

SURREY TREE WARDEN NETWORK AGM 2022

MINUTES OF THE AGM 15th OCTOBER 2022 SCC OFFICES REIGATE – 14.00

Apologies:

Anne Grant, Trefor Hogg, Stephen Hanks, Gillian Gibbins, Mike Smith, Colin Shearn

Minutes of the previous AGM

These were accepted by the members at the meeting as a true record.

Secretary's Report

Patricia thanked the Surrey tree wardens for their commitment throughout 2022 wherein a wide selection of activities had taken place. Members of the Committee were acknowledged and thanked for their unstinting efforts throughout the year, particular thanks were given to Liz Ramsay for producing the network's newsletters, Sue Henderson Membership Secretary, Dave Pope Treasurer and Rod Thorn Communications Officer.

The year had seen a positive shift in the Network's relationship with SCC and the Surrey Highways team. Of particular note was Robbie Stewart, SCC Highways, for his tireless efforts in helping tree wardens to plant trees wherever a space could be found. Surrey's Senior Woodland Management Officer, Debra Lee, was thanked as she had also been key in improving the relationship and the network was happy to assist her in as many initiatives as possible.

The year saw the first big SCC tree giveaway at libraries throughout Surrey, it was a great success and will be repeated in the Autumn.

TTC continued to provide support and guidance throughout the year, Jon Stokes and Sam Village were thanked for attending many of the committee meetings.

A big new venture was the introduction of on-line and in person training for Surrey tree wardens using the high-quality training materials provided by TTC. Four modules had been completed to date – Tree Warden Induction, Tree Biology, Tree Threats and Tree Law. There are plans to continue the training in 2023.

We currently have over 280 registered Tree Wardens in the Network, with many more Tree Champions. We hope to grow this number further as interest in global warming, plus the benefits of trees and hedgerows continues to grow. 2022 has been exceptionally dry and wardens have struggled to keep newly planted trees watered.

The Linfield Summer Meeting, kindly organised by Anne Richards, was a great success as members enjoyed a guided walk through the Lingfield Nature Reserve. The rangers talked members through their routines and there was an interesting talk on butterfly's.

Sales of the 25 Remarkable World of Trees were nearing the end but new Christmas cards and greeting cards were available to purchase.

There is still a vacancy open for the position of Network Treasurer - any interested parties were invited to step forward as Dave Pope plans to step down in 2023.

Treasurer Report

Dave Pope presented the accounts to the meeting; details available for members at the AGM and to be posted to the website.

These were proposed by Patricia Brookwick, seconded by Rod Thorn and accepted by the members.

Election of Officers and Committee

The current officers and committee were re-elected for a further year.

A.O.B

There was none

To close members were reminded of how important they are in acting as a voice for trees – everyone has a role to play and none of the efforts made were ever wasted.

The meeting closed at 14.20