



Royal Patron, HRH The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall  
President, Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall, Colonel E T Bolitho OBE  
Chairman, Lt Col Richard Trant

## CORNWALL HERITAGE TRUST

*Trest Ertach Kernow*

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021

Minutes of the 36th Annual General Meeting held via Zoom  
on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021 at 3pm

**Present:** Col Edward Bolitho (President), Lt Col Richard Trant (Chairman), Mrs Clare Jacques, Mrs Alison Davey, Mrs Helen Rawe, Mrs Dawn Hunn, Mr Richard Farrant and Mr Peter Herring.

**In Attendance:** Mrs Cathy Woolcock (Trust CEO), Mr Mark Williams (RRL Accountant), Mrs Alison Bick, Mrs Belinda Body and Mrs Kerry Horner (Minute Secretary)

**Also Present** Mr John Webb, Mr Alan Simkins, Ms Elaine Burgess and Mr Martin Eddy

**Welcome and Apologies:** Col Bolitho welcomed all to the meeting.  
Apologies were received from Mr Alasdair Moore, Mr John Smith, Mr Carl Roberts, Mr George Andrew, Mr Dean Evans and Mrs Kathryn Layte.

#### 1 Minutes of the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

Helen Rawe proposed and Dawn Hunn seconded the minutes of the 35<sup>th</sup> AGM held 19 November 2020 be approved, copies of which were circulated with the agenda; these to be signed as a correct record after amending pg 2, line 4 add 'to' between unable and say. **All Trustees were in favour.** There were no matters arising.

#### 2 Chairman's Report

Lt Col Richard Trant thanked Mrs Clare Jacques for her continued and invaluable support during his first year as the new chairman, and gave a farewell, but not goodbye, and thank you to Mr John Smith and Mr Brian Salmon for their expertise and time given to the Trust; the operations team headed by Mrs Cathy Woolcock were thanked, it has not been easy with lockdowns and remote working.

The highlight during the summer was nearly tripling membership numbers and relaunching the Story Café programme; online and then together. The Chairman thanked those who delivered the Story Cafés and thanked Col Edward Bolitho for his support and deep interest in the Trust giving sage and wise counsel.

## The Cornwall Heritage Trust Ltd

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in England and Wales

Registered Charity no 291607  
Company no 1901905



Trustees were thanked for their efforts and enthusiasm in undertaking the significant strategic review; which was funded by a grant, and provided clarity of thought for transformation of the Trust. By the time the Trust reaches its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary it will be in a very different place.

The President asked how the membership boom was achieved. The Chairman reported it was from posts in social media finding broader audiences to discover opportunities the Trust provides and its access into other properties. Technology will be a key aspect in taking the Trust's journey forward within Cornwall and beyond.

The President asked what outcomes the strategic review brought. The Chairman reported an outside agency was commissioned to review what the Trust delivers and provide clarity to move forward, focus was on memberships; grants; managing the landscape; recognition for the volunteer community; providing a rich picture of what the Trust does; getting the Trust's name known; expanding inclusive events which could be Cornwall-wide or specific for a particular area; making a sustainable Trust; adding to current good works; signposting the heritage influence going forward.

### **3 Statement of Accounts to 31 March 2021**

Mrs Cathy Woolcock reported that the Trust's financial year runs from April to March and that plans and budget were impacted by the pandemic and lockdown. Trustees made the decision to reduce expenditure wherever possible with the view that events and activities would cease. Budgets were cut; however income from investments also decreased due to the falls in the Stock Market, which had further effects on projections. The Trust was fortunate to benefit from a £30,000 emergency cashflow grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund which, along with the Job Retention Scheme and a Business Rates grant from Cornwall Council, relieved some of the pressure in cashflow. Despite this, the difficult decision was made to make one role redundant.

The ten-year management agreement ended with English Heritage and was renegotiated for a further ten years, giving the security of guaranteed annual income. There was an increase in membership income during the summer, which resulted in doubling income compared to expectation. Funding was also received for the re-launch of the Story Café programme from the CCF, as well as a grant from Historic England for much-needed re-fencing at Castle an Dinas and some additional funding from the NLHF which was used to purchase a gazebo for events and to produce three films of sites for use by schools unable to enjoy trips.

Prudent spending and seeking alternative methods of funding for projects such as the Story Cafes and re-fencing recorded a small overspend this year of £28K compared to original budgets pre-pandemic. The CEO thanked colleagues for their determination and adaptability to help with events, keeping in touch with



supporters and making new friends.

At the end of March last year, the pandemic caused the Stock Markets to drop and the portfolio valuations dropped by over £300,000 which led to a reporting loss in last year's annual accounts. Over the last twelve months the portfolios have recovered and are now growing again, which highlighted the need to review reliance on the income from investments, so the Resilience Project was created. Following a successful bid for Culture Recovery Funding, £50,000 was granted towards the Resilience Project, with a Business Development Plan now in place for the next four years and the recruitment of new staff to work towards its challenging aims. The project seeks to ensure the Trust's future financial sustainability and to improve resilience through a review of governance.

