (unrestricted) and a relative of Brian Sayer (restricted for library use). Further funds have been received from the Coop since the year end and we anticipate more being received from this source in 2019. As a result the Trust now has substantial general purpose funds for use in the village (over £55000). The Trustees are well aware that these funds need to be spent wisely and usually with the cooperation and assistance of other village organisations. Some of the ideas for expenditure are outlined below. The Trust also continues to hold specific funds set aside for the zip wire in Grange Park with some progress now being made with the Parish Council on its final location.

This year the Duck Race in June was again a resounding success. Good weather encouraged another excellent turnout and sale of ducks. After the race, Teas in the Park on the Village Green (organised by the Scouts and Guides) attracted many from the village, as well as a number of visitors. Our thanks must go to all the organisers of both events and to the Police for their assistance with traffic management on the bypass crossing. This year the proceeds from the ticket sales benefitted both the Trust and more significantly the Scouts and Guides funds. Our ducks also had an outing to the pond in Bradford this year to help in the Yorkshire Day celebrations.

The Christmas Lights and Market in 2018 also proved to be a great village success with even more features and displays and a splendid village attendance for the switch on ceremony carried out by Charlotte Leeming (Look North). This year the Christmas Market organisation was coordinated by the Trust as the Burley and District Chamber of Trade (BaDCoT) felt that difficulties with costs and manpower made their support increasingly difficult. Our thanks go to Tom Sumner and his group of volunteers, the Parish Council, BaDCoT for their advice, Nick Turnbull, Jan Lepley and all the local businesses and individuals for ensuring that they continue to be an annual village attraction over Christmas and the New Year. We must also thank the two school choirs, the Ukelele Jammers and the Reverend Jason McCulluch for their contributions.

This year we have continued (together with the Parish Council) to fund the hanging baskets on the lamp posts and in the Pudding Tree garden and the flower tubs in the village. This adds colour to Burley in the summer months and has encouraged several businesses to provide baskets of their own to add to the display. In addition Ghyll Royd school help maintain the flower tubs around the War Memorial.

The Trust has continued to be very involved with maintaining the grounds and pavilion and improving the facilities at Scalebor Park during 2017/18. The 5-year maintenance contract with Greenbelt ended in October 2018 but we are contracted until March 2019. It is anticipated that we will have a new agreement in place by April this year. The grounds and pitches at Scalebor are maintained superbly on our behalf by John Hardisty, a local landscape contractor. We have also undertaken essential maintenance work on the pavilion car park and fencing as necessary. Annual maintenance on the playing fields drainage was undertaken in April 2018 (joint funding with Burley Trojans Junior football club). The playing conditions continue to be the best in the village for both junior football and cricket (who use the all weather pitch) teams.

We have continued to maintain the Fountain of Life, Corn Mill Pond, Pudding Tree and Jubilee gardens and Burley Gardeners continued their help with improved planting of some of these facilities. The vegetation around the pond has been regularly kept tidy to improve the facility for the public although full access cannot be achieved due to Health and Safety issues. Responsibility for the Roundhouse was passed to the Parish Council in September 2018 as this was felt to be more consistent with ownership of other village buildings.

We also fund and support the village web site which keeps us all up to date with events in the village and provides Burley with an excellent advertising platform and a gallery of local photographs. Our thanks again go to Malcolm Fisher and the web site committee for their help in maintaining and continually improving this feature. The web site is well used by village residents and organizations (including the Festival) with both a village and library diary for events and meetings. The site is also used to host other village organizations' web pages including the Community Library, Classic Car Show, Dementia Group, Probus Club, Walkers are Welcome and Summer Festival..

As stated above our funds have been boosted substantially during the year by legacies, record membership receipts and Community funding. We hope to put these funds to good use over the next year by assisting in various aspects of youth provision such as a youth club (through the efforts of Loraine Hughes), sports, zip wire, skate park, better walking access for pushchairs/wheelchairs in the village, a village information board, improving the Roundhouse Garden and surrounds, establishment of a well being centre etc.

The Trust is happy to help facilitate funding of acceptable local projects in the village. However, where possible we prefer to work on a partnership basis on such projects with joint funding.

This past year we have continued to support the Burley Summer Festival including some of the youth play activities and provided funds to the Scouts and Guides from the Duck Race proceeds and Teas in the Park. We have also helped the Bowls Club, Walkers are Welcome, junior cricket and football.

In addition we commissioned a Burley legacy painting for the village from Ian Middleton a local renowned Royal Academy artist. This has involved a considerable amount of time and effort on Ian's part and we thank him for his commitment to this fantastic project including work with local schools. A display is on show currently in the library and prints etc are on sale through Ian's gallery in Otley and online with a contribution from sales going to the Trust.

My thanks go out to all the members of the Trust for their contributions and donations, local businesses and organizations, the Parish Council for their continued help in funding several projects and activities, Phil McPhail for auditing our accounts and lastly my fellow Trustees for all their hard work over the past year which is done on an entirely voluntary basis. They have contributed significantly to the continued success of the Trust as a valuable village charity.

Duncan Ault
Chairman BWCT January 2018

5. Treasurers Report for the Financial year ended 30/9/2018 and open discussion

The Accounts for the year ended 30th September were submitted by the Treasurer and approved unanimously by the Trustees present.

At the end of the year the Trust had free funds amounting to £50,193 (not including £11,279 held for the Playground project, £1,960 set aside for the Scalebor pavilion extension, £5,307 set aside in respect of the Corn Mill endowment and £5,000 set aside for the library). The improved position had largely arisen because of £23,000 of bequests (including £5,000 for the library).

Total Income for the year stood at £62,949 of which £23,000 was represented by the very recently received bequests mentioned. Membership income receipts were also improved and other significant sources of income had been from Greenbelt for maintenance at Scalebor and receipts from the Co-op and Waitrose schemes.

Total expenditure stood at £26,488 meaning there was a surplus of £36,461 over the 12 month period. Grants of just under £2,000 had been made during the period.

At end of September a healthy balance of up to £50,000 was available to support village projects or causes.

DA asked that thanks be recorded to Phil McPhail for help in auditing the accounts and to ME for putting the accounts together.

Open discussion

Ian Middleton confirmed his donation to the village of his painting which had involved the community (and in particular children at the local primary schools). It was acknowledged that this would be a valuable legacy asset for future generations and grateful thanks to Ian Middleton were once again recorded.

6. Election of Trustees.

It was noted that ST, TS, NS, IR were all due to retire under the retirement by rotation rule in the constitution. All were however happy to continue and were duly re-elected. The appointment of two new Trustees NT and LH was confirmed. All other Trustees also agreed to continue.

7. Election of Officers.

All existing officers i.e. DA (Chairman), AW (Secretary), ME (Treasurer) and NT (membership secretary) and NS (Publicity Secretary) indicated their willingness to serve in these roles for the following year and were duly elected or re-elected.

8. AOB

None