



Thorrington Management Committee AGM

Date: September 12th, 2023

Venue: Hayvern, Thorrington Scout Camp

Attendees

- Bob Candler, Lorraine Francis, Jack Dowrick, Chris Jay, Dave Reid, Ivan Culham, Colin Bradbury, Liz Welch, Ian Welch, Michael Hobday and James Puxley.

Apologies

- Helen Groves, Hywel Edwards

Minutes

Please note that if an item is in red, you have agreed to action this item.

Chairman's Opening Address

The chairman opened the meeting and thanked all those present for their attendance.

Previous AGM Minutes

Bob Candler brought forward the previous AGM minutes from 2022 for approval. Motion seconded by Chris Jay. The Minutes were approved by the committee.

Chairman's Report

The chairman addressed the attendees of the AGM, stating he felt that during the past year Thorrington had left a positive impact on young children in the sense of being able to access the outdoors, but in building key life skills that they had not previously been able to encounter due to the COVID pandemic. The chairman also stated that he felt the site continued to prosper thanks to the hard work and dedication put in by both the warden teams and Wednesday crew, and noted the continuing difficulties in attempting to recruit new volunteers.

Treasurer's Report

The accounts have been prepared although not yet examined and a summary is presented here. A comparison with the prior year is also shown. Thorrington accounts to March 23 show an excess of income over expenditure for the year of just short of £20,000

The year to March 2023 was all about full recovery following the pandemic. Overall income was £44,000 higher than the previous year, with fee income for Alpha House £18,000 higher, Hayvern up £10,000 and campsite fees higher by over £20,000. Visits from schools, outside organisations and non-local scout groups were particularly strong.

Site running costs at £67,000 reflected a return to former levels. We were hit with an increase in our gas and electricity costs due both to the higher usage and contracts being renewed at significantly higher market prices than previously. TMC agreed that a winter fuel surcharge would be added to fees in order to reflect the higher costs in colder months.

Treasurer's Report cont.

Maintenance costs were higher, reflecting the increase in cleaning needs, necessary tree removal and full replacement of the fire alarm batteries following inspection. Fixtures and equipment spend included a new PC and cooker for the lodge, together with upgrades to the wifi connectivity.

We also purchased and installed a defibrillator, which was mainly funded by a grant from Colchester Catylst Fund.

Subsidies for the teams were reintroduced in the year - thank you to the wardens for foregoing these during lockdown.

Cash balances at the end of the year were £117,583.74. This is in line with the Thorrington Management Committee's policy of maintaining at least one year's running costs in reserves.

Elections of Positions

No nominations were received by the committee for the below positions.

1.1 Secretary

Current position held by Jack Dowrick. Following unanimous voting it was agreed Jack Dowrick would remain in the role.

1.2 Treasurer

Current position held by Lorraine Francis. Following unanimous voting it was agreed Lorraine Francis would remain in the role.

1.3 Booking Secretary

Current position held by Chris Jay. Following unanimous voting it was agreed Chris Jay would remain in the role.

The chairman would like to thank those above for their continued support.

Any Other Business

2.1 Expression of Gratitude

Both Estuary and North district commissioners stated that they would like to thank the committee and volunteers for their effort the past year and look forward to the year ahead for Thorrington.

Chairman's Closing Statement

The chairman thanked all for attending the AGM.

Meeting Closed 19:47

Date of next proposed AGM:
September 2024, Date TBC
The Lodge, Thorrington Scout Camp