

INVITATION TO THE CLA BERKSHIRE BRANCH SUMMER EVENT AND AGM

6 JULY 2023
WOOLLEY ESTATE



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PROGRAMME

10.00	Registration, with refreshments
10.30	Berkshire Branch AGM
10.45	Welcome talk by the estate.
11.00	House and estate tour
12.30	Drinks reception
13.00	Update from Jonathan Roberts CLA external Affairs Director
13:30	Lunch
14.30	Time to enjoy the gardens
15.00	Depart

This year's Annual General Meeting is to be held on Thursday 6th July 2023 at

Woolley Estate, Woolley Park, Wantage, Oxfordshire, OX12 8NJ.

CLA South East would like to thank Carter Jonas and James Cowper Kreston for their continued support.

Carter Jonas



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. To confirm the Minutes of the last meeting held on 22nd June 2022
3. Matters arising from the Minutes
4. Election of Officers for 2023/24
 - a. President
 - b. One representative to Council
 - c. Committee
5. To receive and adopt the Chairman's Annual Report for 2022/23
6. Any other business

Nominations for office or for membership of the Committee as given in item 4, or any resolution a member may wish to propose, must reach the Director South East, Tim Bamford, in writing by Thursday 22nd June 2023.

WOOLLEY ESTATE

Woolley Park is a 3,000-acre estate on the Berkshire/Oxfordshire border, close to the ridgeway and beautiful, unspoilt, open countryside. The estate includes residential and commercial property and an in hand arable farming enterprise. Woolley House sits at the heart of the estate and is a grand historic home and grounds that have been in the same family since the reign of King Henry VIII.

The first house was built in 1690 and one of its remodels was designed by Sir Jeffry Wyatville, who redesigned Windsor Castle for King George IV.

Today the estate is the family home of Kirsten Loyd, her partner, children and grandchildren. Kirsten has made many changes since inheriting the estate from her father, including developing holiday accommodation, increasing the size of the farm, installing two biomass boilers with district heating systems and investing in a programme of refurbishment and redevelopment across its properties.



BOOKING YOUR PLACE AT THE AGM

To book your place at the AGM please login to your 'My CLA' account on www.cla.org.uk and click on Events. Tickets cost £48 inc VAT. You can pay by card online, or by bank transfer or cheque following your booking. Please note, if paying by cheque, your booking will not be confirmed until the cheque is processed by Finance, and you may receive payment reminders in the interim between booking and confirmation.

If you are having difficulties, please call the South East office on 01264 313434 or southeast@cla.org.uk.

Bookings close Thursday 29th June 2023



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - BERKSHIRE BRANCH

Welcome to the CLA Berkshire branch AGM 2023.

With the summer months topping 40C, the heat was certainly on farming in 2022. The year ended with snowfall, which posed another challenge – from rising energy prices, higher input and raw costs through to labour shortages, rural businesses are being squeezed.

This is a crucial time for the agricultural transition process. At our Rural Business Conference in December, CLA president Mark Tufnell laid bare how rural communities are running out of patience with the government. Uncertainty over the future of Environmental Land Management (ELM) schemes is eroding confidence within the industry. While some information about payment rates was released earlier this year, the second half of 2023 must provide more answers and the CLA will continue to hold the government's feet to the fire.

But the last 12 months has not all been doom and gloom, and the return of events and in-person gatherings has been welcome. The biggest event in the CLA South East calendar is the annual forestry conference held at Newbury Racecourse, and this year attracted more than 150 attendees from across the region and beyond. Plans are well underway for this year's conference, which will be on Wednesday, 11 October. The CLA has also organised agricultural transition and renewable energy events in Thames Valley, bringing members the latest policy developments and advice from experts.

The CLA works closely with MPs and Ministers to press home the importance of a profitable and sustainable farming industry.

We raise issues with the planning system which are holding rural businesses back, have been calling for a simpler tax regime as well as urging investment in skills and innovation.

Our work on tackling rural crime continued this year, with some notable developments. Tougher sentencing and improved powers for the courts to tackle hare coursing were added to the Police Crime Sentencing and Courts Act 2022. The CLA also joined 150 local authorities and 10 professional bodies in a joint letter calling on the Sentencing Council to provide tougher guidance on fines and sentences for culprits of fly-tipping. The government has since committed to reform of the waste industry with increased background checks for firms who move or trade waste, and the introduction of mandatory digital waste tracking.

There will undoubtedly be more challenges to overcome over the next 12 months, and the CLA's role in championing the rural economy and supporting members has never been so important. Please do make the most of your membership by using the CLA's brilliant advice service and attending events, and spread the word of the benefits of being part of the organisation.

I would like to thank the Berkshire branch committee for their dedication and support, as well as the CLA teams in the South East and nationally for their continued hard work on behalf of us all.

Andrew Chandler



MINUTES OF THE 2022 BERKSHIRE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT DYSON FARMING, MAYFIELD FARM, COMPTON, NEWBURY, RG20 7BR AT 10.30AM ON WEDNESDAY 22 JUNE 2022

Present:

Branch President – Kristen Loyd
Branch Chair, Andrew Gardiner
CLA Vice President, Gavin Lane
CLA SE Regional Director, Tim Bamford
31 Members and their guests

The Branch president welcomed everyone to the AGM and thanked the Dyson team for kindly hosting and assisting with the arrangements for the day. She also thanked Gavin Lane, CLA Vice president for attending plus James Cowper Kreston and Carter Jonas for their kind partnership of the AGM.

1. Apologies for Absence

Formal apologies had been received from 6 members.

2. To confirm the Minutes of the last Meeting

The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held at West Woodhay House on 28 September 2021 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Branch President.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

4. Election of Officers for 2022/23

a) Re-election of Branch President

The Branch Chair took over the meeting for the election of the Branch President. The re-election of the current Branch President, Kirsten Loyd, was proposed by Simon Muir, seconded by Andrew Chandler and carried unanimously.

b) One Representative to the CLA Council

The meeting passed back to the Branch President. Stephen Barratt proposed Andrew Gardiner for Representative to Council, which was seconded by Edward Crookes and carried unanimously.

c) Branch Committee

The President noted that Rosemary Balsdon and Andrew Parry were retiring from Committee and thanked them for all their support over the years.

The Branch President read out the following names for re-election to the committee:

Stephen Barratt	Simon Muir
David Bertie	Tom Newey
Andrew Chandler	Charles Parry
Edward Crookes	Colin Rayner
Josh Dugdale	Paul Sedgewick
Andrew Gardiner	Richard Tranter
David Hill	Ian Wilson
Fergus Hodge	
David Hunt	

The election of the Committee for 2022/23 was proposed by James Astor, seconded by Victoria Beckwith and carried unanimously.

5. To Adopt the Chair's Annual Report for 2021/22

The adoption of the Chair's Annual Report was proposed by Tom Newey, seconded by Andrew Davis and carried unanimously.

6. Any Other Business.

There was no other business.

The Branch President concluded the Berkshire AGM.

BERKSHIRE BRANCH COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

Kirsten Loyd

CHAIRMAN

Andrew Chandler

COMMITTEE

Stephen Barratt

David Bertie

Edward Crookes

Josh Dugdale

Andrew Gardiner

David Hill

Fergus Hodge

David Hunt

Simon Muir

Tom Newey

Charles Parry

Colin Rayner

Paul Sedgewick

Professor Richard Tranter

Ian Wilson

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