

# Flitch Way Action Group



*connecting the Flitch Way*

## FLITCH WAY ACTION GROUP

(Registered charity no 1172012)

### MINUTES OF

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Via Zoom

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021

#### **Present:**

Shaun Pledger, Chair (SP)

Stuart Withington, Vice Chair (SW)

Sandra Lloyd, Treasurer (SL)

Sarah Hodgson, Secretary (SH)

Sandra Reynolds (SR)

David Beedle (DB)

Trudi Hughes, President (TH)

Valdis Belinis (VB)

**Apologies:** None received

#### **Absent:**

Alexander Armstrong (AA)

Tom Deakins (TD)

#### **Guests:**

Alan Trigg, Chair of Friends of the Flitch Way (AT)

Alan Roscoe (ECC Public Rights of Way) (AR)

Julia Wilson, Chair of Essex Bridleways Association

The Chastell Family (Rita, Rob, Paul, Rosa, Alicia)

Councillor Susan Barker (SB)

Councillor Rod Jones (RJ)

Councillor Deryk Eke (DE)

The meeting, chaired by SP opened at 6.35pm. SP welcomed our guests and expressed condolences to Rita and her family on the death of William Chastell our founder and former chair.

VB gave a tribute to William highlighting some of his many impressive achievements: managing the construction of the Globe Theatre and the ITN building, his involvement with the Hertfordshire Wheelers, his epic ascent of Mont Ventoux and creation of the Tye Green Challenge, his kindness and his determination.

The Chastell family left the meeting.

The minutes of the AGM on 24.02.20 were approved.

SW gave a report (attached) of his meeting with ECC on 10.02.21.

SB provided a screen shot of Highways Panel work. Highways Panels will each receive £200,000 in the next financial year. DE has contacted Cllr Simon Walsh re match funding from UDC. SB will follow this up. Dunmow Town Council have commissioned a survey on the B1256.

SL summarised her findings on Redrow's unused s106 money. DE said Redrow would have to agree to the funds being diverted. SL will contact Gordon Glenday to discuss whether a deed of variation can be agreed.

SW's bridge estimate has been sent to ECC. SR pointed out that the supporting structure (abutments) is likely to be costly. The bridge company have suggested using and extending the existing Cherry Garden bridge structures. Progress may depend on Councillors agreeing the bridge is a priority. AR confirmed ongoing maintenance as part of the adopted bridleway over Bishops Stortford College and DTC land would fall to ECC.

SH reminded everyone of the chance to submit comments on the Local Plan.

DE is discussing with Kris Radley a district wide strategy on cycling, walking and horse riding which will include the Flitch Way.

SH emphasised the importance of creating a bridleway to accord with the existing Flitch Way and to ensure we have a route in perpetuity for all vulnerable road users.

RJ highlighted the need for repairs on Byway 57 to regrade the ford and refill areas where flooding has washed out road planings.

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SL gave the treasurer's report: one small spend this year on the website. Barclays Bank have been informed of the change to cheque signatories.

In accordance with the Constitution, the committee resigned and was reappointed.

### AOB

The planning applications for the waste depot on the Winfresh site and for a lorry park at Tilekiln Green /Start Hill present opportunities to request parking for FW visitors, measures to ensure FW users are not put at risk by increased traffic on access roads, a possible reroute of the connection on High Cross Lane East to improve safety of users, cutting back the hedge line to improve visibility on High Cross Lane East, funding to reconnect the Flitch Way through Dunmow to Braintree and from Start Hill to Stortford so that employees can safely walk and cycle to work.

VB will attend Transport East Annual Summit via Zoom on 9<sup>th</sup> March.

The meeting closed at 8. 20 pm.

