

# **Rooley Moor Neighbourhood Forum (RMNF)**

[www.rmnf.co.uk](http://www.rmnf.co.uk)

## **AGM**

(Annual General Meeting)

**Date:** **Thursday 12th November 2020; 19:00-19:40**

**Venue:** **Online via Zoom (a link to the meeting will be provided by email on the day of the meeting)**

Due to the public health emergency this year's AGM will consist of the minimum statutory business and all voting will be by proxy. This will be by instructing the chair to cast your vote. Or, if you wish you can leave the choice to the chair. The deadline for casting your vote or letting us know that you would like the chair to choose on your behalf is 12 noon on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

## **AGENDA**

1. Conflicts of interest and conflicts of loyalty
2. To approve the Minutes of the Annual General meeting of 2019
3. To adopt the Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020, and
  - To agree our reserves policy
4. Legal & Administrative Information
5. To approve the Reports from Trustees and Officers of the Forum
6. Trustee & Officer Rotation, Resignations and Appointments
7. Neighbourhood Area Designation
8. Date & Time of Next Meeting

## **Agenda Item 1**

### **Conflicts of interest and conflicts of loyalty**

Forum Trustees and Members are required to declare any pecuniary, personal or personal and prejudicial interests they may have and the nature of those interests relating to items on this agenda.

A charity trustee must:

1. Declare the nature and extent of any interest, direct or indirect, which he or she has in a proposed transaction or arrangement with the CIO or in any transaction or arrangement entered into by the CIO which has not previously been declared; and
2. Absent himself or herself from any discussions of the charity trustees in which it is possible that a conflict of interest will arise between his or her duty to act solely in the interests of the CIO and any personal interest (including but not limited to any financial interest). Any charity trustee absenting himself or herself from any discussions in accordance with this clause must not vote or be counted as part of the quorum in any decision of the charity trustees on the matter.

## **Agenda Item 2**

### **To approve the Minutes of the Annual General meeting of 2019**

#### **Rooley Moor Neighbourhood Forum (RMNF)**

#### **AGM**

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019 at 7:30pm  
Spotland Methodist Church, Rooley Moor Road, Rochdale OL12 7ES

#### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

**FORUM MEMBERS PRESENT:** John & Janette Newcombe, Gwyn & Jack Fitton, Margaret Howard, Morley Morgan, Fran Healey, Win McGhee, Stuart Davies, Phil Massey, Steve Davison, Councillor Wendy Cocks, Andy & Mair Meek, Jim Murphy, Geoff & Jackie Ogden, Maxine Jager, Nigel Morrell, Denise Madgin, Nick & Margaret Green and Alan Rawsterne

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Councillor Janet Emsley, Cecile Biant, Ruth Shedwick, Nicky Marr, Elaine Marsden and Norden Councillors James Gartside, Michael Holly & Peter Winkler

**MINUTES:** The meeting commenced at 19:30

#### **1. Introduction**

The forum Chair, Andy Meek (AM), opened the meeting, welcomed all, dealt with housekeeping (fire exit and toilets), the meeting code of conduct and apologies (detailed above)

#### **2. Minutes of AGM 25<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

AM confirmed minutes were circulated after the AGM and no amendments were made.

- Fran Healey (FH) proposed to accept the minutes
  - Councillor Wendy Cocks (CWC) seconded the proposal
  - The minutes were unanimously accepted on a show of hands

#### **3. Review Action Log**

Alan Rawsterne (AR) reviewed the outstanding actions and noted the following:

1. AR is monitoring Rochdale planning applications each week and John Newcombe (JN) is monitoring applications for Rossendale.
2. Trustee training – any member is welcome to attend a trustee training session if they wish as it may help with understanding of a trustees role and responsibilities.
3. CWC agreed to pick up the action regarding the footpath on the left, as you enter the rural section of Rooley Moor Road traveling towards Catley Lane Head, is in poor condition and still requires cleaning and repair.
4. Neighbourhood Plan, to be discussed later
5. RMNF event, to be discussed later
6. GMSF, to be discussed later

