

MINUTES OF THE DARTMOOR TRUST'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT PARKE, BOVEY TRACEY AT 1530 MONDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2018

Present: David Beattie, Simon Butler\$, Charlotte Catto, Tony Clark"* (Chairman), Andrew Cooper"* , Tim Emerson"* , Roger Gash", Lady Kitson\$, Peter Mason", Paul Rendell", Philip Sanders\$, Jacqueline Sarsby, Ashley Smith, Emma Stockley, Gilly Turley-Rogers, John White"* , Richard Wraith"*

Apologies: Nick Atkinson\$, Richard Bayly", Leyland Branfield", Dru Butterfield", Ric Cheadle", Ann Cole", Simon Dell", Jamie Dunbar, Sue Eberle"* , Alli Gibson"* , Brian Le Mesurier", Peter Harper", Sue Viccars", Chris Walpole",

Key: \$ Subscribers, * Trustees and " Members

1. Tony Clark welcomed Trustees and Members, and introduced the speakers, guests and volunteers.

ITEM 1 – ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

2. The Minutes of the AGM held on 21 Nov 17, circulated prior to the Meeting, were accepted and signed.

ITEM 2 – CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

3. Tony Clark gave his report on the achievements of the Trust since the previous AGM.
4. The Trust continues to be active in many areas of Dartmoor's life, raising its profile through exhibitions and functions, and contributing to the well-being of the National Park.
5. **Archive.** The Archive continues to grow through acquisitions and working with local history groups and museums. Simon Butler will report later but need to pay tribute to the other volunteers, Jamie Dunbar remains full of ideas as well as being a steady hand as the Webmaster. Also delighted to be able to thank two more volunteers, David Beattie and Charlotte Catto, who are digitising and creating the records. We still have many images that await digitisation, so if you know of any other potential volunteers, please let Simon know.
6. **Grants.** Sue Eberle will report later on the grants made by the Trust but as foreseen last year, there is likely to be an increase in the number of requests for small grants as the vastly successful *Moor than meets the eye* scheme comes to an end as you will hear from Emma Stockley.
7. **Profile and Fund Raising.** Due to political and business uncertainty, all charities are finding it difficult to raise funds. The Trust continues to raise its profile through its much respected Archive, exhibitions, grant support to projects and advertising including its website.

8. Exhibitions and Functions

- a. The private viewing on 6 Mar 18 of the Dartmoor Wild and Wondrous Region was a great success with 137 guests attending. Peter Mason, the curator introduced the Exhibition and Simon Butler gave an illustrated talk on the links between artists and early photography on Dartmoor with examples drawn from the Dartmoor Trust Archive

- b. In conjunction with Green Hill Arts, a photographic exhibition was held in Moretonhampstead during which Simon Butler gave a talk.
- c. The Dartmoor Life in the First World War has been reprised together with about 50% more information that came to light during the past 4 years thanks to the curator, Peter Mason and with the assistance of local History Groups.

ITEM 3 – TREASURER’S REPORT

9. Richard Wraith reported:

- a. His gratitude to his predecessor, Ann Cole, for her handover of the accounts and assistance.
- b. He had had a difficult time arranging mandates for the accounts and investments and was still arranging electronic banking.
- c. In order to reduce the administration, he had closed one of the 3 bank accounts and, as instructed by the Trustees, would close the second shortly.
- d. Because the banks appear to be little interested in small charities, he is investigating the ‘Charities Foundation’.

ITEM 4 - REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

10. Ashley Smith of H M Williams, Certified Chartered Accountants,

- a. Presented the *Director’s Report and Financial Statements* explaining that the *Director’s Report* contained, as required, more detail than previously and drawing attention to the figures. He concluded that there had been a slight reduction of expenditure compared to 2017/18 and no income from appeals or legacies. Including investments, the total funds in hand amounted to £263.458, an increase of £11,409 over the previous year. The Report was accepted unanimously.
- b. Provided relevant papers on Gift Aid and agreed to continue to provide advice to the Trust.
- c. In answer to a question by Philip Sanders, Richard Wraith confirmed that the Trustees had investigated Richard Bayly’s question at the 2017 AGM and confirmed that the interest on investments was being closely monitored.

ITEM 5 – APPOINTMENT OF ACCOUNTANTS

11. HM Williams Certified Chartered Accountants have offered to continue as the Trust’s accountants and have the support of the Trustees.

Proposed: Philip Sanders

Seconded: Tim Emerson

ITEM 6 – ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

12. Elizabeth Kitson and Peter Harper have decided to retire due to family and work commitments. Both were thanked for their efforts on behalf of Dartmoor and the Trust.

13. The 5 Nominated Trustees: Simon Butler, Tony Clark, Sue Eberle, Tim Emerson and Alli Gibson offered themselves for re-election, and Richard Wraith, at present co-opted, was willing to stand for election.

Proposed: Andrew Cooper

Seconded: Paul Rendell

14. One of the vacancies for the 3 Co-Opted Trustees is currently filled by John White. The Trustees intend to co-opt him again for 2018/19 and to fill the other 2 vacancies if suitable candidates are identified.

