

Constantine Enterprises Company
(Twenty-first Annual General Meeting)
&
Tolmen Operating Company
(Thirteenth Annual General Meeting)

Thursday, 8 May 2019

Those in Attendance:- Tracey Clowes (Chairman), Tim Beattie, Richard Clowes, Robin Curtis, Judy Ford, Jacqui Hessing, Chris & Ann Hussey, Dick & Gill Just, Charlie & Barbara Pugh, Adrian Roberts, Peter Tatham.

Apologies for Absence:- Gia Shaw

Chairman's Welcome

Tracey Clowes (Chairman) opened the meeting and welcomed those present to the twenty-first Annual General Meeting of the Constantine Enterprises Company (CEC) and the thirteenth Annual General Meeting of the Tolmen Operating Company (TOC), a wholly owned subsidiary.

1. CEC Chairman's Report

[The following is an abridged version of Tracey Clowes report & a full copy is retained on file.]

Tracey Clowes said the CEC co-ordinates a number of separate ventures & their reports will follow. However she would like to briefly cover some highlights - The Tolmen Centre continues to host many sell out shows & the Film Group's monthly films. Transition hosted the highly successful Community Big Lunch & installed solar panels on the pre-school roof. Our newest venture, Bosahan Woods has proved popular with a renovated top path & a Forest School for young children. The Museum's WW1 exhibition in the Church saw 500 visitors & the Literary Group had a successful evening with Michelle Roberts & William Dalrymple is coming soon.

Tracey paid tribute to the hundred of hours given freely by our many volunteers so it is with regret & sadness that on occasions these efforts have not been recognised by a few. Whilst volunteers do not seek the limelight she wished to mention just some of our hard working team - Simon Hamlin, Peter Tatham & the late David Freeman.

For 20 years we have tried to keep on top of repairs to the Tolmen centre. We have a new toilet block, a beautiful garden & a well equipped theatre, but now the roof, windows & car park all require urgent attention. A small sub-committee has been formed & following a Crowdfunding campaign not only was £8,500 raised but we also received some wonderful messages of support. Other donations were also received & the Tanner Trust has generously pledged £8,000 for windows! More fund raising & grants applications are in the pipeline.

Finally, the CEC are hoping to encourage more people to join as members since it cost nothing but shows support & involvement. In this connection, under section 55 & 57 in our Articles of Association it is proposed that they be amended to refer to email delivery rather than post & envelopes. This was agreed & accepted as a necessary change by all those present.

To conclude she thanked Dick Just on his retirement for his many years of service to the Board & for his ten years as Chairman.

2. Treasurer's Report & Presentation of Accounts for CEC & TOC

Charlie Pugh referred to the summaries of the CEC & TOC accounts produced by Chris Dennis of CASK, which had been distributed for the financial year ended 30 September 2018. He confirmed that a full set of accounts could also be viewed on the village website. He advised that since the freehold of Bosahan Woods was a gift, it does not show as an expenditure but only as an asset. He referred to the recent highly successful Crowdfunding campaign but explained that this would appear in next years accounts. The amount raised & supporting comments received were much appreciated & adds force to our grant applications & for match funding purposes.

Those present were asked to accept the annual report & accounts Proposer: Jacqui Hessing.
Seconder: Dick Just & carried unanimously.

The Chairman thanked Charlie for all the work he undertakes as Honorary Treasurer.

3. Election of Chairman.

Peter Tatham advised that the Chairman is elected from current members of the CEC Board. Therefore at their last meeting in April he was delighted to report that they had re-elected Tracey Clowes as Chairman. It was confirmed that Tracey was planning to move away from Cornwall but would continue as Chairman in the meantime.

4. Minutes of the 2018 AGM & matters arising

Last year's Annual General Meeting minutes were read by Peter Tatham. No matters were raised & they were accepted by those present.

5. Progress Reports

Museum Report

[The following is an abridged version of Jacqui Hessing's report & a full copy is retained on file.]

Jecqui Hessing said her report would focus on three main areas: -

Volunteers - Very sadly our long serving Archivist, David Freeman, has died after being ill for some time. Two new volunteers Kate Graves & Chris Hillyer have joined the museum together with Jenny Parshall who has made a welcome return. During the winter closure all volunteers spent time together maintaining our museum objects, whilst bonding with each other & the Collection!

Infrastructure & Maintenance - Peter Tatham has been renovating & decorating our entrance doors & adapted our museum signs whilst Jenny Parshall had spruced up our pot plants.

Displays & Exhibits - For a small museum, we have produced some excellent displays & exhibits, including Constantine 100 years ago, WW1 Constantine Remembers & Helford River Oyster Farm & for these we have to thank Don Garman. In January we received a new acquisition a Constables Staff dated 1849, whose history is now being researched. The Village Photo Project organised by Alan Pearce is coming to fruition with a display possibly to be held over the August Bank Holiday.

In conclusion Jackie said that the museum has a bright future & will continue to produce exhibits & facilitate research for our visitors using our extremely important archives.

