

SLACC-tt AGM 2021

Date: 23 April 2021

Venue: Virtual via Zoom

Trustees Present

Angela Lovett (Chair), Chris Rowley, Quentin Merritt, Sally Fleming

Other attendees

Members

Henry Adams, Anne Blackburn, Nick Chetwood, Janet Clarke, Clare Elleray Mee, Paul Girling, Jan Goodey, Meg Hill, Helen Ladhams, Wendi Lethbridge, Jo Magne, Maggie Mason, Alison Park, Hilary Pickup, Dave Plumb, Duncan Pollard, Daniel Rayson, Catherine Rennie-Nash, Sylvia Robertson, Janice Rowley, Wendy Smith, Isobel Stoddart, Meg Stuart, Sue Walley, Jane Willis, Jane Wilson, Carole Wood, Brian Woodward, Hannah Girvan.

Non-members

David Beuzeval, Joanne Heather, Andrew Herbert, Jane Hodgson, Stacy Hurley, Stuart Lockton, Ellie Mackay.

Apologies

Robin Cope (Treasurer), Heather Fielding, Karen Mitchell.

1) Welcome

- Angela welcomed everyone and introduced the agenda.

2) Minutes for AGM 2020

- A link to the minutes of the 2020 AGM was circulated 2 weeks prior to the meeting.
- The minutes themselves were shared onscreen at the AGM.
- Angela invited people say if they thought there were any errors or omissions in the minutes. Wendi Lethbridge requested that the spelling of her surname be corrected.
- Angela proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the previous AGM. A majority agreed they were, but some people abstained – either because they hadn't been at the previous AGM or hadn't had time to read the minutes. No one objected. The minutes were therefore accepted as a true record of the previous AGM, subject to a

correction to the spelling of Wendi Lethbridge's surname. (**Action: Chris to correct the 2020 minutes**)

3) Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda

- None

4) Annual Report and Accounts

- These were circulated to people who had registered for the AGM before the meeting.
- **Activity:** Angela reported that:
 - Karen Bentley-Brown had resigned from the board due to other commitments and thanks Karen for her very valuable contributions to SLACC whilst she was a trustee
 - Two people had agreed to stand for nomination to the board (Carole Wood and Duncan Pollard)
 - Membership has increased from 60 last year to 77 this year, in large part due to improved membership processes introduced by Lisa Kenton. Angela thanked Lisa for her very valuable work in this area.
 - In accordance with our policy, we have concentrated on two main campaigns this year: Waste into Wellbeing and opposition to the proposed Cumbria coalmine.
- **Accounts:** In the absence of our Treasurer, Robin Cope, Chris presented a brief summary of the annual accounts and the budget for the coming year. He explained that it was difficult to compare this with year's figures with last year's due to changes in the way the accounts were now being formatted. There were a few questions requesting clarification from the floor, which Chris answered. Joanne Heather thanked Chris and Sally for creating a very detailed and helpful financial spreadsheet (which lay behind the figures Chris presented).
- **Waste into Wellbeing**
 - Duncan presented some headline figures: 5,041 kg of surplus food has been redistributed, 733 meals have been delivered, 8,470 people have been supported, 2,995 bags of groceries have been shared, 2,268 volunteer hours have been contributed by our volunteers
 - He thanked the "amazing volunteers", without whom WiW wouldn't happen, and also the various WiW funders; and invited others to get involved if they would like to help out (by emailing WiW at wasteintowellbeing@gmail.com)
 - He outlined plans for WiW in 2021:
 - re-establishing the Café as the pandemic allows; complimented by the Lunch Bunch and an expanded Food Share
 - working more closely with donors to source food on a more regular basis;
 - securing more appropriate premises;

- involving users in our decision making and organisation;
 - investigating the possibility to partner with others;
 - developing a broad-based funding model; and
 - improving our promotional activities.
- A few people wrote comments in the chat box, praising the project and the work of the volunteers who make it such a success.
- **Coalmine**
 - Maggie summarised the latest developments (notably the coalmine decision being ‘called-in’ by the Secretary of State, with the public inquiry due to start on 7 September and run for 16 days).
 - She explained that SLACC has been central in securing the public inquiry and that SLACC and FoE will oppose the proposed development as ‘Rule 6’ parties
 - She thanked all those who had helped to fund the SLACC campaign and explained that the Crowdjustice fundraising page would be reopened to raise funds for ongoing costs (eg legal team, planning consultant, expert witnesses).
 - She suggested people refer to the SLACC website for further details, including information on how to support the campaign (including financially) and shared a link to a coalmine meeting in the chat box.
 - A few people wrote comments in the chat box, praising Maggie and the campaign more generally.
- **Review of targets for 2020-21:** Chris summarised the progress (text in green) we had made against the targets we set for 2020-21:
 1. Increase our membership (**achieved, from 60 to 77 memberships**) and to collaborate with other groups in the area which have similar interests and aims; (**Waste into Wellbeing is in contact with a number of different groups and we are represented on several local and regional groups.**)
 2. Find funding to secure the continued support of the new part-time coordinator for the Kendal People’s Café and food Hub (**ongoing**)
 3. Respond to developments and grow the Kendal People’s Café and food hub alongside our business plan (**ongoing, see operational plan**)
 4. Continue supporting those members who wish to campaign on issues that our charitable objectives support (**decision made to concentrate on coal mine campaign**);
 5. Continue to support community resilience after the Covid-19 virus emergency period has passed (**ongoing, see operational plan**)
 6. Increase membership of SLACC-tt from our Kendal People’s Cafe and Waste into Wellbeing volunteers; (**Over the last year we have gained new members but very few of these are directly from Waste into Wellbeing**)

