

**Minutes of the seventy-second meeting of the Board of Trustees of
the Open Spaces Society held at 18.00 on Thursday 11 August 2022
by videoconference**

PRESENT Phil Wadey (chairman)
Graham Bathe (vice-chairman)
Stuart Bain
Chris Beney
John Hall
Simon Hunt
Tara-Jane Sutcliffe

IN ATTENDANCE Kate Ashbrook (general secretary)

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

100/22 There were no interests to declare.

MINUTES OF MEETING ON 9 JUNE 2022

101/22 The minutes of the meeting on 9 June were approved, and it was agreed to publish them on the website.

MINUTES OF EMAIL DECISION ON 14 JUNE 2022

102/22 The minutes of the decision by email, to present the Eversley Award to Chris Beney, were approved, and it was agreed to publish them on the website.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 7 JULY 2022

103/22 The trustees noted the draft minutes of the AGM, subject to checking that minute 22/19(4) was correct.

104/22 The trustees congratulated staff on the arrangements, and agreed that the hybrid meeting had proved a success. It was noted that it would be helpful if the camera could pan the audience more frequently so that those online could see who was there and was speaking.

COMMITTEES, SUBCOMMITTEES, AND WORKING PARTIES

General purposes committee

105/22 The trustees approved the terms of reference, with the addition that, as the chairman also chairs the general purposes committee, the vice-chairman will normally report to the board. The membership was agreed as Phil Wadey (chairman), Graham Bathe (vice-chairman), and Stuart Bain (treasurer).

Finance committee

- 106/22 The treasurer said he would like to review with the finance committee the terms of reference, the financial policies and practices, and the investment policy in due course. In the meantime, the trustees approved these. The membership was agreed as Stuart Bain (chairman), Tara-Jane Sutcliffe, and Phil Wadey, with appropriate staff in attendance.

Legal committee

- 107/22 It was agreed that the finance committee would review the financial threshold above which the legal committee must obtain trustee approval. The terms of reference were agreed. The membership was agreed as John Hall, Simon Hunt, and Phil Wadey (chairman). It was noted that the paper on incremental legal costs would come before the trustees shortly.

Covid-19 working party

- 108/22 It was agreed to keep this in existence but that it would not meet unless circumstances required. The membership was agreed as Stuart Bain, Tara-Jane Sutcliffe, and Kate Ashbrook.

Eversley Award working party

- 109/22 Chris Beney said he would like to step down from this. The trustees agreed that the members would be John Hall and Kate Ashbrook.

LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS' EVENT

- 110/22 The trustees noted the report from the local correspondents' event on 12-13 July, held at Hillscourt near Bromsgrove in Worcestershire; those who had attended considered it went well, and the staff were congratulated. It was agreed to consider holding part of the event online in future.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Mileage rates

- 111/22 The trustees noted the minutes of the finance committee meeting on 2 August 2022, and agreed its recommendation to increase the mileage rates from 35p per mile to 45p per mile (the HMRC rate), with effect from 1 July 2022. They also agreed that rates for other vehicles should be in line with HMRC rates and that we peg all our rates to those of HMRC, reviewing the figures when we review the budget each year.
- 112/22 It was also noted that we would gather information to enable us to consider how we might track our carbon footprint.

Shared platforms

- 113/22 The trustees considered the paper prepared by the treasurer and approved by the finance committee. They agreed to the principle of using one or more platforms to manage cash savings more effectively, and to delegate the evaluation of providers and implementation to the treasurer and finance officer.

REPORT OF HAMPSTEAD HEATH CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

- 114/22 Simon Hunt gave an oral update. The committee had met in May and had considered various capital improvements to access.

REVIEW OF MEETING

115/22 The trustees were content with the meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

116/22 The next meeting would be on Thursday 15 September 2022 at 6pm. An agenda item would be dates for meetings in 2023.

The meeting ended at 18.52.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Phil Wadey". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal dotted line.

Phil Wadey
Chair of Trustees