

**SURREY HILLS BOARD
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON 12th SEPTEMBER 2018**

AT WARREN FARM BARNS

CORE MEMBERS

*Cllr David Wright	Guildford Borough Council
*Cllr Mike Band	Waverley Borough Council
*Cllr Lindsey Dunbar	Tandridge District Council
*Cllr John Stephenson	Reigate & Banstead BC
*Cllr Claire Malcomson	Mole Valley District Council
*Mike Goodman	Surrey County Council
*Stephanie Fudge	National Trust
*Adam Wallace	Natural England

ADVISORY MEMBERS

*Sandra Nichols	National Farmers Union
*Kristina Kenworthy	CPRE
*Nigel Davenport	Surrey Wildlife Trust
*Tim Bamford	CLA
*Liz Cutter	SSALC
*Chris Howard	Surrey Hills Society
*Gordon Jackson	Surrey Hills Trust Fund
*Wendy Varcoe	Surrey Hills Enterprises CIC

*Members present

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Rob Fairbanks	Surrey Hills AONB Team
Denise Furlonger	Surrey Hills AONB Team
Caroline Price	Surrey Hills AONB Office
Ali Clarke	Surrey Hills Arts
Clive Smith	Surrey Hills AONB Team
Marika Elzinga	Surrey Hills Society
Lisa Creaye-Griffin	Surrey County Council
Ken Bare	Surrey Hills Society

Neil Maltby

		ACTIONS
1	INTRODUCTIONS	
	The Director thanked all Members for attending the AGM and invited round the table introductions.	
2	APOLOGIES	
	Simon Whalley	

3		MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM	
	3.1	The minutes of the last AGM held on 13 th September 2017 were agreed.	
4		MATTERS ARISING	
	4.1	None	
5		ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN	
	5.1	Rob Fairbanks explained the process for nomination of Chairman and Vice-Chairman. He stated that David Wright had put his name forward for the position of Chairman. Mike Goodman proposed David Wright and John Stephenson seconded. The vote was agreed and carried. David Wright took his place as the Chairman.	
	5.2	The Chairman stated that Mike Band had put his name forward for the position of Vice-Chairman. David Wright proposed Mike Band and Lindsey Dunbar seconded. The vote was agreed and carried.	
6		ELECTION OF STATUTORY MEMBERS GROUP	
	6.1	The Chairman stated that the membership of the Statutory Members Group consisted of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, the Surrey County Council Member and 2 other annually elected Members. He stated that Claire Malcomson and Adam Wallace had put their names forward. Mike Goodman proposed Claire Malcomson and Mike Band seconded. The vote was agreed and carried. Mike Band proposed Adam Wallace and John Stephenson seconded. The vote was agreed and carried.	
7		ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE SURREY HILLS PARTNERSHIP	
	7.1	The Chairman stated that we need to review this with the Statutory Members Group. Claire Malcomson said would think about whether she was in a position to put her name forward.	
8		GOVERNANCE REPORT – REVIEW OF AONBs & NPs	
	8.1	The Chairman explained the background and asked Members to send any comments on the letter that had been drafted to Julian Glover. The Chairman said that other AONBs are in a similar position but the Surrey Hills suffers more recreation pressures due to its close proximity to London. Stephanie Fudge said that some National Trust sites have too many visitors and there was a need to mitigate this by working with partners on a landscape scale to spread the load across the Surrey Hills. Adam Wallace said that Natural England is not represented on the Glover Review Panel but if Julian Glover visits the Surrey Hills he would like to be present. Adam added that he thought Surrey is in a good position to be able to demonstrate a strong need for additional resources. Chris Howard said the proximity to London and the resulting visitor and housing pressures should be highlighted to Glover. Adam Wallace stated that National Park Authorities would not want to lose any of their funding but other government funding could be redistributed. The	

	<p>Surrey Hills should be able to demonstrate the need and identify where more investment is needed.</p> <p>Tim Bamford said that not everyone would welcome a change of name to a National Park particularly as it could raise public expectations for further planning restrictions.</p> <p>Claire Malcomson said that the need to supply more houses was a key issue. Her initial judgement was yes to a National Park brand but she would be concerned if it would then prove more difficult for councils to allocate areas for development.</p> <p>Kristina Kenworthy stated that the primary purpose of AONB designation is in protecting the landscape and questioned whether there would be any more protection in being a National Park. Mike Band responded that more people would understand the protected status if the Surrey Hills was called a National Park, but added he would not wish to change planning responsibility which should be kept with the local authority.</p> <p>Chris Howard said that we need to identify a wider strategic view because the Surrey Hills is impacted by the amount of building developments in Sussex and other communities on its doorstep, not just London.</p> <p>The Chairman asked Clive Smith how we quantify the extra traffic generated outside of the county. Clive responded that it is difficult to quantify but it is clear that there are rat runs to avoid busy A roads that do not have the required capacity. He added that Government policy says that AONBs have the same protection as National Parks but public perception is different. Clive stated that some National Parks want more housing allocation so it would be dangerous for Government to impose one policy for all protected landscapes. His advice is that it would be better to take the National Park name only and not take planning responsibility away from local authorities.</p> <p>Claire Malcomson said that the Dorking transport strategy was being worked on and it may have figures about traffic. Claire suggested contacting Mole Valley to tell them what should be in the Local Plan. Clive said he has been informally approached about it by Guy Thomas.</p> <p>Adam Wallace updated on the Boundary Review. All designation work has been put on hold until after Glover report. It is unlikely that anything will happen until after 2019. The Chairman expressed disappointment. Kristina Kenworthy added that AGLV should therefore remain protected in the Local Plans until central Government advises otherwise.</p>	
8.2	<p>Risk Register. Rob Fairbanks reported that the Statutory Members Group had reviewed the Register. Although Defra funding was not identified as red, the Group considered that local authority funding should be shown as red due to the pressure on finances.</p> <p>The timing of local authority elections could create gaps which should be addressed in the review of the Constitution by the Statutory Members Group (SMG). It was also agreed that there should be an opportunity to co-opt members onto the Board.</p>	SMG

	8.3	The Board noted the progress with the review of Risk Register. Rob Fairbanks stated that the full Risk Register was available on request.	
9		FINANCE REPORT	
	9.1	Denise Furlonger presented the report and said that the budget had balanced. The Members thanked Denise for her efficient management of the budget. They also thanked the AONB Team, Defra for their funding and support, The National Trust as landlord at Warren Farm Barns, and Surrey County Council as host authority.	
	9.2	The outturn report for 2017/2018 was approved. The Core estimates for 2019/2020 were agreed. Denise Furlonger will notify the funding partners.	DF
10		ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
	10.1	The Chairman informed that Neil Maltby was attending his final AONB Board meeting after standing down as the Chairman of the Surrey Hills Trust Fund. Neil had acted as the second Chairman of the AONB Board, the first Chairman of the Surrey Hills Society, and the first Chairman of the Surrey Hills Trust Fund. Neil offered thanks to everyone for putting up with him and said that he had enjoyed every moment of it. He gave particular thanks to Chris Howard, Ken Bare, Rob Fairbanks and Clive Smith, and recalled how the idea of a Surrey Hills AONB Partnership all started at small meeting in Clandon in 1998 which had progressed to where we are now. He added how proud he was to have been a part of it. The Members agreed that there was an enormous amount to thank Neil for, and wished him a well deserved retirement.	
11		DATE FOR NEXT AGM MEETING	
	10.1	Wednesday 11 th September 2019.	

The above minutes are a true record of the Surrey Hills Board AGM meeting held on Wednesday 12th September 2018.

Signature of Chairman

Date