



**Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Conservators of Ashdown Forest
Monday 10 December 2018 at 14.00
Ashdown Forest Centre**

Present: Cllr R Stogdon (Chairman), Cllr S Tidy (Vice Chairman), Mr A Reid, Mr M Cooper, Mr J Spicer, Mr J Francis, Cllr J Barnes, Cllr F Whetstone, Mr C Smith, Ms S McAll, Mr N Mawdsley, Cllr P Pragnell, Cllr P Holloway

In attendance: Mrs P Buesnel (Director), Mrs K Dirs (Clerk), Mrs L Meehan (Finance Officer), Mr S Alton (Conservation Officer).

Minutes were taken by K Meade.

There were no members of the public present.

	Item	Action
40/18	<p>Apologies. There were apologies from Mrs R St Pierre, Cllr C Hardy and Cllr S Shing.</p>	
41/18	<p>Declarations of any interest by Members of a Personal or Prejudicial Nature Ms McAll declared she is the AFRA (Ashdown Forest Riding Association) Membership Secretary and a grazier.</p>	
42/18	<p>To approve the minutes of the Board meeting of 17 September 2018, and matters arising The minutes of the last meeting had been circulated and assessed by the Board for accuracy. 42.01/18 The minute amendment was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr Francis. The amendment was accepted by the Board. The Chairman confirmed a commentary had been submitted to Wealden District Council (WDC) regarding the Wealden Local Plan. The minutes were duly received and were approved in accordance with Standing Order 2.6.</p>	
43/18	<p>The Executive Committee meeting of 22 October 2018 The minutes of the meeting had been circulated and assessed by the Board for accuracy. The minutes were approved as a true and correct account of the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 2.6.</p>	
44/18	<p>The Conservation Committee meeting of 16 November 2018 The minutes of the meeting had been circulated and assessed by the Board for accuracy. The Chairs of the F&GP and Conservation Committees will meet with the Conservation Officer to discuss progressing the venison plan. The minutes were duly received and were approved in accordance with Standing Order 2.6.</p>	TR/NM/ SA
45/18	<p>The Roads, Planning & Amenities Committee meeting of 22 October 2018 The minutes of the meeting had been circulated and assessed by the Board for accuracy. The Vice-Chairman highlighted a long-standing encroachment was at the point of resolution and thanked the staff for their persistence. The minutes were duly received and approved in accordance with Standing Order 2.6</p>	
46/18	<p>The Finance & General Purposes Committee of 16 November 2018 The minutes of the meeting had been circulated and assessed by the Board for accuracy. The Board accepted the recommendation to retain the current internal auditor. 46.01/18 – The Board unanimously agreed the Budget 2019/20 46.02/18 – The Board unanimously agreed the Forest Rate and Fees and Charges 2019/20 46.03/18 – Subject to a minor wording amendment, the Board approved the new GDPR policies The minutes were duly received and approved in accordance with Standing Order 2.6</p>	
47/18	<p>To receive the Director's Report The report was received. There were no questions.</p>	

48/18	To receive the Clerk's Report	
	The report was received. Mr Cooper asked the Clerk to elaborate on the clearance on fly-tipping issues. The Clerk explained Kier had cleared the fly-tipping on the highway but clearance of fly-tipping on the Forest and Forest tracks was the responsibility of the team.	
49/18	Governance/ Charity Registration	
	The Chairman gave a verbal update on the current position of the charity registration and the appointment of interim Directors to progress the registration application. Some concern was expressed with regards to diversity and the Chairman clarified the Directors were temporary in order to establish the charity. Some Members were unhappy with the unilateral appointment of Directors without discussion of the Terms of Reference, length of tenure and desired skill sets.	Cllr RS
50/18	To review the Terms of Reference for the new Committee structure	
	The Board agreed the general direction of the Terms of Reference and Membership for the new committee structure. It was agreed the next steps are to formalise Delegated Authority.	KD
51/18	Any Urgent Item of which the Clerk has notice in order to pass to the elected Chairman	
	There were none	

This part of the meeting closed at 4:15pm.

Chairman _____

January 2019

Clerk _____