**ACTION:** CWC to request the footpath noted above to be cleaned and repaired

- JN proposed to accept the outstanding actions
  - Steve Davison (SD) seconded the proposal
  - The outstanding actions were unanimously accepted on a show of hands

#### **4. Accounts for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019**

JN explained we finished the year with just short of £3k and explained the reserved and unreserved allocations. JN recommended we continue with our reserves policy of £400 to cover insurance and website costs for the coming year. We considered appropriate expenditure for surplus funds and agreed to fund refreshments for Catley Carols and to fund a community get together in the summer of 2020. Phil Massey (PM) provided an update on the request for waste bins and advised these will be supplied, so no contribution from the forum required, but will not be the bird proof variety.

- JN proposed to accept the accounts
  - SD seconded the proposal
  - The accounts were unanimously accepted on a show of hands

#### **5. Legal & Administrative Information**

AM explained the legal and administrative information

#### **6. Reports from Trustees and Officers**

AR explained the content of the report, noting the resignation of Cecile Biant and Morley Morgan. Highlights from the year were identified and discussed.

- a) The gate at the bottom of RMR is working well. Alan highlighted with thanks the £1,000 contribution of the Lord of the Manor towards the cost of the gate.
- b) The Spring Mill Development proposing 119 houses was approved despite 100 objections and 1 letter of support. Nigel Morrell (NM) explained that due to input from Rochdale and Bury Bridleways Association the development now includes a new bridleway. Someone asked whether there could be gates at either end. Julie Simpson at Rochdale Borough Council (RBC) to be asked. **ACTION: Andy Meek**
- c) JN explained that the lighting in Prickshaw village needs replacing but this will require the affected residents to request this from the council themselves.
- d) AR explain that RMNF has been supporting the Cooperative Heritage Trust with their HLF project
- e) AR mentioned that Cecile Biant has stepped down as a councillor and trustee of the forum and proposed that in recognition of her support she be made Honorary Vice President of the forum. Morley Morgan (MM) seconded this and the motion was approved unanimously. Notify Cecile. **ACTION: Alan Rawsterne**
- f) AR explained that the neighbourhood plan had been submitted for consultation and feedback received (see item 9 later).
- g) AR explained that the Shawfield Dairy Turbine complaint had been closed.
- h) AR explained that along with the Friends of the Moorland in Rochdale, Rossendale and Bury the forum had made successful representations at the public enquiry into the Rossendale local plan. Key points:
  - I. Decommissioning requires further investigation
  - II. Recognised the historic landscape including Waugh's Well and the Cotton Famine Road, which includes the Mary Townley Loop
  - III. Accepted that the clustering of many turbines in a concentrated area reduced their efficiency and will investigate further
  - IV. Appropriate native trees should be planted as part of restoration
  - V. Accepted that the council's peat survey was inadequate – did not know where the peat depth was greater than 40cm.
- i) Off road vehicles are becoming a bigger issue with riders coming from far afield. NM explained about the large number of riders who went on the moors last weekend, with the event organised on Facebook. AR explained that the impact of this behaviour was much

worse than he had realised since it can separate lambs from their mothers and destroy the feed that is put down for them. PM recommended that we report all incidents to GMP and recommended their online chat app at gmp.police.uk rather than ringing 101. Past feedback has had an effect with the result that two more police officers have been assigned in the area.

- j) AR explained that RMNF is still supporting other forums, with recent contact for advice from as far away as Birmingham.

