

# RMNF AGM

## Zoom Meeting

### Minutes

**Meeting Date & Time:** Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 7pm

**Location:** Zoom.

**Attendees:** Andy Meek (Chair), Nigel Morrell, Jim Murphy, Morley Morgan, Stuart Davies, Frances Healey, Wendy Cocks, Andy Whitham, Maxine Jaeger, Irene Pope, Lesley Tierney, John Newcombe, Stuart Mendelsohn and Alan Rawsterne

**Apologies:** Chris Peat, Nicky Marr and Elain Marsden

### Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Conflicts of interest and conflicts of loyalty
- To approve the Minutes of the Annual General meeting of 2020
- To adopt the Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021, and
  - To agree our reserves policy
- Legal & Administrative Information
- To approve the Reports from Trustees and Officers of the Forum
- Trustee & Officer Rotation, Resignations and Appointments
- AOB
- Date & Time of Next Meeting

## Circumstances of the AGM

Due to Coronavirus restrictions the Government had given flexibility in the method used to conduct a Charitable Incorporated Organisation AGM. The Trustees decided to conduct the AGM by proxy, the AGM agenda and reports pack was published on our website, with additional reach being given through our social media platforms on Facebook and Twitter. Voting members of the forum were each sent an email that contained the AGM agenda and reports pack, a postal ballot form and a link to an online ballot that could be completed through Smart Survey. The results of the ballot were broadcast using Zoom video conferencing and each item on the agenda was commented upon. The results of the ballot were compiled the Secretary Alan Rawsterne and Andy Meek was the Chair for the duration of the meeting.

## The meeting commenced at 1900

### Introductions, apologies and opening comments

Andy welcomed all and asked if there were any conflicts of interest. Nigel Morrell noted he had interests in other organisations and advised there was no conflict of interest

Andy asked if everyone present had read the AGM - Agenda and Reports Pack; everyone indicated they were happy with the content and there were no comments.

Andy remarked on how strange the year had been and even though it again felt that forum had not done very much, it was clear from the reports from the Trustees and Officers had a lot going on.

Andy asked Alan to explain members voting rights. Alan advised money laundering rules require members with voting rights to have some personal details recorded with our bank, this is because those members can influence how the forum spends its money. Forum members who are only registered on our website have no voting rights but can contribute to debates.

Alan went on to explained that voting for his years AGM is the same as last year with voting members invited to vote by proxy in advance of the meeting with the chair having casting vote.

### Resolution results

Only 4 members cast their vote by proxy, all of whom agreed with each resolution. The chair was then able to exercise the casting vote on behalf of all the voting members and agree with each of the following resolutions

**Results:** The proposer and the seconder for each resolution was published in the AGM agenda and reports pack.

Resolution	Agree	Disagree	Refrain
To receive the minutes of the 2020 AGM	100%	0	0
To approve the 2020/21 accounts and reserves policy	100%	0	0
To approve the reports from trustees and officers of the forum	100%	0	0
To appoint John Newcombe as a trustee of the forum	100%	0	2
Andy Meek to continue as Chair, John Newcombe to continue as Treasurer and Alan Rawsterne to continue as Secretary	100%	0	4

## **Accounts sign off**

Morley asked are we in black or red? Alan explained there was £5k in bank at time of accounts, of which £3k is allocated to pay for the gate on Prickshaw Lane. An additional £1k has been donated by UU since the accounts were published. The overall position is good but quite a lot of money has restricted use. There is approx. £0.5k unrestricted.

## **Legal & Administrative Information**

All agreed. Alan confirmed on behalf of our Treasurer that the 2020/21 RMNF accounts have been examined and sign off by the Treasurer of the Friend of Rochdale Town Hall (FoRTH). Alan advised he can now do Charities Commission returns etc.

## **Trustee & Officer Rotation**

Wendy and Phil stepping down Andy thanked them for their contributions and help over the years.

John advised he was happy to re stand as Treasurer, but noted the need to consider new people / roles going forward to be ready for anything onerous that might be coming

The total number of Trustees is currently 5 and we have a provision for 12

- Morley said he was happy to stand as a Trustee if helpful for a year and will step down if anyone steps up.
- StuartD advised he was willing to stand as a Trustee

The shortage of young people and male outweighing female Trustees was noted

- Will consider an advert /shout out for new Trustees

All changes and retainment's were proposed, seconded and approved

- StuartD to go through official process with Alan offline (Charity Commission registration etc.)
- StuartD welcomed and Morley welcomed back
- Wendy advised she is happy to support remotely

## **AOB**

- Condolences to Cecile (currently self-isolating) – flowers to be sent (hat to go round on morning walk!) – personal not forum funds – action Alan
- Morley offered thanks to officers and particularly to Alan for tireless work – supported by all
- Turner Brother Asbestos – Nigel keen for people to be aware it's likely to move to something happening on site.

