

**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE DARTMOOR TRUST HELD IN MANATON  
PARISH HALL, TQ13 9UJ,**

**AT 1530HRS MONDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2021**

Present: Jo Burgess \*\*, Simon Butler \$\*, Dru Butterfield", Tony Clark \*\*, Ric Cheadle ", Ann Cole ", Andrew Cooper \*\*", Tim Emerson \*\*", Philip Sanders \$, Ashley Smith, Chris Walpole ", Richard Wraith \*\*.

In Attendance: Anna Butler

Apologies: Nick Atkinson \$, Charlotte Catto\*\*", Jamie Dunbar, Sue Eberle \*\*, Alli Gibson \*\*, Peter Harper ", Elizabeth Kitson \$, Peter Mason ", and Sue Viccars ".

Key: \$ Subscribers, \* Trustees, " Members.

**ITEM 1 – ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD BY E  
MAIL ON 16 NOVEMBER 2020.**

1. The minutes of the previous AGM were accepted and signed.

**ITEM 2 – CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – LT COL (RETD) TONY CLARK OBE**

2. Lt Col (Retd) Tony Clark OBE summarised the year’s events and activities
  - a. The Chairman welcomed Supporters, Members and Trustees to the AGM and thanked Simon and Anna Butler for making the arrangements for the use of Manaton Parish Hall.
  - b. The AGM was called to receive a report on the year to 30 Jun 21. A summary of the key points is included in the Director’s report, which is submitted to Company House. The minutes also provides an update for interested persons through publication on the Trust’s website.
  - c. Lady Elizabeth Kitson, the Trust’s patron, apologised for not being able to attend the meeting and wished the Supporters, Members and Trustees well.
  - d. The Chairman commented that like most organisations, the Trustees have depended on virtual meetings. It is a great joy to be back in human contact with friends and colleagues albeit with some understandably still taking precautions.
  - e. During the year to 30 Jun 21, the Trustees have met virtually 3 times; Sep 20, Jan 21 & Jun 21. To keep the Trustees in touch and to take forward the Trust’s business, minutes have been rather longer than usual and there have been a plethora of e mails
  - f. As you will hear later from Simon, the recent generous donation and Covid has allowed us to add a considerable number of images to the Archive. We now have over 40,000, with many awaiting the addition of data.
  - g. Simon, as always gives his all to our Archive and books. Jamie has reworked the magic behind your computer screen. The Archive is now vastly faster than previous versions.
  - h. Sadly, our project with the Dartmoor Preservation Association (DPA) to celebrate the centenary of Robert Burnard’s death on 15 April 1920 and Richard Hansford Worth on 11 November 1950 were thwarted by Covid precautions. Similarly, our idea of an Exhibition to celebrate the founding of the Trust with a farming exhibition was postponed.

- i. We have suggested to DNPA three projects where close co-operation would be mutually beneficial: digitising and indexing their images library, re-digitising and backing up the original Moor Memory interview recordings and improving Heritage Trails website. Since Jun 21 we have worked with DNPA on the Exhibition celebrating the 70th Anniversary of the designation of the National Park, which is open at the National Park Visitor Centre in Princetown until Apr 22.
- j. We are grateful to Richard Wraith, who has been our highly efficient treasurer. He will hand over to Alli Gibson at the end of year when she returns from Hong Kong.
- k. My thanks to the Trustees for their hard work that keeps the Trust rolling along and to Jamie Dunbar, our diligent webmaster.

### **ITEM 3 – TREASURER’S REPORT – CAPT RICHARD WRAITH CBE RN**

3. Capt Richard Wraith CBE RN gave a review of the Trust’s financial situation as at Nov 21.

- a. Sales of books and use of images had provided a small income, while the major expenditures had been on improving and maintaining the Website and Archive, and digitising the backlog of images. The major increase in funds has been from our investments managed by Brewin Dolphin, £170,000 and COIF £156,000 with NatWest holding £22,000. A total of £348,000.
- b. Looking back, he had not found the role too demanding, but he was pleased to have served his time having been, so he said, press-ganged 4 years ago.
- c. The Chairman thanked Richard for his diligence, thoroughness and submariner’s wary eyes in keeping the Trust’s accounts in immaculate order, amalgamating our bank accounts and simplifying our accounts within NatWest.
- d. Gift aid remains to be set up.