**ACTION:** AM to ask Julie Simpson about gates at either end of Prickshaw.

- AR proposed to accept the trustees reports
  - PM seconded the proposal
  - The trustees reports were unanimously accepted on a show of hands

## 7. Trustee & Officer Rotation, Resignation & Appointment

**Trustees:** The following people stood down from their positions:

- Councillor Cecile Biant – Trustee (resigned 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019)
- Reverend Morley Morgan – Trustee & Vice Chair
- Andy Meek – Trustee and Chair
- Alan Rawsterne – Trustee & Secretary

The following people stood for election as trustees and officers:

- Andy Meek – Trustee and Chair
- Alan Rawsterne – Trustee & Secretary
- Nigel Morrell - Trustee
  - JN proposed to approve the resignations and appointments
  - Seconded by: PM
  - Unanimously accepted on a show of hands

## 8. HLF Project

- a. FH summarised how the project had been completed with signage completed and nature trail leaflets distributed.
- b. Several people commented on how well these leaflets had been received with people coming from outside the area to visit after finding out about the trails.
- c. Thanks were noted to Ruth Shedwick for her help and support with design work
- d. Alan emphasised that the HLF had viewed the project extremely positively.

## 9. Neighbourhood Plan

- a. AR went through the objections raised, many of which displayed a misunderstanding of the purpose of the plan and 19 of which did not identify relevant objections. Some good points were raised and it was recognised that the plan was (necessarily) a long and complicated document.
- b. AM explained that the recent local government report into neighbourhood plans had highlighted several areas where they were failing, including councils not taking plans into account.
- c. AR recommended that if put to a referendum it would be rejected and would therefore undermine the whole purpose
- d. The council had recommended that we lobby the community and PM supported this suggestion

- e. SD asked whether anyone attended had objected and if so why and Nick Green explained he was formerly a trustee of the forum and objected to the plan for reasons that were personal.
- f. SD commented that it was disappointing that no one had discussed their concerns before submitting their objections since the forum and the council had done a tremendous amount of work to publicise the development of the plan. SD disagreed with the suggestion to lobby neighbours given all the work that had already been undertaken and their difficulties in getting positive engagement.
  - o MM proposed that we do not put the plan forward to a referendum
  - o Seconded by: JN
  - o Unanimously accepted on a show of hands

## **10. Other Items**

- Heritage Open Day's (HOD's) – Significant that the RMNF area was accepted – perhaps we should consider doing this again next year.
- Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF)
  - a. March 2020 – planning inspectors check the consultation process and what has been done with the feedback
  - b. December 2020 – publication of final plan expected

## **11. Future Plans**

- a. It was agreed that we would hold Catley Lane Carols on the Thursday 19th December at 6:30. Morley and Sue will lead the service with AR to organise the refreshments.  
SD suggested everyone contributes to the food bank again and FH volunteered SD to collect and deliver. **ACTION:** All, SD  
It was agreed that some of the remaining funds from the HLF project would be used to support refreshments.

**ACTION:** AR to communicate date and time and organise refreshment

**ACTION:** SD to organise delivery food bank collection

- b. Community event for next year – agreed using the balance of HLF funding
- c. Road safety trust – PM explained that a traffic speed survey is being funded at the top of RMR but cautioned that even if speed bumps were recommended this would not be actioned quickly. There was some debate about the speed limit, which was confirmed to be 30mph. PM also explained that it is not possible to have repeater signs in a 30mph zone. Nick Green suggested that speed markings on the road might be allowed. All agreed to wait for recommendations from the speed survey on the rural section of Rooley Moor Road.
- d. Climate action fund – AR discussed support available under climate action plans, and we could support but not lead a moorland peat restoration scheme for the purposes of carbon sequestration – CWC offered to see how this might be integrated with work the council is already doing on the “Climate Emergency” .
- e. NM advised he is liaising with Moors for the Future and will keep the group updated on developments.

**ACTION:** CWC to ask if RBC have any moorland restoration / carbon offset plans that RMNF could participate in

## **12. Open Forum & AOB**

- **Open Forum:**

- a. Win McGhee mentioned that she had attended Andy Burnham's enquiry into the proposed franchising of local bus services. CWC and PM recommended that everyone contribute to the consultation as more individual submissions work better than group petitions. **ACTION: All**
- b. Maxine Jager mentioned for people to be aware of issues on RMR with Himalayan Balsam, which has been reported to RBC
- c. PM asked about the council readiness plans for fires in the moors. CWC volunteered to check. AR advised Oldham Council have issued a Public Protection Order on Saddleworth Moor with a £100 on the spot fine for anyone lighting a fire, BBQ, etc.

