Stroud Woodland Co-op AGM, 4th March 2012



The Exchange, Brick Row, Stroud

Present

Allison Barnett Seb Buckton Ruth Davey Yusupha Junior Davey Jawara Mike Dawson Perdita Dawson Mark Harrison Liz Hillary Ruth Illingworth

Barbara Imrie Gabriel Kaye Helen Keating Richard Keating, Chair Geraldine Lander Jehanne Mehta Rob Mehta John Robinthwaite Jackie Rowanly Karen Saunders Nell Saunders Theo Saunders Molly Scott Cato Ben Spencer, Secretary Anna Spencer Nigel Westaway

Apologies

Ali Coles Esther Caplin Alice Goodenough John Fisher Andy Freedman Martin Large Jo Rowbottom Steve Rush Nadine Smykatz-Kloss

1 Welcome Participants were welcomed to the first Stroud Woodland Co-op AGM, and thanked for turning out in such good numbers on a cold and sleety Sunday.

2 Directors Report The attached report was presented along with the attached accounts and balance sheet. The meeting were pleased to accept the report and accounts and thanked the current Directors for their efforts.

3 Confirmation of exemption from auditing It was agreed that the Co-op should continue to claim exemption from auditing.

4 Election of Directors The current directors stood down, explaining that they would be willing to stand for re-election and in addition three new directors were appointed.

Directors for 2012/2013 are Seb Buckton, Alice Goodenough, Richard Keating, Martin Large, Jackie Rowanly and Ben Spencer.

The new directors were thanked.

5 Process for returning shares Ben Spencer outlined a process for returning shares which is dependent upon there being another interested buyer for the share. The suggested process was agreed. There are currently some members wanting to relinquish shares and a waiting list of people interested in acquiring a share.

Some other items relating to shares issues were discussed; ownership of shares by organisations (currently Stroud Common Wealth and Walking the Land), issuing new and additional shares, raising awareness of the waiting list, members list.

The following action was agreed:

- to include a description of the process for returning shares in the Co-ops rules
- promote the waiting list information to go on the web site pointing interested people towards the secretary

- a printed list of members and Directors to be made available for public view at The Exchange; the Co-op's registered address.
- directors to arrange for a discussion paper to be prepared to address issues relating to shares and organisations

6 Review of Management Plan Progress and use of surplus monies. Three aspects of delivering the Folly Wood Plan, "Caring for Folly Wood", were discussed:

- Activities on the ground
- Implications on the organisational structure
- Resourcing the Plan

Activities on the ground

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The meeting discussed and broadly agreed with the proposals now confirmed in the attached directors report

A number of issues relating to timber conversion were raised:

- as well as the timbers for listed items such as compost toilet, play features etc. timber could be made available for other uses.
- Firewood allocation was discussed at length and a few principles were agreed:
- firewood should be stored on site for use by the group in the woods – this to be in eight foot lengths to dissuade removal
- until fire wood for disposal is collected, it too should be stored in eight foot lengths

The following action was agreed:

- Directors to seek more accurate budgets for the various tasks from active group members and finalise budget.
- Directors to compile and circulate list of appropriate uses for timber
- Directors to work with appropriate people to prepare a discussion paper concerning firewood allocation

Implications on the organisational structure



The meeting broadly agreed with the proposed organisational structure now confirmed in the attached directors report.

The following action was agreed:

- Directors to target appropriate people to 'people' the organisational structure and seek to list them on the website, along with their activities.
- All to consider joining activity groups and sub groups

Resourcing the Plan The activities in the action plan were estimated at £2,000; just under half of our reserve. It was agreed to trial a voluntary and anonymous annual contribution of £0-£20 or more. It was also agreed that a fund-raising group should be convened as and when needed.

The following action was agreed: Helen Keating to initiate the annual charge trial.