

Minutes of 16th Friends of Nickey Line AGM (via Zoom) – 19th May 2022

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| <u>In Attendance (Committee)</u> | |
| Dave Abernethy Geoff Bunce | Apologies: |
| Roger Thornhill James Johnson | Ian Caldwell |
| Mike Platt Karen Summers | |

9 Friends also attended

1. Chairman's Report

The Chairman, Dave Abernethy, summarised his report (see attached). It contains a discussion about resurfacing about which a few questions to raised during the Discussion and Feedback (see below).

2. Financial Report

The Treasurer, Mike Platt, summarised the Financial Report for the period from 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 (see attached). It shows that as at 31st March FoNL had cash reserves of £5,033.16, slightly less than last year's £5,044.67. £2,000 of this has been donated by County Councillors specifically for contributing towards surfacing improvements which are discussed in the Chairman's report. MP advised that our bank (HSBC) is now charging FoNL £5 per quarter plus 40p per transaction (previously no charges). The transaction charge does not apply to internet banking, for which FoNL have recently registered. As from 1st April 2022 the one-off FoNL membership registration was increased to £10 (from the £5 that it had been since 2006).

The Treasurer advised that due to Covid restrictions he has not yet been able to meet with our independent financial examiner to have these ratified, but he will do as soon as he is able to.

A motion to accept the Accounts was proposed, seconded and unanimously accepted. A motion to re-appoint Mike Aldridge as FoNL's independent financial examiner was proposed, seconded and unanimously accepted.

3. Committee Members Resigning / Standing for Election

As mentioned in the Chairman's Report, Brian Deegan and Councillor Sammy Barry have withdrawn from the committee; Annette Cotter has also withdrawn. The Chairman thanked them for their contributions during their tenure.

Two resigning and re-standing committee members needed to be confirmed at this AGM. A motion to elect the two re-standing members, Roger Thornhill and James Johnson, was proposed, seconded and unanimously accepted.

4. Events and Line Management Report

This report is item 4 of the Chairman's Report and was summarised by Committee Member Roger Thornhill. In the past year 30 volunteers contributed 540+ hours, a record in terms of the numbers volunteering and hours contributed. He thanked the volunteers for their magnificent contribution throughout the year and confirmed that a thank you event for them will be held in September.

5. Discussion and Feedback

Following the reports and voting on motions, the Chairman invited comments and questions from the attendees.

A few questions were asked about resurfacing and related issues

1. Have traffic calming measures been considered / suggested to reduce speeding cyclists ? – Yes, FoNL have suggested, but so far none have been taken up.
2. The Alban Way has lots of tarmac, does FoNL know if they have problems with speeding cyclists ? – No, FoNL do not have any information about this. Committee members Roger Thornhill and James Johnson commented that from their experience the Alban Way probably has more commuting cyclists and less dog walkers than the Nickey Line.
3. Does tarmac equal urbanisation ? – to a certain extent most of the Nickey Line is already partially urbanised by the presence of signage and litter bins, however FoNL are certainly not keen on the Nickey Line having any street lighting.
4. Does lighting provide security ? – not necessarily true as lighting may enable crime as well as deter it.
5. What type of surface do runners prefer ? – A member representing Arrows Running Club said that she would ask the club members what they think.

FoNL Chairman said that the committee realise that we need to have a clearer picture of our members' views and we are currently considering a couple of survey options to do this.

6. Can FoNL get SADC to remove graffiti from structures ? – FoNL have previously asked with limited success. Agreed that a simple notification / quick response system is desirable – FoNL will suggest to SADC.

6. AGM 2023

The 2023 AGM will be held in May. The FoNL committee's preference is that this will be an 'in person' meeting at a suitable location.