

WBGE AGM & Forum

Wednesday 22nd September 2021, 7.00 pm

Zoom session

Attendees

Committee: Richard Foster (RF, chair), Gareth Beard (GB), Ken Neal (KN), Richard Marshall (RM)

John Downe (JD), Adrian Foster-Fletcher (AF-F), Robert Hill (RH), Carole Neal (CN), Steve Ardagh-Walter (SA-W)

1. RF welcomed all the attendees.

2. Apologies

Yvonne Redgrave, Evangeline Haggerty, Robert Pattison, Frances Lofthouse, Jackie Hoskins, Sue Millington.

3. Minutes of previous AGM 23rd September 2020

Correction – add year to date at top

Minutes accepted as correct record: proposed by KN, seconded by GB

4. Chair's report (add in later)

5. Treasurer's report (KN) (add in later)

Adoption of accounts: proposed KN, seconded AFF

6. Committee

Present members all willing to continue. RF asked if anyone would like to join the committee but none volunteered. Those willing to stand proposed by RH, seconded by AFF. Elected *nem con*.

7. AOB

RF asked what would format be for future meetings – should we continue with virtually or meet face-to-face? Seemed to be that we may meet face-to-face but speakers could be on-line to save on travel time/costs.

AF-F asked SA-W what the WBGE could do to further objectives of WBC. SA-W responded that the road to 'net zero' was going to be hard; we need to get better communication, set examples in going 'green'; we can all contribute to this, spread the word, in 'gentle' manner. Mentioned wild flower verges project – now expanding in parishes in WB; the parishes need volunteers to survey their verges; good way to contribute.

RF asked if there's more we could do to help the WBC officers in their efforts. Should parish councils be helped to write environment action plans? Can we help to get onto more on how to reduced carbon emissions.

SA-W indicated that parish councils may not have time/resources to carry out such actions. WBGE could help with this.

RH – Reading Climate Action meeting – One speaker made point how active travel can rejuvenate urban centres. Another speaker (Richard Kirk, Betterpoints) spoke about what businesses could do (check web site).

GB – raised WBC mineral plan – had plan been adopted?. SA-W thought it had been adopted. RF will check and add into his Chair's report.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending. Meeting closed at 7.47pm.

RF welcomed our speaker Michael Liebreich.