Tolmen Centre Report

Charlie Pugh said he would keep his report short as the Centre continues, as before, to host a diverse mix of Theatre, Music & films not to mention other functions. Making theatre at the Tolmen is increasing & six plays have been produced here before going out on tour. Barbara Pugh's Tolmen cafe continues to play an important role in underpinning the centre & often provides 40 pre-show meals. He played tribute to the many volunteers involved & in particular to Linda Hart & Liz Agdam who regularly help Barbara.

The Tolmen centre is now able to accept contactless card transactions & the old Hammond Organ, which had been stored for many years, has now been sold to a Northern production company to free up space & raise some money.

The Chairman gave her thanks to all the many Tolmen volunteers for another highly successful year.

Transition Constantine Report

[The following is an abridged version of Chris Hussey's report & a full copy is retained on file.]

The Constant Times continues as reported last year & thanks go to Peter Binns for editing & printing & to Sue Yates for managing advertising. Focus for the coming year will be to try & rationalise the distribution process but otherwise the Constant Times continues to flourish.

Transition Constantine A number of sites for the wind turbine project have been investigated but it has not proved possible to find a single site which would satisfy Government Planning & Ministry of Defence constraints. With regard to the turbines themselves it is hoped that they might now be sold to another community group.

The upside of this disappointment, is that with the remaining grant funds it was possible to revive the solar PV system for the Pre-school roof. These were fitted just in time over the February half-term & are now producing on site generation of renewable energy & a small amount of income!

Another success was the Community Day held in October, the 'pot luck' community lunch accompanied by the Trengilly Singers was followed by a mix of of community & environment based events, spread across the Tolmen Centre & Church Hall. It achieved its objective of entertaining & involving many local people. In fact so many expressed their appreciation for the 'community lunch' idea that another one was held in January. Again a large number of people attended & music was provided by Akoustek.

The group formed to revive the Who's Where directory has made progress & the business listings are now nearly complete. The next step will be to update this to the village website.

Research has been undertaken into Constantine having a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) but following information gathering & a meeting at County Hall it was felt that the primary driver for NDP was new build housing development where Constantine faces much less pressure. So given the long timescales & the substantial amount of work involved we are now pursuing another idea of producing an emergency plan instead.

The Farmers Market continues to thrive & whilst Transition members continue to provide general support it is now an independent organisation.

Following the special report on Global Warming, by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which concluded that we are facing a climate emergency that demands urgent political action, Transition members have engaged with many others in lobbying at National, County & Parish level. Many have also lent their support to the Extinction Rebellion campaign. In January Cornwall Council passed a motion declaring a climate emergency together with a commitment to become carbon Neutral by 2030.

Woods Group Report

[The following is an abridged version of Adrian Robert's report & a full copy is retained on file.]

On behalf of Liz Pearce, Adrian Roberts gave his report saying that exactly a year ago they had held their first meeting after the considerable initial work done by the CEC & particularly Dick Just & Peter Tatham.

Our generous benefactor Muriel Lawrence had set down her wishes & these had been incorporated into the Woods Group Constitution & Management Guidelines. The general purpose of the Group being to ensure that the woods are conserved & kept in good condition for the enjoyment of all people of Constantine.

Our management group consists of no more than 6 members two nominated by the benefactor - Liz & Alan Pearce, two nominated by the CEC - Chris Hussey & myself (Adrian) & two co-opted from the general public. A preliminary risk assessment together with other surveys had already been carried out so our initial priorities were to the remediation of the higher risks & to make a management plan following two public consultation meetings. Several issues arose from these meetings, particularly differences of opinion regarding the question of safety, however, there was general agreement that there should be as little change as possible & that access for a wide range of users should be improved.

The main plan for the first year was therefore the restoration & stabilisation of the eroded upper path. With Liz & Alan's energy, organising & co-ordination skills, John Williams & Richard Mann's plant driving skills & 40 volunteers this was completed by 15 October in just 10 days & around 600 hours, at a cost of £8,240.85! There were generous donations from within the village, including a financial pledge from the Tanner Trust & 3 lorry loads of top dressing from Cormac.

In October, we welcomed Elfie Carson & her Forestry School into the Woods & it has been lovely to hear the children's happy voices on Tuesday & Thursdays. Students at Falmouth University have also been filming in the woods on two occasions.

Steve Moore has now become our Treasurer & Mike Hawes has joined us as a co-opted member whilst Chris Hussey & Jeff Meadows have created a Bosahan Website accessed through the Constantine Village Website.

A thorny problem is the poor state of the access paths not owned by the CEC but due to the lack of Council funding alternative funding will have to be found.

We have learned a few things over the first year including the need to try harder to communicate to avoid misconceptions & misinformation. We also have a number of funding & access issues for further discussion & decisions.

The Chairman said what a great asset the Woods are for the community & gave thanks to all the Woods Group volunteers for a positive first year & one that is moving forward.

6. Election of Directors

The Chairman reported that Dick Just was standing down after many years service & Barbara Pugh, Gia Shaw & Richard Thomas are due to retire at the end of their three year term. Dougal Jefferies has been nominated & seconded to be a member of the CEC Board & Barbara, Gia & Richard were all prepared to stand for re-election. So it was proposed that all four be appointed as CEC Directors for a three year term & this was carried unanimously.

There being no further matters to discuss the meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Signed _____ Date _____