### **ITEM 4 - REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

4. The Trust’s accountant, Ashley Smith of H M Williams, Certified Chartered Accountants, highlighted key points from the accounts:

- a. There had been a 15% drop in the Trust’s value, which wasn’t bad considering Covid’s negative financial impacts on investments.
- b. Grants made totalled £2,300.00.
- c. £880 had been expended on digitising images. Support and governance costs totalled £7,980.00.

5. The Chairman reminded that over the past years, the Trust has held its AGM in November for the 12 months ending 31 Jun. He proposed that it should be held much earlier, in Sep or early Oct, so that reports and accounts are timelier, providing this is acceptable to the Treasurer and H M Williams. Both were in favour and the meeting agreed to the change.

6. Dru Butterfield asked about the Trust’s reserve policy. Following discussion and after the AGM, the Chairman clarified the questions with Dru and made further investigations. His report is below:

a. *Question 1: How are you promoting your grant scheme?* The Trust advertises the availability of grants it makes available and the request process on its website <https://dartmoortrust.org/apply-for-support> and by publicising grants that it makes through leaflets, word of mouth, newspapers, magazines and social media. The grants are small and used to demonstrate local community involvement to larger potential funders.

b. *Question 2: If you have invested your funds, bearing in mind these can go up or down depending on the marketplace, what have you budgeted each year to pay out in grants?* The Trust does not set a budget or target amount for making grants but provides them, on request, for causes that meet the published criteria. The Trust's financial advisers, H M Williams, from their considerable experience think the Charity Commission would not have issue with the Trust's level of investment. The Commissioners take a prudent view and just giving everything away could be seen as irresponsible. Some HM Williams' charity clients give away/use a smaller percentage of money than the Trust and these have stood up to auditing checks without any issues. To give a more transparent view, the Trustees will include a statement in the Director's annual report and give an indication of its anticipated outgoings.

c. Ashely Smith commented that The Dartmoor Trust is predominantly limited to what can be paid out as grants by the requests that it receives. The Trust actively publicises the availability of grants, but also must consider the irresponsibility of looking to reduce the reserves to a minimal amount. It is well documented that raising funds for the Trust is not as straightforward as say the likes of Save the Children and this has been an issue, like many other small charities, for many years. By looking at the accounts, it is evident that on average the Trust amasses a yearly deficit of between £5,000 and £10,000 principally due to the costs of running its Archive compared with the limited income from donations and sales. With almost 35% of the reserves restricted by a bequest specifically for the Archive, this leaves a balance of approximately £225,000, of which £144,822 has been created from the increase in value of the investments. The investments are independently managed by Brewin Dolphin and the CCLA, but should an event, such as that in 2007, re-occur the Trust could be in a situation where its investments value drops significantly. For example, the revaluation reserve in the June 2008 accounts was only £10,937, rather than the £144,822 held today. On that basis, the Trust would be in a very difficult situation, and this is taken into consideration by the Trustees as using the current basis of between £5,000 and £10,000 deficits would only give the Trust a life of approximately 8 – 10 years.

d. The Subscribers and Members present were invited to agree the Director's report and accounts.

Proposed: Tim Emerson                      Seconded Jo Burgess              and agreed:

## **ITEM 5 – APPOINTMENT OF ACCOUNTANTS BY THE SUBSCRIBERS AND MEMBERS**

7. HM Williams Certified Chartered Accountants have offered to continue as the Trust's accountants and have the support of the Trustees.

Proposed: Andrew Cooper                      Seconded Philip Sanders              and agreed:

## **ITEM 6 - ELECTION OF TRUSTEES BY THE SUBSCRIBERS AND MEMBERS**

8. 6 Nominated Trustees: Simon Butler, Tony Clark, Sue Eberle, Tim Emerson, Alli Gibson and Richard Wraith offer themselves for re-election.
9. 3 Co-Opted Trustees: The Nominated Trustees intend to continue to co-opt Charlotte Catto and Jo Burgess. Jo and Dick Parker were appointed in Sep 20, but sadly Dick died in early 2021, which leaves one vacancy.
10. It was agreed to vote on acceptance in block.  
Proposed: Dru Butterfield      Seconded: Ric Cheadle      and agreed
11. One Ex Officio Trustee appointed by the National Park Authority: Andrew Cooper

