

**MILLENIUM FARM TRUST**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
HELD ON SATURDAY 21<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER 2006  
AT REDE VILLAGE HALL AT 3.00 pm**

**PLEASE NOTE DATE & PLACE OF EGM ON LAST SHEET OF MINUTES**

**Present:** Bernadette Shrubshall – Chairperson, Trustee, Support Worker  
David Cook – Company Secretary, Trustee, Support Worker  
Sam Cook - Vice Chair , farmworker  
Philip Mellor Senior support worker  
Doug Neupert Treasurer, Support Worker  
Ian Coles - support worker leader

Margie Thomson  
Richard Hopper ( committee member)  
Kevin Chapman ( farmworker)  
David Axton (marketing and publicity officer)  
Alison Stewart  
Sarah Hall  
Alan Bartrum ( farmworker)  
Roy Armsby  
Ann Armsby  
David Armsby  
Kathleen Armsby  
Miriam Newell (farmworker)  
Alex Quinn ( farmworker)  
Kevin Chapman ( farmworker)  
Kathleen Hopper  
N. Newell  
D Newell  
Pat Higgins  
Chris Storey  
Jan Holliday ( AGM Minutes secretary)

## **1. Welcome**

Bernadette Shrubshall as Chairperson expressed her welcome on behalf of the Trust to all those present and thanked them for their attendance. A welcome was extended to two new members (Richard and Kath Hopper). Bernadette paid tribute to those who had given significant support to the Trust throughout the year, including Mr and Mrs Newell, all the farmworkers and all those in support roles. These important and individual roles were summarised and explained in detail for the benefit of those present.

## **2. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were noted to include Daniel Harvey (MADP), Tamar Irvine (Transitions Team), Mr Magnall, Mr. Burrows, Beryl Cudby, Yuk Lun Wong, Doeke Dobman, Marisa Davey, John Matthissen, Jenny and Brian Chapman, Jean and Tony Stiling, David Foster, Chris and Wendy Barker.

## **3. Minutes of the previous AGM**

The Minutes of the previous AGM, having been circulated, were noted, subject to amendment, as a true record and duly signed by the Chairperson.

## **4. Trustees Report**

Bernadette Shrubshall summarised the Trustees' Report as submitted and circulated to those present.. It was stressed that there is a fundamental need to gain extra financial support in order to enable the Trust to continue into 2007. Equally the critical need for more Trustees was highlighted.

Thanks were expressed to all those who had contributed on a voluntary basis to the management, financial and administrative care of the Trust.

## **5. Support Workers & Farmworkers Reports**

Philip Mellor presented the senior support worker's report for the various work teams throughout the year .The report is attached.

Further details of the work undertaken by the individual farm workers was summarised, brief details of which are as follows:-

Kevin: Tractor driver with topper cutting thistles and grass; cultivating and also gaining practical knowledge about tractor wheels/tyres and learning to replace same;

Sam: continues to plant his celeriac successfully and commercially; supports Bernadette, in his role as Vice- chair;

Alan, Miriam and Alex reported on their work at Old Hall, East Bergholt including the opportunity to extend their tractor driving skills, work with the Jersey and Red Poll cattle, assist with caring for the Large Black pigs, helping with coppicing and farm maintenance tasks ( including bricklaying) and assisting in the annual potato harvest. Ian commented on the cohesive team spirit and the support and friendship of fellow residents at Old Hall. The contributions of Heather Reid, part time volunteer support worker at Old Hall were recognised .

There were no significant questions arising out of the above Reports.

## **6. Finance Report**

No inspected accounts were available for consideration but these are still being audited by John Matthissen at the time of the meeting. However these will be circulated at the earliest opportunity. Douglas Neupert presented a summary in pictorial format with verbal explanations . The income for 2005-6 was £22,395.32 and the expenditure was £25,990.

Funding is seriously needed in order to sustain the MFT – further funding possibilities await confirmation later in the year or early in 2007.

As a result of questions arising from the Financial Report, it was suggested that all Parish Councils should be encouraged to display an appropriate level of publicity supporting the work of the Trust and encouraging the adoption of new Trustees.

## **8. Election of Officers**

Under the supervision of Chris Storey, the following officers were duly elected:-

- Chairperson:** Bernadette Shrubshall  
Proposed: David Axton  
Seconded: Kevin Chapman

**Note:** Bernadette said that she was not in a position to continue as Chairperson in the long-term and that the Trust should actively seek a replacement at the earliest opportunity, but she was willing to ‘hold the fort’ until a successor is found.

2. **Vice Chair:** Sam Cook  
Proposed: Phillip Mellor  
Seconded: Kevin Chapman
  3. **Treasurer:** Douglas Neupert  
Proposed: Sam Cook  
Seconded: Bernadette Shrubshall
  4. **Funding & Development Officer** – this position remains unfilled.
  5. **Committee Members:** Doreen having retired and Alex Fejer on sabbatical leave the following were elected: Richard Hopper, Miriam Newell, Alex Quinn David Axton, Pat Higgins – all were warmly thanked for their willingness to join the Committee and encouraged in their commitment.
  6. **Membership Secretary:** to be kept in abeyance
  7. **Publicity Officer:** David Axton, being willing to stand, was proposed by Bernadette Shrubshall, seconded by Richard Hopper and duly elected.
  8. **Minutes Secretary:** Brenda Copeman confirmed her willingness to continue in office and to support David Axton with publicity matters. She was duly re-elected.
  9. **Fundraising & Events Officer:** Appointment deferred.
  10. **Tool & Equipment Manager:** Kevin Chapman  
Proposed: Bernadette Shrubshall  
Seconded: David Axton
9. **Date of next meeting:**

***THERE WILL BE AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE MILLENIUM FARM TRUST ON 13 JANUARY 2007 AT 2.00 PM AT BURY SPORTS CENTRE, BEETONS WAY, BSE IP33 3TT.***

***The meeting was declared closed at 5.00 pm***