

# GOODLUCK MINE PRESERVATION CLUB

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at 7.25pm (approx.) on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at "The Nelson Arms," Middleton by Wirksworth

Present:

David Barrie (Secretary)	Richard Halford (Chairman)
John Wilmot	Andy Beardmore
Mark Calladine	Arthur Wilson
Dave Bowdley	Roger Hall
Margaret Fogarty	Peter Clook
John Kyle	Dave Woollam
Renuka Russell	Ian Godlington
Brian Spencer (and Sheila Spencer – observer)	
Alan Keen	Christine Keen
Kay Barrie	(Observer)

## 1. Opening Remarks by Chairman.

Richard Halford welcomed all members present to the meeting, and thanked them for braving the torrential rain and standing water on roads. He said that it had been yet another successful year, with much work carried out at the mine and many visitors taken round.

## 2. Apologies

Apologies received from, Paul Chandler, Chris Beardmore, Steve Evans, Dave Webb, Malcolm Scothon, John Hodgkinson, Margaret Beresford, Kelvin Eady, Mick Higgins, Paz Vale, and Mark Taylor.

## 3. Approval of Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the previous regular meeting had been circulated and were agreed by those present.

## 4 Matters arising from the Minutes.

There were no matters arising.

## 5. Presentation of Annual Report by Secretary

A report was presented (having been circulated beforehand). This (to summarize) detailed efforts on the COVID shaft, and work done to repair the damage done by unknown vandals. There were also details on current digs (Arthur Spencer's passage and the inscription winze).

The secretary informed members of the new exhibition at the Wirksworth Heritage Centre (featuring two well known members on continuous loop video), and two awaydays – one to the Forest of Dean and another to Sallet Hole Mine (thanks to John Hodgkinson).

## **6. Mine Manager's Report.**

Peter Clook submitted a written report which was circulated amongst the members present (also to be on website); confirming that inspections had been carried out on a regular basis during the year, covering the tourist route, and that these had revealed no potential risks to safety. There had been a request by the HSE to carry out a radon survey. (David B had received some data relating to Radon from Prof. John Gunn due for some discussion in due course). It was likely, however, that exposures to individual members (let alone guests) was to be extremely low.

In addition to his written report Peter C advised that we had probably been visited for the last time by the current mines inspector and confirmed that a different regime would be in force for the future. This would probably see inspectors with little actual mining experience and charges made per hour of around £100. Taking into account travelling time, time spent writing up reports in addition to time on site the mine may well have to pay circa £400, although there may be a number of years between visits. This would need to be budgeted for. The priority, however, would still be the visitor route, all other sections requiring chaining off, including active digs. We would also need to maintain our excellent accident record.. Peter C was thanked for his report and his efforts during the year by both Richard H and David B.

## **7. Accounts**

A summary of the accounts was circulated and presented by Andy Beardmore, showing that there had been a net loss during the period January 2022 to November 2022 (final accounts including Decembers membership renewals to be produced later). This loss amounted to £1,523.64 and principally related to the costs of demolition hammer drill, scaffolding and fittings used in Covid shaft dig. Total balance in the bank amounted to £3,388.76. The treasurer expressed his hope that the main expenses for COVID had been incurred and that 'construction' costs would reduce in 2023.

The Treasurer's report was agreed, and the Chairman expressed his thanks to him for his work during the year.

## **8. Election of Committee.**

It being announced that Andy Beardmore was stepping down as Treasurer, but that with that exception the existing committee were re-standing. These were proposed en bloc by Alan Keen, and seconded by John Kyle. The members unanimously voted in favour.

In the case of the Treasurers position members were asked to volunteer, Dave Woollam putting his name forward. The role of accounts examiner was also proposed with Margaret Fogarty agreeing to take this on. Again members unanimously voted in favour.

A number of matters ancillary to the treasurer's job were then discussed, relating to the continuance of the current account with the Co-operative Bank, it being concluded that this was best maintained. Alternatives were considerably worse. David B reported that internet banking was in place, and it was possible to provide the new treasurer with a security token. The only failing with the Co-op was the difficulty in reporting on transactions with statements having to be specifically requested, but not regarded as an obstacle.

## **9. Any motions to be put.**

None.

## **10. Any Other Business**

The question of the tally board adjacent to the escape shaft ladders was raised by Margaret Fogarty. There was some uncertainty as to whether this was to be used by those passing that point into the main area of the mine, or those using the ladders to access areas above. After some discussion it was agreed that the board would be used for the former, with a chain and no entry board being placed over the ladders. In the case of access to areas above this would be removed, highlighting persons present.

Margaret F offered to place an appropriate sign adjacent to the tally board, and Andy B to secure chain and board.

It was also agreed that, in view of the limited number of pegs and difficulty in management, that groups would not use the boards, instead relying on the leader of the group to ensure all were accounted for on leaving.

## **11. Time, date and place of next meeting**

David B said that the date for the next annual general meeting would be arranged nearer the time. RH closed the meeting at 8.15pm (there being a refreshment break for chips/baps and pork pie during proceedings).

DSB Hon Secretary Goodluck Mine Preservation Club; KEB (acting as assistant!)

### **Distribution:**

All members.