Unratified

**HUMBER AND WOLDS RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016**

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16 November at Brantingham Village Hall, Brantingham, East Yorkshire

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Tony Chase opened the Annual General Meeting by welcoming guests and thanking them for their attendance.

1. **Apologies for absence**

A list of representatives who were in attendance and a full list of apologies were available at the meeting. Tony Chase explained that Harold Edward’s had been taken ill that morning and was therefore unable to attend today and that he was stepping in as Acting Chair.

1. **Minutes of 2015 Annual General Meeting**

The minutes from the Annual General Meeting held on 18 November at The Ropewalk, Barton Village were taken as read. The minutes were agreed as a true record by Tony Chase.

Matters arising were Village hall networks and HWRCC rebranding.

Proposed: Tony Chase Seconded: Tom Cave

1. **Chairman’s Report**

Tony Chase referred to Harold Edward’s statement in the Annual Report.

“The organisation has risen like a Phoenix over the last 12 months. This has been down to the sheer determination and dedication of the whole staff team. They climbed mountains and faced the challenges head on to build a very strong foundation from very little resources at the beginning of the year. The sole focus of the staff team and trustees was to make sure that HWRCC survived and remained the charity and the voice to sustain the rural communities in the East Riding of Yorkshire, North and North East Lincolnshire. I believe as Chair that not only did we sustain the organisation but we have also developed into a better organisation for the future. That way being in a far better position to support our rural communities in any way we can, who at times face very unequal challenges compared to urban dwellers. We can only do this if you continue to give the grateful support you gave the staff team over the last 12 months. Thank you team HWRCC from the Trustees”

1. **Annual Review 2015/16**

Susan Oliver explained that the Annual Review details in full the projects and activities undertaken during the year. The move to Barton had ensured that working relations had developed more within North Lincolnshire as well as the East Riding. It was proven that staff and Trustees worked well with most of the people in the room and there was evidence of more collaborative working and co-production.

Susan concluded that sometimes it been pants and tops as used in community reviews but more good times than bad but most importantly the organisation was moving forward.

The Chairman recommended that the Annual Review be adopted.

The adoption of the Annual Review was agreed.

Proposed: Tony Chase Seconded: John Brown.

John Brown wanted a record on the Minutes that he congratulated the team on a rescue operation which was vitally needed and well executed.

Tony Chase summarised that four staff members had delivered 27 projects over the year and associate models were being looked at so HWRCC could expand and then shrink when needed to.

**6.Trustees Annual Report and Financial Accounts**

Tony Chase apologised for the absence of David Hughes and Susan Oliver summarised the report.

The 2015-16 Financial year began with an organisation reduced by 50% in order for it to continue and hopefully build from this. Reductions included the staff team which now comprised of 3.5, one office at Barton, North Lincolnshire and limited unrestricted budget and reserves.

Knowledge that ACRE, the national umbrella organisation for Rural Community Councils had been able to negotiate an additional year of funding from DEFRA enabled HWRCC Trustee Board to feel confident in continuing the organisation. Having undertaken a risk management process and considered the recovery plan presented, revised and updated over this period, the Board gave their support to continuing with monthly financial and organisational reporting enabling them to closely monitor progress. It is through this Trustee scrutiny and support and the hard work and dedication of staff who had taken redundancy in March 2015 and those remaining with the organisation that has ensured that HWRCC has not only been able to maintain but also develop and increase project and strategic activity.

Tony Chase recommended that the audited accounts be adopted. The adoption of the accounts was agreed.

Proposed: Tony Chase Seconded: Ann Hindley

1. **Appointment of Board of Directors**

Tony Chase put out a plea for Trustees. He explained that there was information in the Hall and an application form for anyone who was interested.

1. **Appointment of Independent examiners**

Tony Chase reported that the Board of Directors had recommended the reappointment of Messrs Finnie’s of Beverley. He noted the excellent support they had provided during the year.

Proposed: Tony Chase Seconded: Ann Hindley

1. **Arrangements for the Annual General Meeting 2017**

The 2017 Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 16 November 2017 at a South Bank venue.

1. **Question and Answer session**

No questions were raised but Susan Oliver asked guests to complete the evaluation form before they left. She also thanked the catering team for their assistance with refreshments.

**Close of AGM**

Tony Chase concluded the formal proceedings by thanking all guests for their attendance and support during the past year.

**Signed ………………………………………………………… Date ……………………………………….**