7. Continue to support and monitor the Town and District Councils in their adoption of emergency climate change policy (a major development here was the formation of the Kendal Climate Change Citizens' Jury. This has resulted in a set of recommendations. SLACC has been very actively involved, and we thank Chris for his leadership on this)
 8. Set up an active travel network to promote walking and cycling locally. (A list of interested people was made, but we have not had the capacity to develop this as we would have wished.)
- **Targets for 2021-22:** Chris presented the targets we have set for 2021-22:
 1. To develop Waste into Wellbeing in accordance with the operational plan, specifically:
 - To understand the 'market' better by developing a users group
 - To manage volunteers more smoothly
 - To continue collaborate with other groups and look for possible partnerships find suitable premises
 2. To continue with the Coal Mine campaign
 3. To contribute to developing some of the recommendations from the Citizens' Jury:
 - Food and farming: Further development of WiW, support for compost project
 - Energy efficiency: Awareness raising
 - Promoting action: Online footprint tools, Building vision
 4. To stay in touch with the composting project, and support this as far as possible
 5. To continue to liaise and co-operate with groups with similar aims, such as Cumbria Sustainability Network and Cumbria Action for Sustainability (CAFS)
 6. To support talks on matters of interest, within SLACC and beyond, as a response to COP 26
 7. To continue to produce regular newsletters and maintain our website
 8. To continue to increase membership, to a point where membership income covers core SLACC running costs
 9. To strengthen our internal governance by continuing policy review, with immediate priorities of addressing equality and diversity issues and developing a reserves policy.
 10. To look again at our constitution, in particular to consider the nomination and rotation of trustees.

- Sally conducted two polls to find out what people thought about the objectives:

Do you endorse the proposed objectives?	Yes	Maybe	No
	26 (93%)	2 (7%)	0

On a scale of 1 to 5 (where 1 is low and 5 is high), how positive do you feel about the proposed objectives?	1	2	3	4	5
	1 (4%)	0	3 (11%)	11 (39%)	13 (46%)

- The results show that a large majority supports the proposed objectives.

5) Election of Trustees and post holders

- Angela Lovett explained that (a) all of the existing Trustees were standing down and had offered to stand for re-election and (b) two new members (Duncan Pollard and Carole Wood) had also offered to stand as Trustees.
- Each Trustee then gave a very brief summary of their background
- Angela invited questions and comments from the floor. Wendi Lethbridge said that she objected to Duncan Pollard’s nomination because of his employment by Shell and Nestlé – companies that she has campaigned against on environmental grounds throughout her adult life. Duncan was offered an opportunity to respond. He accepted that both companies were controversial from an environmental point of view. In the case of Shell, he worked as a forester in the Non-Traditional Business Division – a team investing in renewable energy and forestry. In the case of Nestlé, the company had made significant progress in recent years and his role had been specifically concerned with making it more sustainable including new policies and programmes on climate change, deforestation and animal welfare.
- Angela thanked Wendi and Duncan for their contributions and then invited SLACC members on the motion to elect all those proposed (Angela, Carole, Chris, Duncan, Quentin, Robin, Sally). Of the 18 members who voted¹, 17 voted in favour, 1 abstained and none voted against. The motion was therefore passed and all seven nominees were elected. (**Action: Chris to update the SLACC entry on the Charity Commission website**)

6) A.O.B.

- None

¹ The 7 nominees did not vote and at least one member had left the meeting by this point.

7) Close

- Angela thanked all present for attending and closed the formal part of the AGM
- She then introduced the following guest speakers, each of whom gave a short presentation:
 - Stuart Lockton (feasibility study for community composting scheme in Kendal)
 - Isobel Stoddart (promoting 'active travel' in Kendal)
 - Ellie Mackay (retrofitting a 1930s house to near Passive House standards)
- Chris thanked the speakers and explained that we hope to run meetings that would allow a more in-depth exploration of these topics in the coming months.
- Angela once again thanked everyone for taking part in the AGM and closed the meeting.