

**MINUTES OF THE TWELTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
OF THE COLWALL ORCHARD TRUST (known as Colwall Orchard Group)  
HELD AT COLWALL ALE HOUSE, MILL LANE, COLWALL  
AT 19:00 ON WEDNESDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JUNE 2022**

**In attendance:** Lindsay Williams (Chair), Wendy Thompson (Secretary), Deb Turnbull, Pam McCarthy, Andrew Spray, Chris Blake, Laurence Keil, Sue Keil, Rita Harrison, Paul Norman, Peter Key, Janet Parry, Julie Jennings, Bob Levy, Mhari Brown, Clive Killick, Kath Killick, Russell Sutcliffe, Rod Lane, Helen Lane, Jilly Rosser, Tim Porter, Jan Porter, Sue Armstrong, Peter Spargo, Ann Silk, Susan Davies, Jane Unwin, Jenny Papettas, Karen Humphreys.

**The meeting was quorate** with 30 people in attendance.

**Proxy votes** in support of motions were received from 9 members.  
**Apologies** were received from 21 members.

**1. Welcome**

Lindsay Williams as Chair welcomed all to the meeting and the apologies were noted.

**2. Minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> AGM**

**Motion 1** was carried unanimously. The minutes of the AGM held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

**3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

**4. Chairman's report (Lindsay Williams)**

The Chair remarked on another productive year for Colwall Orchard Group and he particularly extended thanks to the COG Trustees who worked hard, often in the background, to make things happen. He thanked retiring Trustees, Andy Ball, Lisanne Llewellyn and Andrew Spray for the huge contributions they have all made. Whilst they were no longer Trustees they continued to undertake many tasks for COG for which he was grateful.

Lindsay also thanked the volunteers who turned out reliably on Friday mornings throughout the year, as well as the volunteers who helped with specific tasks at events, and to make our juice and preserves. He reported that our membership continued to rise and more of our members were taking on responsibility as active volunteers.

He thanked Rod Lane for his support as Chair of the Parish Council and the team at the Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (MHAONB), including Karen who was present as a COG member. He acknowledged the financial contribution from the Farming in Protected Landscapes scheme and the Sustainable Development Fund which were both run in this area by the MHAONB. As well as supporting the purchase of equipment, training for volunteers this had enabled us to continue to run the Traditional Orchards for the Future Initiative to restore orchards in Colwall. He thanked Wendy for thinking up this project and putting a system in place to run it.

*Lindsay Williams*  
15 Sept 2023

Finally, Lindsay recalled a question at the last AGM about what COG was doing for the climate emergency. He is clear that we are doing plenty and that by example we were encouraging others to meet the challenge. He referred to an inspirational book 'Orchard – A year in England's Eden' by Benedict MacDonald and Nicholas Gates which brought alive the wonderful contribution old traditional orchards make to biodiversity.

**5. Election to the Board of Directors**

**Motion 2 was carried unanimously.** Jenny Papettas was elected as a new Trustee.

**Motion 3 was carried unanimously.** Andy Ball, Lisanne Lewellyn and Andrew Spray were thanked for their service as Trustees.

In response to a question under other business, the Chair confirmed that there was a vacancy for a Treasurer.

**6. COT Annual Report**

Wendy Thompson introduced the report which summarised activities between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. 2021 had been a significant ten year anniversary of COG purchasing Colwall Village Garden. A video 'A decade of special moments' had been produced for the event and would be circulated to members in the next Newsletter.

A few highlights from the year included:

- Opening a new Public Right of Way through Lugg's Mill Orchard creating a circular route around the site and connecting across Brookmead to the village;
- Opening meadow walks to the public and to school groups for the first time;
- Hosting h-Art and Apple Day in September and October, after a period with no events due to Covid. Both were well attended and attracted new audiences as well as regular visitors;
- Another year of our Traditional Orchards for the Future Initiative (TOFI) to support the future of orchards in the Colwall area;
- A new business model for running the allotments was implemented;
- Hedge laying, bench making, water improvements and creating more habitats for wildlife;
- Successful fundraising to support our work (as mentioned by the Chair).

We also increased membership, increased volunteer hours and increased production of juice, jam and chutney!

**7. Treasurer's Report (Lindsay Williams on behalf of the Treasurer)**

**Motion 4 was carried unanimously.** The accounts presented were approved for reporting to Companies House and the Charity Commission.

**8. Secretary's Report (Wendy Thompson)**

Wendy Thompson confirmed that the Board had met quarterly during the preceding year. The minutes of each meeting were posted on the COG website. Through Trustee responsibilities and scrutiny, COG governance, data protection, organisational risk and health and safety were managed in line with Charity Law.

She reported that membership had risen to 207 at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

**9. Other business**

The following points were made:

- Bob Levy thanked Lindsay for opening the wildflower meadows on his land;

Colwall Orchard Trust:  
Company Registration number 07495461  
Registered Charity number 1142573

- Kath Killick thanked COG for managing and “bearing with” her sheep. She mentioned a film about the sheep to be out soon;
- Rod Lane reported that the COG Orchard Heritage Trail had been uploaded on to a walking app 'Malvern Walks';
- Karen Humphries, on behalf of the MHAONB thanked COG for being a brilliant group at getting things done;
- Russel Sutcliffe asked whether COG would be seeking a new Treasurer and it was confirmed that this would happen following the AGM. Anyone interested to contact the Secretary.

**10. Chairman's closing remarks**

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and for their support.  
The meeting procedures ended at 20:00.