**ACTION:** CWC to ask if RBC about plans for tackling moorland fires

## **13. AOB:**

- Denise Madgin mentioned there had been a report of a dead cat on the moor that had been tortured and shot and that there are concerns with antisocial behaviour on the moor. AR suggested reports should be to the police using 101 and GMP web chat, as mentioned previously. AR also suggested people should attend the Area Forum and police surgeries to advise concerns. The area forum is a more frequent meeting than the neighbourhood forum and the Police usually are in attendance.
- We agreed that the forum would use some of its surplus funds for the planting of flowers in the area.

## **14. Next Meeting**

- TBC – AR advised the next meeting will be in the New Year.  
Updates will be posted on the RMNF web and social media sites and (or) sent by email
- **Resolution: To receive the minutes of the 2019 AGM**
- **Proposed by: Andy Meek**
- **Seconded by: Phil Massey**
- **Agree / Disagree – Proxy Vote Count**

## Agenda Item 3

### Rooley Moor Neighbourhood Accounts

Year End: 31-Aug-20

Reconciliation of Accounts 2019/20 To Bank Statement			
	Paypal	Co-Op	Total
Opening Balance 01/09/19	50	2,938	2,988
Receipts Reported	0	8,870	8,870
Expenditure Reported	0	(154)	(154)
<b>Closing Balance 31/8/20 Reported</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>11,654</b>	<b>11,704</b>
Balance at Bank 31/8/20	50	11,654	11,704
Check	0	0	0

	2019/20 Restricted	2019/20 Restricted	2019/20 Restricted	2019/20 Restricted	2019/20 Restricted	2019/20	2019/20
	PCC	DQAG	Asda	HLF 17	TSJNF	Unrestricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Opening Balance B/F from Summary 2018-19	32	1,382	176	368	0	1,031	2,988
<b>INCOME</b>							0
Gift Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grants	0	0	0	0	8,670	0	8,670
Projects	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Donations In	0	0	0	0	0	200	200
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,670</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>8,870</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>							0
Consultant Costs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Training	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Room Hire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Website	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Insurance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Donations Out	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Printing & Stationery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Projects	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
In Bloom	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Misc Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	(154)	(154)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(154)</b>	<b>(154)</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>1,382</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>8,670</b>	<b>1,077</b>	<b>11,704</b>

**Notes** – The £8,670 above is reserved for the Thornham St John's Neighbourhood Forum; at the date of the AGM, all costs are accounted for. It is proposed to maintain our annual reserves policy at £400 to cover insurance (estimated at £200) and miscellaneous costs, e.g. printing, hire of meeting rooms, etc. There are no Gift Aid donations to be claimed.

- **Resolution: To approve the 2019/20 accounts and reserves policy**
- **Proposed by: Fran Healey**
- **Seconded by: Wendy Cocks**
- **Agree / Disagree – Proxy Vote Count**

# **Agenda Item 4**

## **Legal & Administrative Information**

### **Status**

Our organisation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Charity Commission Registered Number 1165601

### **Structure**

David Olusoga - Honorary President

Cecile Biant – Honorary Vice President Trustee (Appointed 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019)

Andy Meek – Trustee & Chair

John Newcombe – Trustee & Treasurer

Alan Rawsterne - Trustee & Secretary

Frances Healey – Trustee

Morley Morgan - Trustee

Councillor Wendy Cocks – Trustee

Philip Massey – Trustee

Steve Davison – Trustee (Resigned 15<sup>th</sup> July 2020)

Nigel Morrell – Trustee (Appointed 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019)

### **Registered Office**

Owd House

Fern Hill Lane

Rochdale OL12 6BW

### **Bankers**

The Co-operative Bank

P.O. Box 250

Delf House

Southway

Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

### **Independent Examiner**

Last year we asked the Treasurer of the Friend of Rochdale Town Hall (FoRTH) to verify and sign off our accounts.