#### **ITEM 7 – REPORT ON THE DARMOOR TRUST’S ARCHIVE – SIMON BUTLER**

12. The major addition to the Archive over the past year has been the scanning of the Francis Lee Collection - over 8,000 photographs taken in the 1960s through to the 1980s of rivers and valleys from source to them leaving the National Park - and now being digitised at Torquay Museum with whom we have collaborated on other significant projects. The benefits of having a professional archivist to do this work is obvious, but there are additional plus points too - one being the fact that the Museum will keep the originals under their professional care thus solving a dilemma of what to do with donated images where the donor no longer wants them and the Trust has no facility for long-term storage. There is a minor benefit in being able to support a local institution by funding this work and enabling them to employ their archivist full time. We are currently talking to the Museum about how we might continue this collaboration in future. Earlier in the year, the Museum provided 800 lantern slide scans from the RH Worth Collection which are now available to upload to the Archive.

13. We also engaged with a Masters photographic post graduate, Ben Bullman, to digitise a large backlog of images including the Ken Ruth Collection of some 4,000 glass plates from the 50s and 60s, and many slides and photographs including Viv Wilson’s collection taken while she was responsible for DNPA’s guiding services in the 1980s.

14. While Jamie has been making a number of important technical and strategic adjustments to the online presence of the Archive, there have been the usual requests for the use of photographs. These are vetted as to their final use and a determination made as to whether or not to charge for them. This year two TV companies have renewed their contract for worldwide rights on some images and in total around £1,000 has been invoiced. The majority of enquiries come from Dartmoor enthusiasts, such as The Dartmoor Collective and students for whom no charge is usually made although in all cases users are required to ensure that full acknowledgement is given.

15. Occasional enquiries for the use of non-Dartmoor images held in the Archive justifies the decision to maintain the integrity of large collections, which often contain photographs of wider Devon.

16. The early summer publication of Dartmoor Tin Mining has been well received and reviews have been appearing in the media. Charlotte Catto has been provided with sample images from the book along with text to appear on our Social Media sites to further promote the book. The organisers of Manaton Show (held in August annually) have asked the author to provide a stand at the show promoting the work undertaken by the Kelly Mine Society. I have suggested that the Archive should also be represented and perhaps we can organise a small exhibition and leaflets to be handed out advertising our work.

17. Jamie Dunbar has requested a short piece to accompany the individual collections as they appear on the Archive website as background information on the origin of each collection. I will begin work on this asap.

18. I propose to work on an occasional feature on the website under the title 'Every Picture Tells a Story'. This would combine a photograph with appropriate text drawn from the DNPA oral history project, Moor Memories, highlighting the value of having a visual representation allied to individual memories of life on the Moor. Thus, an individual memory would have an accompanying 'paired' photograph. Such a combination would draw attention to the importance of the oral history content of the Archive.

19. Ric Cheadle asked about copyright and Simon Butler explained that it is a complex subject but, in most circumstances, copyright cannot be claimed prior to 1945. However, copyright can sometimes be claimed by the owner post 1945.

20. Our use of Social Media has increased massively, thanks to Charlotte Catto as the statistics below show.

Social Media.	Instagram	Twitter
Jun 20	1198	1450
Jun 21	1798	2089
Nov 21	1863	2133

#### **ITEM 8 – REPORT ON GRANTS MADE – SUE EBERLE**

21. Sue Eberle's report was read. The following grants were made:

- a. Kelly Mine Preservation Society: £2,000 towards the Dartmoor Mining Book. Dedicated to Paul Oliver, with thanks for his bequest.
- b. Sustrans: £300 for investigation of a vehicle free route from Moreton to Chagford.
- c. Agreement has been given in principle to a grant to the Devon History Society for a 1920's exhibition.
- d. Support with images and drafting to Dartmoor National Park Authority's exhibition celebrating the 70<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary of the designation of Dartmoor as a National Park.

#### **ITEM 9 - ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

22. No matters were raised.

#### **ITEM 10 – DATE OF NEXT AGM.**

23. **AFTERNOTE, Please note change to Mon 31 October 2022 at Parke, Bovey Tracey.**

24. Following the AGM, Simon Butler gave a short, illustrated talk on the series of books that the Trust sponsors.

25. Subscribers and Members attending the AGM were gifted a copy of Dartmoor Tin Mining History & Heritage by Bruce Boulton, the third book in the Trust's series of books about Dartmoor.

A H Clark Chairman