Stuart Mendelsohn joined the meeting at this point

## **Turner Brother Asbestos continued:**

- Nigel highlighting the risk associated with the site (incl airborne contamination). Encouraged people to contribute to debate. Need for transparency from all parties (unlike has been to date).
- Jim noted repair works on Dell Road and some soil scraping pictures seen on social media.
- Maxine supported concerns over H&S aspects (noted previous work connections with impact of TBA) – would love someone to do something with site but it has to be fully transparent – what, when, where, how, why.

- Wendy noted Nicola Rogers, the Public Protection Officer, is the person to go to with queries and reminded all that the council does not have control, but Nicola would be good ally should help be needed later.
- Need to watch out for planning applications / consultations.
- RMNF not automatically consultees on TBA – could put selves forward as asking to be a consultee – ACTION
- Nigel – Noted for Lesley and Irene that they should be aware of process – trail around edge of site and rights of way which would impact equestrian members. Interconnectivity of rights of way critical and many links being broken and existing rights of way falling into neglect.

### **AOB Continued**

- Tony Lloyd to visit the Munitions Factory this Friday – can something be done with it as community or historical asset. Mid Pennine Arts also interested (meeting next week with a PHD student) – leftover funding from Spodden Valley Revealed (signage etc – ecological museum ideas (links with PHD student)).
- Morley asked Alan to ask Tony Lloyd to look at providing a bus service to the cattle grid again (he had said he would look at it). Alan noted Tony has written to Andy Burnham but will reiterate. Nigel asked Morley to send note around about bus route and Nigel may be able to help via another route – Alan to document proposal.
- Alan and StuartD met with Andrew Underdown (contact via Wendy). Andrew is experienced in moorland restoration projects after working on Marsden Moor for 10 years. Our walk around Scout Moor and windfarm was an eye opener. Andrew identified opportunities to do some moorland restoration work. There might be a potential to link to the Moorland Restoration Fund for windfarm. StuartD and Alan felt it was encouraging there was opportunities for good work. Not yet clear how to take it forward.
- Rooley Moor Road survey – any feedback. Currently none, waiting for Rachel Massey. ACTION follow up
- South Pennines Park – Pennine Prospects have rebranded to that. RMNF engaged with the consultation and the Cotton Famine Road is noted in their draft strategy document as an area of importance. Watch and monitor. Nigel noted disappointment in lack of engagement from strategic planning at Rochdale Council. Noting with Wendy.
- Wendy noted local plan due for revision this year – suggested forum gets involved in that soon.
- Redesignation – likely to be January (townships)

### **Date & Time of next Meeting**

To Be Advised

Andy thanked all for participation.

## **The meeting closed at 1940**

### **Items for future discussion**

Christmas get together using Zoom – To be discussed

Open Spaces Society – Trustees agreed not to renew membership

## Actions

We agreed the following actions:

<b>What</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>When</b>
Organise flowers for Cecile	AlanR	ASAP
Contact StuartD with Trustee paperwork and	AlanR	End Nov
Update Charities Commission site with accounts and trustee details	AlanR	End Dec
Advertise for new Trustees	All	TBA
RMNF / Turner Brother Asbestos consultee	AlanR / Nigel	TBA
Document Catley Lane Head bus requirement and share with Tony Lloyd	AlanR	See Appendix A below – Pending meeting with Tony Lloyd
Scout Moor Wind Farm Morland Restoration	AlanR / StuartD	Consider how best to take this forward - TBA
Rooley Moor Road traffic survey – ask for survey results	AlanR	Pending response from Cllr Rachel Massey
Rochdale Local Plan – seek forum involvement	All	TBA
Forum redesignation	All	Pending January 2022 township meeting - TBA

## Appendix A

### Catley Lane Head Requires a Bus Service

Catley Lane Head village used to have a bus service. A bus turning circle was installed (see photo below), which is currently only used by the school bus service.



When the Rochdale to Catley Lane Head bus service was removed we suggested the 467 bus service was extended by a less than a mile (1.2Km) to include Catley Lane Head. This would have taken in an additional 4 stops into Catley Lane Head and an additional 5 stops on the route back to the current terminus at Daniel Fold.

Adding an additional 2.4 Km and 9 existing stops to the 467 route would provide a bus service for an aging population in the Catley Lane Head, Fern Hill, Elmpark and Stonehill areas. Importantly, this would make Rochdale, Bury and Fairfield Hospital more accessible to these residents.