## **Agenda Item 5**

### **To approve the Reports from Trustees and Officers of the Forum**

#### **Structure, Governance and Management**

Trustees manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO. In exercising their powers and duties, charity trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission.

It is the duty of each trustee:

- a) To exercise his or her powers and to perform his or her functions as a trustee of the CIO in the way he or she decides in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO; and
- b) To exercise, in the performance of those functions, such care and skill as is reasonable in the circumstances having regard in particular to:
  - i. any special knowledge or experience that he or she has or holds himself or herself out as having; and
  - ii. if he or she acts as a charity trustee of the CIO in the course of a business or profession, to any special knowledge or experience that it is reasonable to expect of a person acting in the course of that kind of business or profession.

Members of the CIO have no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities.

There are no paid employees of the CIO and the value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into financial reporting.

Including trustees and officers there are currently 40 members of the CIO with voting rights. This remains at the same level as last year.

#### **Recruitment & Appointment of Trustees**

At every subsequent annual general meeting of the members of the CIO, one-third of the charity trustees shall retire from office. If the number of charity trustees is not three, or a multiple of three, then the number nearest to one-third shall retire from office, but if there is only one charity trustee, he or she shall retire.

Any vacancies so arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the annual general meeting and the members or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee, whether in place of a charity trustee who has retired or been removed, or as an additional charity trustee, provided that the limit of 12 charity trustees is not exceeded.

This year Cecile Biant, who resigned as trustee in 2019, accepted an invitation from the Trustees, which had the unanimous approval of forum members at the 2019 AGM, to be the Honorary Vice President of the forum.

Steve Davison resigned his position as trustees in July this year, although he does remain as a member of the forum.

Frances Healy is standing down as trustees and wishes to be considered for re-election.

#### **Forum Objects**

The CIO is established for the public benefit without distinction of ability, sex, sexual orientation, race or political, religious or other opinions for the following purposes in the area of benefit known as Rooley Moor, which shall hereinafter be referred to as the Neighbourhood

The objects of the CIO are:

1. To promote high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the area of benefit.

2. To educate the public in the geography, history, natural history, culture and architecture of the area of benefit.
3. To secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features or areas of historic or public interest in the area of benefit.

In furtherance of the above objects but not otherwise the trustees shall have the power to establish a neighbourhood forum for the area of benefit to promote and or improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area.

#### **Accounting Policy, Income & Funds Structure**

Income arises from restricted funds (grants), unrestricted donations and recovered Gift Aid.

Expenditure is recognised when an invoice is received, or payment made.

There are no tangible fixed assets.

The Reserves Policy of Rooley Moor Neighbourhood Forum CIO is to hold reserves from unrestricted funds to cover our known annual liabilities (such as insurance, hire of meeting rooms, website costs, etc.). £400 has been proposed to cover these costs. The reserves policy will be reviewed at each AGM.

#### **Achievements & Performance**

Covid-19 has had an effect on 2019/20 but compared to other charities the impact of the pandemic on RMNF has been minimal. Since March 2020 we've not been dormant, but we have had to find different ways to deliver our charitable objectives. The trustees took the decision to allow advertising on our social media sites. We usually ask organisations and the public not to advertise, but given the situation brought about by the Covid-19 crisis the forum trustees are happy to allow content that helps people stay safe. We have also made our heritage trail leaflets freely available throughout the borough so people can take exercise and enjoy the wide open spaces of the surrounding moorland.

