



Minutes of the 42nd Annual General Meeting of the Otter Valley Association held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 11th May 2021 by zoom videoconference

1. **Apologies:** Elaine Evans, George Maddaford, Angela Symes. There were 49 members who were registered to attend by videoconference.
2. **Minutes** of the previous AGM held on 9th May 2019 and a virtual Executive Committee meeting held May 13th 2020 in lieu of the AGM were signed as a true reflection of those meetings.
3. **Matters arising:** There were no matters arising.
4. **Annual Report including Trustees Report and Accounts**

Chairman Bob Wiltshire welcomed OVA members to the meeting. He explained that Haylor Lass had agreed to serve as President of the OVA for a five-year term, standing down as Deputy Chairman. Clive Bowman proposed the measure and Trevor Waddington seconded the proposal. The meeting unanimously approved. Bob referred the attendees to his introduction in the Trustees report for an overview of the OVA's curtailed activities in the last year and expressed the hope for more functions as the COVID lockdown eases.

The Accounts and Treasurer's Report had been circulated. At the end of the financial year (31st March 2021) the association had a balance of £25,118. The accounts were presented, no questions were asked.

The Honorary Treasurer, Martin Smith, thanked Brian Leveridge for his help in putting together the accounts.

5. **Election of Officers and Executive Committee Members**

There was only one candidate per post Roger Saunders read out the list of nominations received for Officers and members of the Executive Committee; these were: President- Haylor Lass, Acting Chairman – Bob Wiltshire, Vice Chairman – vacant; Honorary Treasurer – Martin Smith; Honorary Secretary – Roger Saunders; Planning Chairman – vacant; Natural Environment Chairman – Chris Hodgson; Membership Secretary – Clive Bowman; Budleigh Salterton Representative – George Maddaford; Otterton Representative – Geoff Porter; East Budleigh Representative – Jon Roseway; Talks – Peter Baldwin; Newsletter Editor - Jacqui Baldwin; Minutes Secretary – Rosemary Jerrard. All these had been nominated and seconded. Haylor Lass will also act as Newton Poppleford Representative. The appointment of the Executive Committee was carried unanimously.

6. Appointment of Independent Examiner.

Jon Roseway proposed the reappointment of Mr Brian Leveridge as the Independent Examiner. This was seconded by Haylor Lass and accepted by the meeting.

7. Any Other Business

The chairman made a statement in regard to letters received from two OVA members, both received after the requested 21 day notice period. Mr. Harding had requested confirmation that a letter received from the Charity Commission following a complaint that he made was shared with members of the Executive Committee, and that the letter be made available to the OVA membership. He had also requested that we make changes to the OVA privacy policy. The Chairman explained that the Charity Commission letter requested that the Executive Committee were aware of their responsibilities as trustees and that the OVA acts according to its constitution. He is confident that the OVA is in full compliance, and that no changes in our privacy policy are necessary. A second letter from Mr. Wright had several questions relating to OVA policy on drones. The Chairman explained that the OVA does not, nor has ever owned or commissioned a drone, and as such it would not be relevant to our organisation to develop policies related to them. The Chairman then stated that he considered the matters closed. Mr. Harding responded with a statement that a privacy policy change was necessary as the OVA had used an aerial photo of a development site in West Hill Lane and was therefore in breach of privacy regulations, he also objected to the OVA time limit of 21 days prior to the AGM for questions and stated that he believed that the OVA was being run by a small group of people and not in the interest of their members. The Chairman responded that advice had assured him that the OVA was not in contravention of privacy regulations and that no changes in our policies were necessary, he also reiterated that he considered the matter closed.

8. The meeting closed at 8.00 pm

Date of next AGM Wednesday 11th May 2022 in the Peter Hall, Budleigh Salterton.