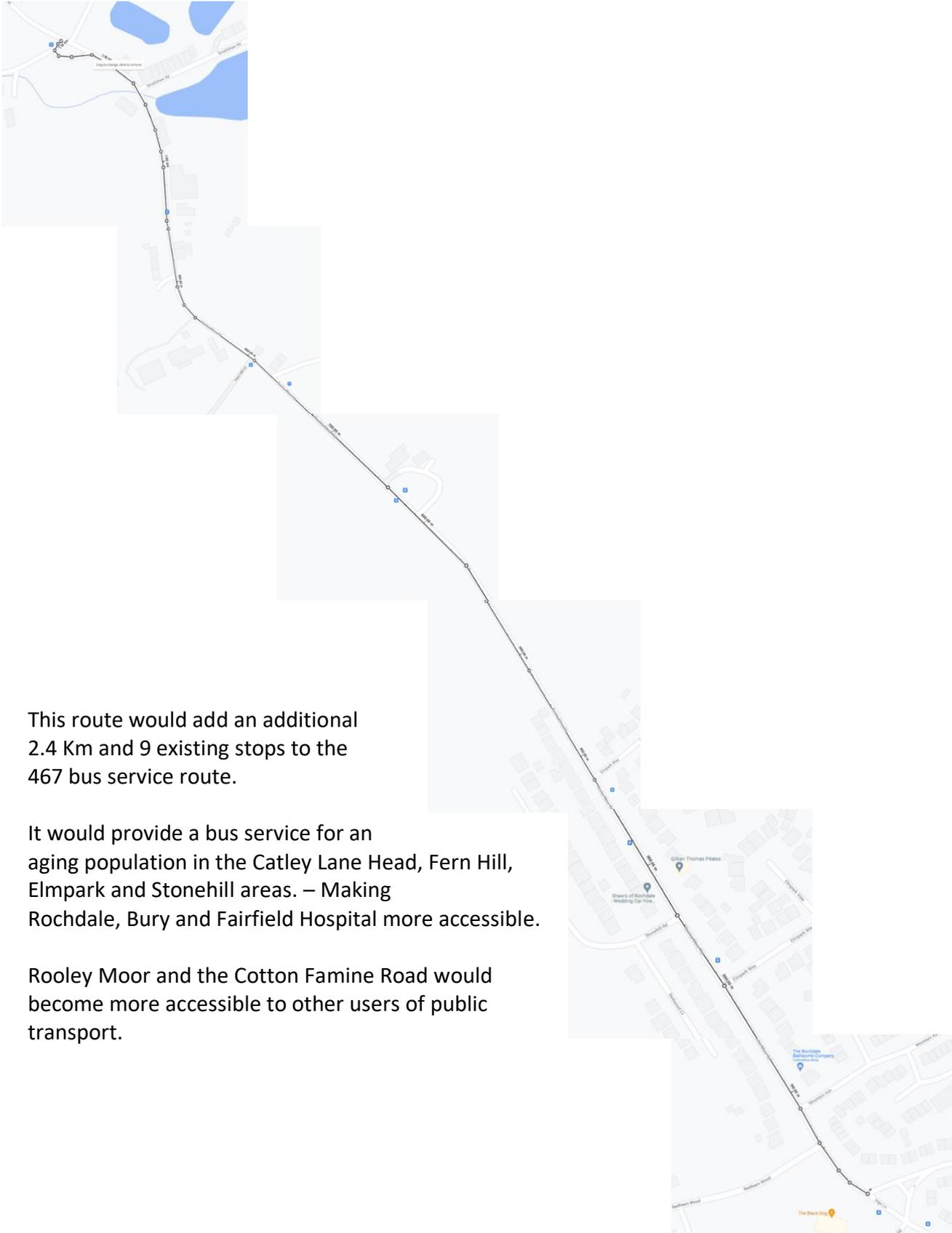
Rooley Moor and the Cotton Famine Road would become more accessible to other users of public transport.

Please see the details below.

## Current bus: 467 - Rochdale - Spotland - Caldershaw - Bamford - Jericho – Bury



## Suggested additional route to Catley Lane Head for the 467 bus service (please zoom in to see the detail)



This route would add an additional 2.4 Km and 9 existing stops to the 467 bus service route.

It would provide a bus service for an aging population in the Catley Lane Head, Fern Hill, Elmpark and Stonehill areas. – Making Rochdale, Bury and Fairfield Hospital more accessible.

Rooley Moor and the Cotton Famine Road would become more accessible to other users of public transport.