

MINUTES OF THE CLOUD 2020 AGM

Thursday 22nd October on Zoom

Attendance (15)

Committee: Stephen Constantine, Mary Breakell, Tony Breakell, Rosie Morgan, Tom Wilkinson, Mark Salisbury.

Members: Jill Bundy, Abi Mills, John Mosey, Naomi P and husband, Tim Hamilton-Cox, Robert Fildes, Rod Leaman, Rosemary Hindley.

Apologies: Tony Blendall, Barbara Walker, Sally Salisbury, Raymond & Cherith Hirst.

Introduction and welcome

Thanks were expressed to Tom Wilkinson for setting up the Zoom meeting. The two city councillors present, Tim Hamilton-Cox and Abi Mills, were welcomed and thanked for giving up their time.

1) Minutes of 2019 AGM

The minutes of the last AGM, held on 23rd October 2019, had been sent out with the agenda prior to the meeting and were also available on the CLOUD website. Thanks were expressed to Rosie Morgan for writing them. The minutes were accepted as a true record.

2) Report by the Chairperson

The Chair's report had been circulated with the agenda and was also posted on the website.

Key activities from last year were summarised, including the Planning Inspector's report and the City Council's formal adoption of the Local Plan on 29th July, the City Council's subsequent commitment to review the Local Plan after its declaration of a Climate Emergency, numerous planning applications (including Ellet Grange, Gladman, Ashton Road, Chapel Lane and Ward Field Farm), work with South Lancaster and Galgate FLAGs on flooding risks, and submission of various Freedom of Information requests after the Government's announcement of £140m from the Housing Infrastructure Fund for the 'South Lancaster Growth Catalyst'.

The Chair's report was accepted.

3) Report by the Treasurer

The Treasurer's report had been circulated with the agenda and was also available on the website. Tony Breakell reported relatively few transactions in the last year. Thanks were expressed to CLOUD members who donated around £640 at the end of 2019 for the cost of flyers and room hire for general meetings. £113 had been spent on flyers and membership renewal of CPRE (The Countryside Charity). A balance of just under £500 remains available so there is no need to raise additional funds at this stage.

The Treasurer's report was accepted.

4) Election of the new Management Committee for the year to October 2021

Thanks and appreciation were expressed to Rosie Morgan, for her three years of service and hard work as Secretary. She was standing down but will remain as a CLOUD member. One nomination had been received for each post. All of the other members were willing to stand again and Rosemary Hindley had agreed to stand for the vacant post of Secretary.

Nominations in full; Chair - Stephen Constantine, Secretary - Rosemary Hindley, Treasurer - Tony Breakell, Communications - Mary Breakell, and other Committee Members - Mark Salisbury, Sally Salisbury, Tom Wilkinson, Barbara Walker and Tony Blendall.

The election of these committee members was approved for the year to October 2021.

5) Next Steps for Discussion

Now that the Local Plan has been adopted, covering the period up to 2031, the CLOUD Management Committee had circulated a set of proposals for activities over the next year.

The City Council's 'Climate Emergency Review of the Local Plan 2020-2031' was welcomed. The public consultation runs until 20th November, with 'virtual drop-in launch videos', and there is also a commitment to involve the local community in consultations about the principles for new development in the Lancaster South Area Action Plan.

The County Council had started a public consultation on 'Transforming Lancaster Travel' which includes two proposals. Firstly, a M6 Junction 33 Link Road (to assist the delivery of housing in south Lancaster) and, secondly, Lancaster City Centre Movement and Public Realm Strategy (to improve sustainable travel in the city centre). This consultation runs from 26th October to 4th December.

It was noted that major road building conflicted with the Green Agenda and that there was no funding for anything other than improving transport for private vehicles (e.g. the promised cycle superhighway, bus rapid transport, footpaths). None of the proposals appeared to improve the congestion in Scotforth. The proposed new roads seemed designed to facilitate south-bound travel towards Preston and Manchester. It was recognised that a Galgate bypass might attract some local support but details would require careful scrutiny, particularly in relation to flood issues (e.g. surface water from the motorway embankment).

**CLOUD Committee to submit a collective response but members also need to read and respond to both of these documents. Individuals can highlight issues of most concern to them (e.g. traffic, flooding, air quality).*

**Mary Breakell to send out the consultation links for the City Council's Climate Review documents and also the County Council's 'Transforming Lancaster Travel'.*

Councillor Abi Mills noted that details would be included in the next Green View newsletter. It was also suggested that a letter should be sent from CLOUD to the Lancaster Guardian to raise awareness of the issues involved in these consultations.

The following proposals from the CLOUD Committee were approved for adoption in 2020/21:

- To contribute to the City Council's Climate Emergency Review and point out the shortcomings of Bailrigg Garden Village in terms of climate emergency objectives such as reducing car dependency.
- To participate in the consultation process on the Lancaster South Area Action Plan, as and when this is launched.
- To continue to monitor and object to planning applications by housing developers.
- To continue to work with the Local Flood Action Groups to press for effective flood prevention measures.
- To challenge the Housing Infrastructure Fund bid and its target of 9,185 new houses in and around south Lancaster.
- To respond to any other relevant developments as they arise (e.g. changes to the planning regulations or the circulation of housing need numbers).

6) Any Other Business

Mary Breakell thanked Rosie Morgan for her wonderful work as Secretary over the last three years.

Jill Bundy thanked all Committee members for their continued hard work over the last year.

Rod Leaman asked if CLOUD had any contact with national wildlife and environmental organisations such as the RSPB, Woodland Trust, Natural England, and Mammal Society. They could help to identify the impact of proposed housing developments in South Lancaster on species decline and undertake independent ecological surveys of the sites at risk. This was considered an excellent suggestion.

**Rod Leaman to send Mary Breakell details of a few organisations to be contacted by CLOUD.*

7) Date of Next Meeting

October 2021

The Chair closed the meeting with thanks to those attending and participating, and to Tom Wilkinson for setting up and managing the Zoom meeting.