

Minutes of a Meeting of Ilketshall St Andrew and St John Land Management Company Ltd. held at Ilketshall St Andrew Village Hall on 21st October 2024 at 7 p.m.

Present: Tim Bacey-Fisher (T B-F) (Chairman)
John Bedwell (JB) (Secretary)
Rod Apps (RA)
Chris Roberts (CR)
Roo Lee (RL)

1. Welcome and Apologies

1.1 The Chairman welcomed everybody, apologies for absence had been received from Jack Poulden (JP)

2. Minutes of the Meeting of 8th July 2024

2.1 The minutes of the meeting of 8th July 2024 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matter Arising not elsewhere covered in the Agenda

3.1 Item 3.1, that matter is dealt with later under item 12b) of the agenda.

3.2 Item 12.1, Raveningham Estate treated the LMC very well, coffee and biscuits before the start, 3 members of staff on the tractor and trailer plus another 2 dealing with pigs and cattle. The lunch at Geldeston Locks went well and residents who had attended previous trips thought that this was the best yet.

4. LMC Constitution

- 4.1 There is uncertainty about the status of the revised Constitution as the last Commoner's Association meeting did not endorse it. It will be considered at the next Parish Council meeting at the beginning of November when it is hoped that a previous decision to agree it will be confirmed.
- 4.2 Lea Ingham resigned from the LMC on 13th September so there are now vacancies for 2 members of the Commoner's Association.

5. Finance

- 5.1 The current financial position showed total funds of £77271.
- 5.2 Cheques were signed for John Bedwell (Website Maintenance) and the Village Hall (hire of the Hall 21st October).
- 5.3 All Fixed Rate Bonds are now re-invested.
- 5.4 30th September marked the end of the financial year, the accounts and ancillary documents will now be sent to Lovewell Blake for processing. **Action: JB**

6. LMC Website and LMC Promotion/ Communication

- 6.1 The website is up-to-date with details of works completed.
- 6.2 RA distributed a newsletter in September.
- 6.3 RL will investigate the buying of sustainable merchandise promoting the LMC. **Action: RL**

7. Hay Cut 2024/ Overwintering Areas

- 7.1 The hay cut was completed by Gerald Godfrey (GG) and Mike Frost. The major overwintering areas were cut by GG and Brian Andrew who also cut the species rich areas.
- 7.2 The arrangement for cutting the small overwintering areas fell through so these are not yet cut. If the commons are not too wet, it may be possible to flail these remaining areas. **Action: T B-F**

1 Signed JB

Date 14/01/2025

8. Winter Work Programme

- 8.1 Two work parties have been carried out. A gully has been dug out to reduce flooding in the area of The Mardle and the sill there has been cleared. Fallen trees have been dealt with and the resulting wood has been sold to residents.

9. Sheep on the Common

- 9.1 Sharon Morten has asked for her sheep to graze the commons again. It was agreed that this should be permitted but the grazing should be better controlled than last year. The areas to be grazed should be defined, signage on the electric fence must be in place and a permit to install temporary fencing must be obtained from DEFRA.
- 9.2 Sharon will be asked for a financial contribution to LMC funds. **Action: CR**

10. Results of Soil Sampling

- 10.1 The results of the soil sampling have yet to be circulated.

Action: JP

11. Reserved Business

- 11.1 There were a number of items of reserved business.

12. Draft Management Plan 2025/2026

- 12.1 RA will prepare the Draft Management Plan for 2025/2026. Areas in the present MP that will need updating are a) identifying the overwintering areas, b) the issues of future finance and c) the possibility of allowing hedges to grow wider to improve biodiversity.

Action: RA

13. Any Other Business

- 13.1 The tyres on CR's trailer that is used solely for LMC work need replacing. A contribution of half the cost was agreed but it may be that T B-F has some suitable tyres on his farm.

Action: CR, T B-F

14. Date of the Next Meeting

- 14.1 The date of the next Board meeting will be on Monday 13th January 2025, either at the Village Hall or via Zoom, to be decided nearer the time.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 22.42 hours.

J Bedwell
28th October 2024