**September 2019.** Rossendale Local Plan, the Examination Hearing started on 24th September and representations concerning Matter 16 – Environment [Policies ENV1 – ENV10] were made by members of RMNF and the following items were noted by the inspector for further consideration:

- Identification and inclusion of historic landscape
- De-commissioning of wind turbines
- Visual effect and efficiency of wind turbine clusters
- Introduction and use of native trees, plants and shrubs

**November 2019.** We held our AGM and were delighted to welcome Nigel Morrell as trustees of our forum. The forum trustees recommended, and all present agreed not to submit our Neighbourhood Plan for external examination. The report produced in October 2018 by The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) was an influencing factor as was the response from some residents who had clearly not understood the function of the forum or the plan. It appears purposeful misinformation about the forum and the plan has been given, unfortunately no one approached the forum directly to address their concerns. Recent events with the Rossendale development at Spring Mill seem to re-enforce the issues raised by the NALC.

**December 2019.** The trustees had an informal get together at Healey Dell Tea Rooms, where we wished Cecil Biant well in her retirement and thanked her for her contribution to the forum and accepting the position of Honorary Vice President. We decided not to produce another RMNF calendar, previous years only just broke even with sales against cost and another calendar ran the risk of making a negative contribution to forum funds. Catley Carols was cancelled due to adverse weather.

**March 2019.** The Covid-19 crisis had us go into lockdown.

### **Other Issues**

**Spring Mill development.** Rossendale planning application ref: 2018/0318 from developer, Gleeson, to construct 119 dwellings on land at Spring Mill, Whitworth has been approved despite many objections. The RMNF request to be a consultee to this development has largely been ignored, as was the request for the planning authority and the developer to consider our draft neighbourhood plan. The forum and members of the Prickshaw & Broadly Fold Conservation Area are now liaising directly with the developer in an attempt to ensure this development isn't a blight on the conservation area or Healey Dell Nature Reserve. The headline topics under discussion are as stated below:

1. Consultation - initial and ongoing
2. Site:
  - a. Perimeter, access and ASB issues
  - b. Security, immediate and ongoing
3. Clearance and Contamination - remedial work, disposal of material
4. New bridleway and protection of MTL
5. Visual impact - property facing materials and screening
6. Green compensation for loss of wildlife habitat, and
7. S106 monies

**Prickshaw village streetlights.** Dialogue continues with Rochdale Council. However, this is a complex issue and we are awaiting a recommendation from the council.

**Off road motorbikes** and other vehicle accessing the moor continues to cause concern for residents, Commoners who exercise their grazing rights and landowners. We continue to liaise with the Police, The West Pennine Commoners Association, landowners, business with facilities placed on the moors, Councillors and our Members of Parliament to see if effective remedies can be found to protect the moor, its wildlife and upland farming, which are all currently at risk. Our forum is currently seeking grants to help with the implementation of mitigation measures.

**Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF).** The proposed timetable would see all 10 councils review the plan before it goes out for eight weeks of public scrutiny from early November 2020.

**Fly tipping.** Our thanks go to Rochdale Borough Council and the Environmental Services team for their prompt response to the many reports they receive about fly tipping in the area. It's pleasing to report that the number of incidents has gone down since the re-introduction of the gate on Rooley Moor Road near the junction with Knacks Lane.

**Catley Lane Head - Footpath from Fair View to 780 Rooley Moor Road.** The Council approved a scheme of works for the footway and advised they were unable to reuse the existing damaged stone kerbs; however special conservation kerbs were used. Unfortunately, the footway surface remained a like-for-like bituminous replacement.

### **We continue to support other neighbourhood forums**

- Knowle Dorridge Bentley Heath Forum asked for help with their application to achieve charitable status.
- Thornham St John's Neighbourhood Forum has been awarded a grant to pursue their neighbourhood plan. Currently their forum does not have a bank account and they have asked our forum to act as banker. We have a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) in place to deal with financial transactions on their behalf and we currently hold £8,670 for them in a restricted fund.

**Public liability insurance (PLI).** The trustees decided to protect forum funds during the pandemic by taking an insurance holiday whilst no activities are allowed due to Covid-19 restrictions. This is under review and PLI will be reinstated as soon as forum activities commence.