15. The Ex Officio Trustee appointed by the National Park Authority is Andrew Cooper

ITEM 7 – REPORT ON THE DARMOOR TRUST’S ARCHIVE

16. Simon Butler delivered his report:

- a. This year saw the completion of the digitisation of the Hansford Worth Collection in collaboration with Torquay Natural History Museum, the costs of which the Trust funded. The project, which began in 2014, has seen almost 5,000 Dartmoor images added to the Archive. There remains the possibility of grant aiding another 800 lantern slides of Dartmoor which may or may not be Worth’s and also around 700 from the Sheila Perigal’s slide collection, mostly of Dartmoor, which were donated to the Museum in 2015.
- b. Jamie Dunbar continues to update and improve the Archive website on behalf of the Trust with upgrades allowing other archives to piggyback on the Archive’s website and enhanced storage to increase resilience and security.
- c. User numbers continue to increase with a growing number of requests to use photographs, from the Archive. Where such requests are for educational use images are supplied free of charge on condition acknowledgement is given to the Trust. While there have been a number of requests over the past year from commercial organisations, where a fee would be charged for use, none has resulted in invoiced charges.
- d. Work by two volunteers, Charlotte Catto and David Beattie will see another 500 scans added from recently donated photo albums and from a collection of Widecombe in the Moor photographs.
- e. Images are often of increased interest for the content of the background rather than the original subject. High resolution digitisation and technical enhancements can reveal more than the naked eye.
- f. The purchase of an A3 scanner by the Trust this year will allow the scanning of the Stephen Woods Collection (c.1000 photos) and the donated drawings and paintings by Henry Jones (resident in Manaton 1903-1920) comprising c.600 images of Dartmoor. The latter will form the basis of an exhibition planned for late summer 2019.
- g. Running from 7 July to 1 September the Greenhill Arts Exhibition ‘Four Views on Dartmoor’ showcasing new work from photographers Chris Chapman, John Curno and Cedar Shaw and a collection of early farming photos from the Archive attracted large visitor numbers. Part funded by Moor than Meets the Eye and the Dartmoor Trust the exhibition ended with a well-attended illustrated talk ‘Dartmoor Women in Farming’ which raised funds for both Greenhill and the Trust.
- h. A reprise of the WW1 exhibition at Princetown also attracted much attention.
- i. Author Bernard Mills has been delayed in completing his book ‘Railways Around Dartmoor’, partly due to the quantity of new material that has come to light. Originally

due for completion at the end of August it will be now ready at the end of the year with publication in the spring 2019.

ITEM 8 – REPORT ON GRANTS MADE

17. In the absence of Sue Eberle, Tony Clark reported that grants have been made to:
 - a. Taking Steps: Discovering and Enjoying Dartmoor's Step Dance Heritage. 12 Sep 17.
 - b. Tim Herrod for the printing of his soil survey report. £500.00. 21 Nov 17
 - c. DNPA to continue support to the Heritage Environment Record Officer and Heritage Trails. £4,000.00. 26 Mar 18.
 - d. Green Hill Arts, (Moretonhampstead Development Trust) for *Four Views of Dartmoor* photographic exhibition. £500.00 11 Jun 18.
 - e. Jacqueline Sarsby, to assist printing of her book *A Dartmoor Farmer, His daughters and his Diary*. £500.00 17 Sep 18.
 - f. Where appropriate, recipients are requested to publicly acknowledge the grant, to add their publication to the Trust's library and/or to permit digital publication of the document in the Dartmoor Trust Archive.

ITEM 9 - ANY OTHER BUSINESS

18. No points were raised.

ITEM 10 – DATE OF NEXT AGM.

19. Monday 18 Nov 2019 at Parke

During the Meeting 2 talks were given.

Emma Stockley on the Moor than meets the eye Parishscapes project.

Emma provided examples of the projects that the 14 parishes in the MTMTE area had conducted. These covered a wide spectrum of research, practical work and archiving. Examples that she covered included, Widecombe's Devon Dialect publication, Gidleigh's local history; Bovey's Inspired by granite & influence of granite quarrying, Throwleigh's entertainments, Lustleigh's conserving of history especially its Tithe map, Moretonhampstead's investigations of Doccombe Manor. Other projects focussed on natural history; improving access by creating board walks, increasing water quality, improving fish populations and North Bovey's reduction of light pollution. Still other projects featured structures; the restoration of the Ten Commandments, bridge repairs with the inclusion of a boundary stone and the creation of a micro heritage centre in Princetowns obsolete phone box. In all there have been 35 projects across the 14 parishes that have involved professional and volunteers, who have given a total of 40,000 hours. Some have been led by Parish Councils, many by local history groups, and others by purpose created groups.

The beneficial impact of the projects on the communities has been reflected in the many supportive and grateful comments received.

Jacqueline Sarsby gave a presentation on her book *A Dartmoor Farmer, His Daughters and his Diary*.

Her book tells the story of William Dunning (b 1869 d 1950) and his family, and the Throwleigh community where he farmed. Based on his diary, Jacqueline has researched widely over 20 years before publication in 2018 with Dartmoor Trust support. The main source was William's diary that he kept for 40 years and the extensive collection of documents that he stored. This was supplemented by interviews, oral history recordings, newspaper archives, the South West Heritage Trust, national census records and photographic archives, which provided the rich Dartmoor tapestry into which William's life is woven.

This thorough research resulted in an extraordinarily detailed description of farming and life in a remote Dartmoor village during a period of major change; two World Wars, universal suffrage, mechanisation and major changes in farming practices. Jacqueline's observations and opinions have further enhanced a unique record of rural life on Dartmoor.

Both speakers were thanked for their excellent and thought-provoking talks.

