

**Minutes of the sixty-ninth meeting of the Board of Trustees of
the Open Spaces Society held at 18.00 on Thursday 14 April 2022
by videoconference**

PRESENT	Phil Wadey (chairman) Graham Bathe (vice-chairman) Stuart Bain Chris Beney John Hall Simon Hunt Tara-Jane Sutcliffe Steve Warr (treasurer)
IN ATTENDANCE	Kate Ashbrook (general secretary)

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

43/22 There were no interests to declare.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

44/22 It was noted with regret that the supreme court had refused permission to appeal in the Rollright footpath case.

45/22 It was noted with pleasure that the supreme court had refused permission for Blackbushe Airports Ltd to appeal in the case concerning the definition of curtilage in relation to Yateley Common. We had intervened in support of the defendant, Hampshire County Council.

46/22 It was noted that the general secretary had stepped down as a trustee of the Ramblers after 40 years continuous service (excluding four years as president). She remained a vice-president.

MINUTES OF MEETING ON 17 MARCH 2022

47/22 The minutes of the meeting on 17 March were approved, and it was agreed to publish them on the website.

MINUTES OF MEETING ON 7 APRIL 2022

48/22 The minutes of the meeting by email regarding legal action were approved.

MINUTES OF LEGAL COMMITTEE ON 3 APRIL 2022

49/22 The minutes regarding legal action were noted.

MINUTES OF LEGAL COMMITTEE ON 11 APRIL 2022

50/22 The minutes of the meeting regarding counsel's opinion were noted.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Draft minutes of finance committee on 12 April 2022

51/22 The treasurer presented the draft minutes of the finance committee. The committee had reviewed the accounts and agreed with the small adjustments which the treasurer had explained.

52/22 Chris Beney queried the cost of the independent examiner as being rather high. The treasurer said that the finance committee intended to undertake a review of our independent examiners during 2023.

Draft accounts for 2021

53/22 The trustees approved the accounts for 2021 and authorised Phil Wadey and Steve Warr to sign them on their behalf.

Letter of representation from Villars Hayward

The trustees agreed that Steve Warr would, on their behalf, sign the letter of representation to the independent examiner.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021

55/22 The trustees approved the annual report for publication.

AGM 2022

56/22 The following was agreed.

- (a) The AGM would start at 11am, with lunch at the end, and afternoon entertainment made up of a presentation from staff, and members giving short talks on their activities.
- (b) Members would be invited to send in questions ahead, and we would also take questions on the day.
- (c) All voting for standard AGM business items would be done ahead of the meeting. Any non-binding votes could be taken on the day.
- (d) The vice-presidents (David (Lord) Clark, Mike Clarke, Roger de Freitas, and Richard Mabey) would be proposed by Simon Hunt and seconded by John Hall.

LOCAL CORRESPONDENT APPOINTMENT

57/22 The trustees agreed to appoint Denise Metcalfe as local correspondent for the former district of Alnwick in Northumberland, for one year in the first instance.

REVIEW OF MEETING

58/22 The trustees were content with the meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 19 May 2022 at 6pm

The meeting ended at 18.45.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Phil Wadey". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal dotted line.

Phil Wadey
Chair of Trustees