

## **NORTH WEST ESSEX AND EAST HERTS PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION (NWEehpa)**

### **Minutes of the NWEehpa AGM held 27<sup>th</sup> June 2014 in Silver Jubilee Hall, Takeley**

**Present:** Peter Sanders (Chairman), Brian Ross, Irene Jones, Sarah Cousins, Richard Cheetham, Martin Peachey, John Pryor, Ray Woodcock, Janice McDonald, Ken McDonald, Tricia Barber, Mark W Howard, Jonathan Howarth, Lady Suzanne Walker, Paul Elliot, David Aldridge, Debbie Bryce.

#### **1. Apologies for absence**

Jackie Cheetham, Denise Williams.

#### **2. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising not on the agenda**

The minutes of the previous AGM of June 2013 were approved as an accurate record. There were no matters arising

#### **3. Chairman's Report**

Peter Sanders started his report by welcoming everyone to the meeting and thanking everyone for their continued support. He explained that he would be presenting his report as Chairman of both NWEehpa and SSE.

Peter reminded the meeting that last year's AGM was focusing on the threat yet again of one or more extra runways at Stansted. Thankfully, the Interim Report published by Sir Howard Davies in December 2013, showed Stansted as not being shortlisted. NWEehpa and SSE see this as a major victory, but note with great sympathy those people that live around Heathrow and Gatwick and the Thames estuary who are not "off the hook" just yet. The Airports Commission is in effect saying that a second runway at Stansted should be ruled out for at least another generation.

NWEehpa and SSE cannot afford to relax however. We are still waiting for the Government to respond to its Interim Report and by the time we have our AGM in 2015 the Commission will have published its final report. So 2015 looks to be a very important year.

2015 will also be special since it will be the 50<sup>th</sup> AGM of NWEehpa which was formed in 1964. We are considering how best to mark the anniversary – suggestions would be very welcome.

Peter closed his report by thanking everyone for their continued support.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report and Approval of Accounts.**

Richard Cheetham presented the Accounts for the year ended September 2013. Richard highlighted a heavy reduction in expenditure with the exception of the payment of legal fees for SSE's court hearing concerning Geoff Muirhead. This resulted in a very small net loss for the year but income has remained very constant since 2011. Richard explained that Corporation Tax is now shown on the Accounts since HMRC have requested that NWEehpa pays Corporation tax which we have now done for the tax years 2011/12 and 2012/13.

Richard thanked Denise Williams and Sarah Cousins for their help in putting the Accounts together. Peter Sanders then thanked Richard Cheetham and John Summers for compiling and auditing the Accounts. Both Richard and John are stepping down so we will need to find somebody to prepare and audit the Accounts for 2013/14.

Ray Woodcock proposed acceptance of the Accounts for the year ended September 2013. Ken McDonald seconded the motion. Copy of Accounts can be found on the SSE website at <http://stopstanstedexpansion.com/accounts.html>

## 5. Election of Officers and the Executive Committee

Irene Jones confirmed that Peter Sanders would be willing to stand again as **Chairman**. This was proposed by Richard Cheetham and seconded by Brian Ross and Peter was duly elected.

Peter Sanders confirmed that Irene Jones would be willing to stand again as **vice-Chair**. This was proposed by Brian Ross and seconded by John Pryor and Irene was duly elected.

Peter Sanders confirmed that Denise Williams would be willing to stand again as **Treasurer**. This was proposed by Richard Cheetham and seconded by Sarah Cousins and Denise was duly elected.

Peter Sanders confirmed that Sarah Cousins would be willing to stand again as **Secretary**. This was proposed by Ray Woodcock and seconded by John Pryor and Sarah was duly elected.

Peter Sanders suggested that the other members be re-elected en bloc. This was proposed by Tricia Barber and seconded by Jonathan Howarth. **NWEEHPA Committee members** therefore are Jangu Banatvala, Martin Peachey, John Pryor, Maggie Sutton, Brian Ross and Ray Woodcock.

## 6. Any other business

- a) [REDACTED] asked whether there was a possibility of an offshore airport being approved. Peter Sanders felt it was highly unlikely because of the enormous expense.
- b) [REDACTED] asked how many Parish Councils were due to attend the next SSE, Parish and Town Council Liaison Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> July, referring to his concerns with the proposed NATS changes. Peter replied that it is usual for about 15 parishes to attend. Brian Ross added that Martin Peachey is producing a letter for the parishes, outlining guidance on how to respond to the consultation.
- c) [REDACTED] asked whether our local MPs are still in support of SSE. Brian Ross confirmed that Mark Prisk and Sir Alan Haselhurst are still opposed to a second runway at Stansted Airport and that both are regularly kept up to date with SSE's activities.
- d) [REDACTED] asked what the views of the Labour Party are with regards to airport expansion. Brian Ross said that Labour seemed to be more strongly opposed to expansion at Heathrow than at Gatwick.

## 7. Conclusion of the meeting

Peter Sanders closed the meeting at 8:35pm, thanking everyone for attending and concluding that the date and the venue of the 2015 AGM, the 50<sup>th</sup>, would be advised at a later time.