

TWINBERROW FOUNDATION
(Registered Charity No. 301524)

MINUTES of the PROCEEDINGS at the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the TWINBERROW FOUNDATION held in the Community Room, The Fire Station, Kingshill Road, Dursley at 8.10 pm on Tuesday 22nd January 2019.

PRESENT

Trustees: J Ball (Chair), A Stennett (Vice Chair), N Grecian, M Woodward, A Sheffield, W Thomas, M Nicholson, B Cairns & A Whitwell.

Also present: John Kay, Clerk to the Foundation, Leah Wellings, Deputy Clerk to the Foundation and Mr M Popham.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

A Stennett moved that J Ball be re-elected Chair for the ensuing year. N Grecian seconded and there being no other nominations, **IT WAS RESOLVED.**

The Chair J Ball moved that A Stennett be re-elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year. M Nicholson seconded and there being no other nominations, **IT WAS RESOLVED.**

2. TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Trustees M Stennett, P Hayes, S Abraham, S Creswick, L Patrick, J Burdge, S Ackroyd (all personal) and T Arnold (business).

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FOUNDATION HELD ON 23rd JANUARY 2018

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Foundation held on 23rd January 2018, having been circulated among the Members were taken as read, considered, approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

5. WOODLAND MANAGER REPORT

The Clerk to the Foundation advised that no report had been received but Mr Fenton had provided information on an overhanging branch that needed urgent attention. The branch is overhanging the A4135 Whiteway near the HGV escape lane. The Clerk will arrange for this to be removed.

6. PERMISSION REQUEST FOR GREY SQUIRREL CULLING

Mr M Popham, representing the local group 167 (Thornbury, Dursley & Yate) of the UK & Ireland Squirrels The Grey Area requested permission to include Twinberrow Woods in a grey squirrel culling programme of the escarpment between Stinchcombe and Owlpen.

The programme includes carrying out a big drey disturbance control exercise on two separate days where a team of 3-4 pole men & 6-8 dispatchers will work systematically from one end of the wood to the other, into the wind where possible disturbing the all the dreys dispatching as many escapees as possible before destroying the dreys. Destroying the dreys does not only to disrupt the squirrels but, following the exercise it is obvious exactly where the squirrels are establishing themselves as any new dreys are guaranteed to be in use, this allows future control to be much more targeted and allows the gathering of data on the likely trends of the population in future years. The removal of the grey squirrels will help protect & promote native British trees, songbirds & other native flora & fauna impacted upon by grey squirrels.

The Clerk confirmed that squirrel damage is a regular comment of the woodland reports submitted by our woodland manager.

Mr Popham left the meeting.

The trustees considered the request.

IT WAS RESOLVED to permit this activity on the basis that all risk assessments and insurance documentation is submitted and approved in advance. The organisers should warn local equestrian centers and stables in advance of any activity and the general public entering the woods during the activity should receive advice and warning of potential gunfire. There were three votes for, one against (Thomas) and five abstentions (Grecian, Woodward, Ball, Sheffield & Cairns).

9. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

The Clerk advised the members that a request for litter picking in the Dursley area had been received and the Keep Britain Tidy were have a “Great British Spring Clean 2019” campaign between 22nd March and 23rd April 2019.

IT WAS AGREED that the woodland area doesn’t need to have an organised litter pick this year as the condition is generally very good. Any event should be arranged by the Town Council and focus on other areas.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9pm.

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Chairman

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Date