

Minutes of a Meeting of Ilketshall St Andrew and St John Land Management Company Ltd. held via Zoom on 14th January 2025 at 7 p.m.

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

1. Welcome and Apologies

1.1 The Chairman welcomed everybody.

2. Minutes of the Meeting of 21st October 2024

2.1 The minutes of the meeting of 21st October 2024 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matter Arising not elsewhere covered in the Agenda

3.1 Item 14.2, no action yet.

4. LMC Constitution and Review of Long-term Objectives

4.1 The Parish Council agreed the revised LMC constitution at their meeting on 9th December 2024. The revised version will be available on both the PC and LMC websites.

4.2 The Long-term Objectives of the LMC as listed in the Management Plan were reviewed. It was agreed that they are still appropriate and that there was no reason to amend them.

5. Finance

5.1 The current financial position showed total funds of £82668.

5.2 Concern was expressed about the cost of accountancy fees. RL will contact her accountant to see if he would be any cheaper. **Action: RL**

5.3 It was noted that funds invested in fixed rate bonds were not available until the bonds matured.

5.4 Future funding was discussed. TB-F will speak to his advisors before the end of the winter to find what SFIs are applicable to common land. CR will contact SWT for their advice.

Action: T B-F, CR

6. LMC Website and LMC Promotion/ Communication

6.1 The website is up-to-date with recent minutes and details of works completed.

6.2 New wording explaining the relationship between the PC and the LMC is needed.

6.3 The annual field trip is scheduled for 9th July and will be a return to Barker's Farm at Westhorpe which was last visited in 2015.

7. Winter Work Programme, Flailing of Small Overwintering Areas

7.1 Five volunteer work parties have taken place, mostly concentrating on The Mardle resulting in some cordwood being available for residents. Further work parties are planned to clean up CL136 and to clear shrubs alongside the track to Glebe Farm.

7.2 The small overwintering areas have been flailed with a number of people saying how well this work was carried out.

7.3 It was thought that if a telehandler or mini-digger was borrowed for the work programme, the operators should have up-to-date certificates.

8. Sheep on the Common

8.1 Along with particular difficulties associated with the movement of sheep arising from blue tongue virus and the particular regulatory hurdles to be overcome to encompass long-term grazing of sheep on the Commons, the Board decided that it was not worthwhile to continue further.

1

Signed

Date

07/04/2025

9. Results of Soil Sampling

- 9.1 JP introduced the results of soil sampling from five commons. They demonstrated an unusual combination of low nutrient levels together with high readings of organic matter.
- 9.2 JP had identified an organic herbicide that would provide for a less aggressive control of ragwort if needed.

10. Reserved Business

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

Owing to the late hour, it was agreed to close the meeting and deal with the remaining agenda items at a later date.

The Chairman therefore closed the meeting at 21.57 hours.

The meeting re-convened via Zoom on 20th January 2025 with all previous participants present.

12. Draft Management Plan 2025-2026

- 12.1 The first draft had been amended to incorporate the comments received from Board members.
- 12.2 T B-F will draw up two maps for the overwintering areas, map A for year 1 and map B for year 2 and these will form Appendix 1.
- 12.3 Those areas of common which are too small to cut with conventional kit will be flailed in the summer by T B-F unless somebody else can be found to carry out the work.
- 12.4 JP suggested some amendments to the section on Soil Sampling and he agreed to circulate the results from the survey that he had earlier presented. These results will be added to the DMP as another appendix.
- 12.5 Both T B-F and JP agreed to get their documentation to RA by 25th January so that the DMP can be loaded onto the website by 27th January.

Action: T B-F, JP

13. AGM Timetable and Arrangements for AGM

- 13.1 The AGM will be held in the Village Hall on 17th February at 7 for 7.30 p.m. This information has been publicised on the noticeboards, on the website and in a Newsletter. The Newsletter also asked for nominations for Parish Directors to be received by the Parish Council by 31st January.
- 13.2 RL will provide boards on which will be pinned the DMP, results of soil sampling and enlarged flailing maps provided by T B-F.
- 13.3 The Chairman's address, to be written by RA, will refer to the boundary issue which can then be expanded on in the discussion of the DMP.
- 13.4 There will be no speaker this year, so the only entertainment will be a raffle, prizes for which will be purchased by CR up to a total value of £50.

Action: RL

Action: RA

Action: CR

14. Any Other Business

- 14.1 JP reported that the pond close to Glebe Farm was affected by Azolla filiculoides.
- 14.2 RA reported that there had been a possible solution to the flooding problem by Glebe Farm due to a drainage pipe having been identified leading from Great Common to the pond.

It is possible that a meeting will be needed on 24th February in order to approve any amendments to the DMP. Otherwise, the next meeting will be held in the Village Hall on 7th April at 7 p.m.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.36 hours.

J Bedwell
24th January 2025

2 Signed 

Date 07/04/2025