
MINUTES

THE OHAU CONSERVATION TRUST - TWELFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT THE LAKE OHAU LODGE, ON 15 JANUARY 2017 COMMENCING AT 11.05 AM

PRESENT – Grant Eames (Chairperson), Viv Smith (Secretary/Treasurer), Wendy Biggs and Warren Baker.

IN ATTENDANCE – Malcolm McMillan, Kay Lawson, Rachel Baker, Mike Neilson, and Mary Eames.

1. WELCOME

Grant Eames welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

2.1 Trustees

Apologies were received and accepted from Genevieve Becroft. (Viv Smith / Grant Eames).

2.2 Supporters

Apologies were received and accepted from Fraser Ross, Gary and Judy Stichbury, Barry Biggs, David and Jill Stone, Steve Dakin, Louise Neilson and Jock Neilson. (Viv Smith / Grant Eames).

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held 17 January 2016 were taken as read and confirmed (Wendy Biggs / Warren Baker).

4. MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES

4.1 LAKE MIDDLETON WALKWAY – progress on this proposal was discussed. The proposal is in the Trust's Strategic Plan and Trustees are continuing to liaise with the various parties with an interest in the management of the lake and reserve (DOC and ECan) and the surrounding land (Waitaki District Council). The Trust hopes that it can be a project progressed jointly with all these parties.

4.2 GROWSAFE CERTIFICATION – Viv Smith expressed thanks on behalf of Judy Stichbury and herself for the Trust funding their Growsafe Certification. The course was very well run with a lot of very useful information. Malcolm McMillan reported that he has completed his Growsafe re-certification.

5. ANNUAL REPORT ON THE TRUST'S ACTIVITIES

Grant Eames present the Trust's Annual Report. It was resolved to adopt the Annual Report on the Trust's Activities. (Grant Eames / Viv Smith).

6. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS – 1 OCTOBER 2015 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

Viv Smith spoke to the financial accounts that was circulated at the meeting. The Trust is in a very strong financial position. The Trust's income for the year was \$4549.00, with expenses of \$5414.00, resulting in an operating deficit of \$865.00. The Trust's main expenditure during the year was in relation to the revegetation project and the finishing the cotoneaster control project funded by Environment Canterbury. At the end of the financial year, the Trust's assets amounted to \$68,245.00.

The Trust is now required to submit a Financial Report to Charities Services in the new reporting template. This will be prepared using the information presented at the AGM and submitted by the 30 March 2017 deadline. A link to the final financial report on the Charities Services website will be sent to the Trustees and Trust supporters when it is available.

It was resolved to adopt the Financial Accounts for the year ended 30 September 2016, subject to clarification of the website expenditure (to check if it is double counting from last financial year) and changing the expenses category from "Equip Repairs" to "Equip Losses". (Viv Smith / Warren Baker)

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Recorded that Viv Smith, Secretary and Treasurer took over chairing the meeting for the purposes of the election of the Chairperson.

Grant Eames was nominated for the position of Chairperson. (Viv Smith / Wendy Biggs).

Grant Eames was declared elected as Chairperson and took the Chair.

Viv Smith was nominated for the position of Secretary and Treasurer. (Wendy Biggs / Grant Eames).

Viv Smith was declared elected as Secretary and Treasurer.

The existing Trustee, Grant Eames, Viv Smith, Genevieve Becroft, Warren Baker and Wendy Biggs were confirmed as Trustees. (Grant Eames / Viv Smith).

8. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS (2016/17)

It was resolved to appoint Paul Grigg as Independent Examiner of the Trust's Financial Accounts for the 2016/2017 financial year. (Grant Eames / Warren Baker).

In appreciation of Paul's examination of the 2015/16 financial year accounts, it was resolved that a small gift be purchased for Paul and a letter of thanks sent to him. (Viv Smith / Warren Baker).

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

9.1 **Draft work programme and work sessions for 2017** – It was noted that gooseberry control was included in the "On-going weed control projects". Discussion was whether there is any effective way to kill gooseberry plants as nothing had worked in the past. It was agreed that gooseberries were not really a key focus for weed control because of this difficulty.

Whether mature or young willow trees would be removed from around Lake Ohau was discussed. The Trust's intention is to focus on the newly establishing willow trees on the lake shore that can very quickly become quite large trees.

The Trust is very pleased to have received external funding for 3 key projects that will be initiated in the 2016/17 year, as follows:

- i. Gear container - \$7500.00 from Meridian Energy
- ii. Cotoneaster control - \$28, 565.00 from the DOC Community Fund (over 3 years)
- iii. Lakeshore weed control - \$8677.00 from the DOC Community Fund (over 2 years)

The Trust expressed thanks to Meridian Energy and DOC for this funding.

The work sessions for 2017 are as follows.

- i. 5 February (Waitangi Weekend)
- ii. 16 April (Easter Sunday)
- iii. 23 April (ANZAC weekend)
- iv. 4 June (Queens Birthday weekend)
- v. 24 September (South Canterbury Anniversary weekend)
- vi. 22 October (Labour Day weekend)
- vii. 19 November (Canterbury Show weekend)

It was resolved to adopt the Trust's work programme and work sessions for 2017. (Grant Eames / Warren Baker)

9.2 MOU and Community Management Agreement with DOC - Viv Smith reported that the MOU between the Trust, DOC, ECan and Waitaki District Council was due to be renewed this year.

The Trust is also working with DOC to put in place a Community Management Agreement. This Agreement will set out the location and specifications for work that the Trust undertakes on public conservation land. It has advantages to the Trust in relation to Public Liability Insurance and Health and Safety requirements. The Trust is keen to get the Agreement in place as soon as possible so that projects such as the Mistletoe Project (possum trapping) and the Gear Container for the Trust's equipment can get underway.

9.3 Publicity and fundraising opportunities – It was discussed that information from the AGM would be placed or linked to on the Trust's website.

The possibility of having an event based around the mistletoe flowering in November/December was discussed. Ideas included having a guest speaker, providing information to the media about mistletoe and preparing information for a self-guided walk to view mistletoe. The Trust will work on this and welcomes suggestions and support from supporters for this proposal.

9.4 Thanks for the Venue – Grant Eames thanked Mike and Louise Neilson for the use of the Lodge as a venue for this AGM.

10. MEETING CLOSED

The meeting closed at 12.00pm.

Signed by the Chairperson of the meeting as a true record of the meeting.

Date: _____