



Minutes of the AGM of WWCE held on 13 September 2017

1. **Attendance**

34 members attended the meeting and there were 14 apologies for absence.

2. **Minutes**

The minutes of the last AGM, held in October 2016 were approved.

3. **Performance**

Nick Good reported on the performance of the WWCE solar arrays. Over the year, the 6MW of power that is installed across Chelworth and Braydon sites generated a total of 94.4% of target output. The underperformance was largely due to lower than expected irradiation levels at the sites in the summer of 2016, as across much of the South West region. Performance in the early months of 2017 reached 99.07% of target output.

4. **Land Management**

Rob Gillies, chair of the land management committee, described how the land is being managed to ensure the development of a diverse species-rich grassland. Green Hay, supplied by the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, has been spread at Braydon Manor and bird and bat boxes have been installed. We will work to improve and integrate land management plans and an on-going ecological monitoring regime timed to feed in to annual budget setting so that we can make sure we are keeping our conservation and biodiversity objectives uppermost in our financial planning. Members asked if it could be possible to have Open Days at the sites and so see if volunteers can be involved with land management activities,

5. **Financial Report**

The audited accounts were presented to the meeting and John Watson explained options for refinancing which might improve future cash flows.

6. **Resolutions**

The Accounts were approved for the year 2016-2017.

During the year the Board has made a change to the agreed Auditors and the new Auditors, Alan Brookes, were confirmed by the meeting for the year 2017-18.

The meeting accepted the Board's recommendation to pay 2.3% interest and to make no payment to the Community Fund for the year 2016-2017

7. **Community Fund Launch**

Peter Newell launched the WWCE Community Fund which now has £45,000 to award in grants to give grants to projects which enable "*wildlife conservation, climate change mitigation, reduced carbon emissions, the alleviation of fuel poverty, and the promotion of environmental sustainability*". The aim is to make grants of between £500 and £5000 to suitable projects which meet one or more of these purposes.

8. **Appointment of Directors**

The meeting appointed Paul Grainger as a new director and reappointed John Watson and David Lewin.



10. **Future Outlook**

Members joined in a discussion about the future role of WWCE. We will look for opportunities to provide new sources of renewable energy and to make more efficient use of the energy we produce by using batteries and perhaps selling our output directly to neighbours. At the same time members were happy that WWCE should develop its community role- sharing knowledge and expertise on renewable energy ,energy efficiency, and sustainable land management on solar farms. Members are asked to look out for opportunities where solar panels can be installed, perhaps as part of a larger joint scheme. It is important to maintain good communications.

11 **AOB**

The board will seek to change Rule 35 of the Society to reduce the proportion of members required for general meeting to be quorate. In the mean time we will email members to ensure that resolutions are properly agreed.

Signed as an accurate record of the meeting

Lesley Bennett
Chair of WW.CE