The CEO thanked Trustees for their fortitude, during very difficult times; they have given a huge amount of their time which has been used wisely to grow stronger as an organisation and to ensure clarity of strategy.

#### **4 Report of the Accountants**

The accountant's report has been prepared by Robinson Reed Layton (RRL) in accordance with the Financial Reports, Statements and Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of the accounts, and is shown on page 17 of the Annual Report and unaudited Financial Statements.

Mr Mark Williams of RRL reported on the Statement of Financial Activities: total income was up £13K to £159K. Total resources expended were reduced due to additional costs to Treffry viaduct the previous year. Deficit £40K before accounting for investment values in 20/21 increased to £413K on revaluation of investments. Net incoming resources before transfers £373K, fund balances at 2020 £2.3M carry forward to 2021 at £2.692M of which the majority are unrestricted at £2.5M. There were no questions from the floor.

Clare Jacques proposed and Helen Rawe seconded that the annual report and financial statements for year ended 31 March 2021 be accepted. **All Trustees were in favour.**

#### **5 Election of Accountants**

Richard Trant proposed and Clare Jacques seconded that RRL be appointed accountants for 2022/2023. **All Trustees were in favour.** The Chairman thanked Mr Williams for his report.  
MW left at 15.16.

#### **6 Election of Trustees to the Council of Management of the Trust**

Clare Jacques proposed and Dawn Hunn seconded that Mrs Alison Davey, a member of the Council, be re-elected. **All Trustees were in favour.**



Mr John Smith and Mr Brian Salmon have retired this year, the President thanked them for their support and commitment to the Trust. They will both be missed for their wise counsel and expertise.

## 7 **Appointment of Officers to the Council of Management of the Trust**

Richard Farrant proposed and Dawn Hunn seconded the following Trustees be appointed officers of the Trust:

Chairman	Lt Col Richard Trant
Vice Chairman	Mrs Clare Jacques
Vice Chairman	Mrs Alison Davey
Hon Treasurer	Vacancy

**All Trustees were in favour**

## 9 **AOB**

9.1 The Vice Chairman thanked the CEO and team and thanked the Chairman for his first year in office. It is hoped Trustees and Members will be able to meet in person next year.

9.2 Mr John Webb introduced himself from the Canadian Cornish Association (CCA) in Toronto. Mr Webb joined the Trust this year; he has been able to access the Story Cafés and the AGM online. The CCA is getting smaller and it is hoped the move to social media will encourage the younger generations. The President was delighted to welcome Mr Webb to the AGM and passed the Trust's and Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall's best wishes to the CCA.

The Chairman stated it was fantastic to be able to connect virtually around the world; there is a huge diaspora looking at strategies how to engage, the online Story Cafés were a revelation on being able to connect around the world. If there are ways the Trust can help to encourage the next generation in Canada it will; there is an expectation that the Trust will continue with the Cornish push worldwide. Mr Webb stated the CCA has Bolitho connections and their Christmas meeting this year is at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel. The CCA was established in 1743 and reformed by John Tyack, the membership of 60/70 is strong and meets monthly via Zoom. Members are less keen to give presentations and have turned to the Old Cornwall Society speakers with Bert Biscoe joining at their last meeting. The US have a gathering every 2 years bringing state societies together. The CCA has links with the Cornish Archaeological Society and World Heritage Sites. The Trust is involved with Cornish Australia and New Zealand associations and would like to discuss further on how they can progress and become more involved. CW/JW to arrange a meeting.

9.3 Mr Martin Eddy introduced himself from the Australian Cornish Associations who are in contact with the Trust.



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9.4 The Hilary Coleman Story Café with the Red River Singers has been recorded and will be posted on YouTube this afternoon and on the website tomorrow.

9.5 The Queen's Jubilee is being held next year; the Trust are keen to light their beacons in celebration. CW will contact the local parish councils.

9.6 The Community Engagement Officer shared a slide show of events from last year. Some events did not go ahead while others were able to: funding from Cornwall Community Foundation enabled the Story Cafés to be virtual recording Peter Herring on Turf Cutting for Fuel on Bodmin Moor; Merv and Alison Davey on Cornish Scoot Dancing; Kensa Broadhurst on The History of the Cornish Language; Andy Jones on Trethevy Quoit; Peter Channon on the history of the Dynamite Works at Hayle; Christmas Story Café at Kresen Kernow, Sally Burley and Hilary Coleman with the Red River Singers and sponsors; all events were sold out. Walks on Hayle Towans, Castle an Dinas and Sancreed were popular and there are plans to run more; Gorsedh Festival was supported in Bude; the calendar competition had 150 entries; The Christmas Raffle at Krowji Open Studios is open to the public. Next year it is hoped the RCS and annual awards evening will be held alongside all other events and Story Cafés. The Chairman thanked BB for her presentation.

**10 Date and Time of Future Meetings**

Date of the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting 2022 to be advised.

The meeting closed at 15.50pm.

Signed ..... Date .....