**Health & Safety.** Risk assessments were in place for all activities and there are no issues to report.

**Trustee Training.** There has been none this year.

**Grants & Funding.** The trustees have agreed to fund the repair of the Prickshaw & Broadley Fold sign that has been vandalised for a second time. The anticipated cost is approximately £100.

Thornham St John's Neighbourhood Forum - we currently hold £8,670 for them in a restricted fund.

Co-Operative Heritage Trust paid £200 in acknowledgment of project support provided by our forum.

### **Would you like to get involved**

Please contact the forum secretary (email: [info@RMNF.org.uk](mailto:info@RMNF.org.uk)) if you'd like to get involved in any of the following.

**Virtual Reality.** We'd like to explore the possibility of creating two virtual tours - one for the munition's factory and the other for the Cotton Famine Road. Thinking about the munition's factory, the basic idea would be to have an application that would run on a mobile phone to give a high level view of the activity that took place on site and in each building - people, working conditions, transport, process, etc. The virtual tour should also be able to be used in an exhibition, using headsets and audio.

The same principles would apply for the virtual reality tour of the Cotton Famine Road – potentially allowing a virtual walk up the moor to explore the history of the road, to see its construction, the people, the working conditions, etc.

**South Pennines Wildfire Heritage Group.** We've established contact with Pennine Prospects and have indicated our interest in getting involved in a project that will assess the impact that moorland fires have had on known and previously unknown heritage assets.

**Heritage Open Day's (HOD's).** Having made a successful contribution to the 2019 HOD's we would like to explore how we can involve the area in future events.

**Moorland Restoration.** Given the importance of peat as a carbon store we would like to understand how our area could develop this natural asset to contribute to the boroughs carbon neutral initiatives.

- **Resolution: To approve the reports from trustees and officers of the forum**
- **Proposed by: Wendy Cocks**
- **Seconded by: Nigel Morrell**
- **Agree / Disagree – Proxy Vote Count:**

# **Agenda Item 6**

## **Trustee & Officer Rotation, Resignations and Appointments**

The following people are standing down from their positions:

- Steve Davison – Trustee (Resigned 15th July 2020)
- Frances Healey - Trustee

The following person is standing for election:

- Frances Healey – Trustee
- **Resolution: To appoint Fran Healey as a trustee of the forum**
- **Proposed by: Nigel Morrell**
- **Seconded by: Phil Massey**
- **Agree / Disagree – Proxy Vote Count:**

### **Forum Officers:**

- Andy Meek – Trustee & Chair
- John Newcombe – Trustee & Treasurer
- Alan Rawsterne – Trustee & Secretary
- **Resolution: Andy Meek to continue as Chair, John Newcombe to continue as Treasurer and Alan Rawsterne to continue as Secretary**
- **Proposed to accept: Phil Massey**
- **Seconded by: Fran Healey**
- **Agree / Disagree – Proxy Vote Count:**

### **Honorary President**

David Olusoga has come to the end of his three year term and the trustees would like to invite David to continue as our honorary president for another three year term.

- **Resolution: Invite David Olusoga to continue as our Honorary President for another three year term**
- **Proposed by: Alan Rawsterne**
- **Seconded by: John Newcombe**
- **Agree / Disagree – Proxy Vote Count:**

**Note:** We have a limit of 12 charity trustees, therefore 5 vacancies. Please contact the Secretary if you:

- Wish to become a trustee
- Want to propose a trustee for election
- Want to stand for the position of Vice Chair, or
- Wish to propose a Vice Chair for election

## **Agenda Item 7**

### **Neighbourhood Area Designation**

The designation with Rochdale Council of our neighbourhood area ends after five years. Our designation ends this year and the trustees recommend we re-designate the area for a further five years.

- **Resolution: To seek re-designation of the neighbourhood area for a further 5 years**
- **Proposed by: John Newcombe**
- **Seconded by: Alan Rawsterne**
- **Agree / Disagree – Proxy Vote Count:**

## **Agenda Item 9**

### **Date & Time of Next Meeting**

To be confirmed

- Regular updates will be issued through the website and by email