



Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust

Minutes of the Forty Second Annual General Meeting

The Forty Second Annual General Meeting of the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust was held on Tuesday 15th October 2024 at 7.00pm at Plas Dolerw, Newtown, Powys, SY16 2EH.

Tim McVey (MWT Chair) welcomed those present to the meeting. There were 33 members in attendance. 10 proxy votes were received prior to the 8th October 2024 deadline. 8 of these proxy votes gave their voting authority to the AGM Chair, one gave their voting authority to Katy Wright and one gave their voting authority to Eley Hart.

1) To receive and record any apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cynthia McVey, Winifred Davies, Jackie Newey, Nicky McMullan, Andrew Stone, Charlotte Clayton, Dawn Clarke, Gillian Roberts, Mair and Michael Braby, Mr and Mrs D Chamings, Simon Hart, Sandra and John Wheeler.

2) To consider the minutes of the Fortieth Annual General Meeting and to deal with any matters arising

It was noted that Alan Meredith-Jones was incorrectly listed as John Meredith-Jones in the minutes of the 2023 meeting and this will be amended.

Motion	Proposer	Seconder	For	Against	Abstentions
Adoption of the minutes of the 2023 AGM as a true record	Tim Ward	Eva Meredith-Jones	43	0	0

There were no matters arising.

3) To elect members to the Trust's Council

The following Trustees were seeking ratification -

Trustee	Proposer	Seconder	For	Against	Abstentions
Jane Storkey	Jill Robinson	Susan Morley	43	0	0
Nicola Berry	Nick Burton	Clare Boyes	43	0	0

The following Trustee was seeking re-election for a second term -

Trustee	Proposer	Seconder	For	Against	Abstentions
Tim Ward	Clive Faulkner	Tammy Stretton	43	0	0

Jill Robinson and Sarah Evans resigned as Trustees and Tim McVey thanked them for their service the Trust.

4) To receive the report of the Trust's Chairman

Tim McVey welcomed everyone to the 42nd AGM of the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust and spoke of the important opportunity the AGM gives to inform the members of the work the Trust has undertaken and the challenges it has faced over the year. He referred those present to the Annual Review 23/24 and spoke of the breadth of delivery the Trust has achieved this year:

- Projects such as Wild Skills, Wild Spaces and Stand for Nature Wales have inspired people to take action for wildlife, while benefiting from a closer connection to the natural world.
- Partnership projects working with landowners, such as Barcud Housing Association and Welshpool Golf Club, offering advice and practical support to help achieve our vision of 30% of Montgomeryshire being managed for wildlife by 2030.
- The continued success of Cors Dyfi Nature Reserve, the Dyfi Osprey Project and the Dyfi Wildlife Centre which has undergone an extension to its shop and café kitchen due to demand.
- While the project funding landscape continues to be challenging, MWT has been grateful to receive legacy income from supporters who have kindly remembered the Trust in their will and can put these funds to use where the need is greatest.
- The conservation and reserves staff, supported by a dedicated team of volunteers, have ensured the continued management of the Trust's nature reserves as well as monitoring of the wildlife which call them home.

TM concluded that the Trust could not achieve any of this without the guidance of its Trustees, the dedication of its staff and volunteers and the support of its members and he thanked everyone involved with the Trust for their enthusiasm and commitment.

5) To consider and approve the audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

Ann Bitcon (AB) referred those present to the summary Balance Sheet and SOFA included with the Annual Review 2023/24 and made the following observations:

- The full audited annual accounts are available on the Trust website.
- The accounts are the consolidated figures for Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust Ltd and MWT Trading Ltd. The Trading company protects the core functions of the Trust and reduces the Trust's corporation tax liability.
- The SOFA shows income for the year of £1,195,641 while overall expenditure was £1,166,889. This resulted in a surplus on the year of £28,752.
- AB reported that the figures marked Restricted include the Trust's project income and expenditure which resolves to zero over time. The Unrestricted values are mostly for Core income and expenditure and show a deficit on the accounts of £16,899.
- The value of the assets on the Balance Sheet has increased this year due to capital works on the nature reserves.
- Debtors at the year-end are much lower compared to last year due to project funding being paid more promptly.
- AB thanked Clive Faulkner, Eley Hart and the staff team for their commitment to keeping the Trust financially sound. She also thanked her fellow Trustees on Finance Committee and Council and the team at Mitchell Charlesworth for their support during the audit.
- AB went on to announce her intention to stand down as Treasurer over the coming months, having had the privilege of serving the Trust for 12 years.
- Tim McVey acknowledged the enormous debt the Trust owes AB, who has been a hands-on, dedicated Trustee through exciting and often challenging times. TM spoke of how much she will be missed and proposed a vote of thanks which was echoed by all present.

Motion	Proposer	Seconder	For	Against	Abstentions
Adoption of the 2023/24 Annual Accounts	Clare Boyes	Tim Ward	43	0	0

6) To receive the report of the auditors

Ann Bitcon reported that Mitchell Charlesworth had completed the audit in June, following a site visit to Cors Dyfi and the Dyfi Wildlife Centre earlier in the year. AB confirmed that Mitchell Charlesworth had issued a clean, unqualified audit report for the Trust's 2023/24 statutory accounts.

7) To appoint Auditors for the ensuing year

Mitchell Charlesworth were successful in their tender to undertake the Trust's audit for a three-year period (22/23, 23/24 and 24/25).

8) Any other business

None

There followed a presentation by Ifan davies on the Nature Friendly Farming Network (NFFN).

ENDS