## Bath City Farm Annual General Meeting 14 October 2021 6.00pm

Present: Chris Button, Mike Collins, Jo Southwell, Deborah Steele, Malcolm Dodds, Dilys Smith, Ros Powell, Lisa Benham

In attendance: Helen Fisher (outgoing General Manager), Brendan Tate Wistreich (new Farm Director)

Apologies: Tamsin Egan, Mark and Claire Dustin, Sheila Blethyn, Lorraine Horton, Sue Townley, Zoe Bates, Amy Coulthard, Mark Richardson

- 1. Jo Southwell (JS Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting, noting that the last AGM had been held over Zoom and that it was lovely to see and talk with everyone face to face this year.
- 2. Minute of last AGM: these were approved as an accurate record of the meeting (proposed by JS, seconded by Lisa ??). The single action from the meeting (to update the Memorandum and Articles at Companies House) had been completed. There were no matters arising.
- 3. The Annual Accounts were received. In the Treasurer's absence any questions would be dealt with by Helen Fisher in the next item.
- 4. In her final annual report Helen Fisher gave a summary of the Farm's activities since the last AGM, including its response to the pandemic and lockdowns, the financial stresses, the very successful 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday Appeal and the ultimately healthy financial position at the end of 2020. Helen's slides will be made more widely available internally and via the website.
- 5. Brendan Tate Wistreich (newly appointed Farm Director) briefly introduced himself and noted some key strengths of the Farm already apparent to him and some challenges and areas for development: strong outcomes of our targeted programmes, the fantastic staff and volunteer teams, the strong trustee group, the agility shown in the response to the pandemic, the scale of the site and its access to nature and the new strategy alongside the need to develop our membership and to improve our approach to equalities, diversity and inclusion.
- 6. JS noted that Mike Foxcroft had resigned as a trustee during the year for personal reasons.
- 7. Appointment of trustees the three trustees were seeking appointment for a further three years:
  - a. Mike Collins proposed by JS, seconded by Chris Button including the online and postal votes 11 in favour, none against so duly appointed
  - b. Deborah Steele proposed by JS, seconded by Mike Collins including the online and postal votes 11 in favour, none against so duly appointed
  - c. Gus Langley proposed by JS, seconded by Lisa ?? including the online and postal votes 10 in favour, none against, 1 abstention so duly appointed
- 8. Any other business: Lisa asked about progress with the "Sponsor a fence post" scheme Helen said that she would follow up with the Site Manager to make sure that sponsors were properly recognised with their name or initials on individual posts.

- 9. Jo said it was a very appropriate moment to recognise Helen Fisher's immense contribution to the work and development of the Farm over two decades (Helen was now moving to a new role Adult Programme Manager). On behalf of the meeting the trustees and the members Jo thanked Helen for everything she had helped the Farm to achieve the meeting responded with a warm round of applause.
- 10. There being no other business the meeting concluded at 7.00pm.