

#### 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOTICE

## Halton Hydro AGM Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023 at 7.30pm The Centre @ Halton Rooms 1 & 2

The Directors of Halton Lune Hydro invite shareholders to join us at the eighth Annual General Meeting on the date and time indicated above. The Chairman will provide a power-point update on the last year's progress followed by an update by Halton Lune Trust. The Chairman's annual report is attached and the accounts are with the accountant for examination. Interest payments for the 2022 financial year will arrive in your bank account in early March.

The resolutions to be voted on this year are shown below on the voting slip. A copy of the accounts and 2022 minutes may be viewed at <a href="www.haltonlunehydro.org">www.haltonlunehydro.org</a> on or soon after 25<sup>th</sup> March when the account examination is complete. Voting will be by a show of hands at the AGM, although should you not be able to attend you may vote by returning the form below by email or post, to arrive on or before 14<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

Visits to the hydro by shareholders and guests are welcomed and can be arranged by e-mailing the Company Secretary.

Brian Jefferson MBE Company Secretary

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2023 AGM Resolutions			
1.	Acceptance of the April 2022 AGM Minutes.	For $\square$	Against $\square$
2.	Approval of the 2022 year financial statements, examined by RFM	For $\square$	Against
3.	Re-appointment of RFM as account examiners.	For $\square$	Against
4.	Re-appointment of Nick Mannion to the Board of Directors.	For $\square$	Against
SHAREHOLDER NAME Signature			

Should you not be able to attend and wish to vote; please send your voting slip by Royal Mail to the Head Office (address below in the footer), or by email to the Secretary, <a href="mailto:secretary@haltonlunehydro.org">secretary@haltonlunehydro.org</a>, arriving on or before 14<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

# **Halton Lune Hydro**

Hydro-electric Community Project

## **Chairman's AGM Report 2023**

A good year! We drained down for inspections and maintenance during the first week of July and transferred the usual pile of stones near the inlet back to the river, as well as pressure washing algae off the old type of galvanised metal turbine inlet screens – noting especially that algae had not adhered to the two of five new stainless-steel screens.

### 1. Operation and Maintenance

Turbine blades were checked for movement regarding wear of pitch control linkages and are fine. There is less concern therefore, about major turbine overhauls in the next year or so.

The current plan is to drain down again as soon as conditions permit and install the remaining three stainless steel inlet screens.

These new screens have represented significant capital expenditure but are very substantial and will certainly pay for themselves over a few years.

In terms of revenue, it is a matter of operating for as long as possible in a 24hr period, and thanks here to our volunteer daily Duty Officers, who enjoy a walk and call in to record some figures - and get assistance if necessary, to remove the occasional tree branch and general debris, including plastic from the launder channel.

We need more Duty Officers, so if interested, you will be most welcome, and training will be given. Just a matter of contacting our Secretary Brian Jefferson Secretary@haltonlunehydro.org

#### 2. Revenue

In terms of weather, a couple of long summer dry spells restricted total income to £225,000, although for 2023, electricity cost increases for consumers have meant hydro income for export electricity has also increased, with total income for 2023 expected to exceed £260,000. The corresponding increase will go directly to worthy causes in the Parish of Halton with Aughton, via the Halton Lune Trust (www.haltonlunetrust.org.uk); the members of which, do an excellent job evaluating requests for grants.

#### 3. Shareholders

Shareholder interest payments will return to the usual 4%, although we do have to ask shareholders to cash in a portion of their shares, as we are not meeting our target of paying back the £1.43M by 2034 at a steady pace. This results in more total interest to pay and less money going into the community. If all shares are returned, there is the option of holding a "Retention Share" to remain informed, and indeed be one of the shareholders owning the company after 2034.

#### 4. Environment

Moving on now to our environmental responsibilities for salmon and sea trout.

Automatic counting is being recorded all the time and whilst there was an improvement last year, numbers are significantly down. eg 1,936 total up during 2022 compared to 3,957 in 2017.

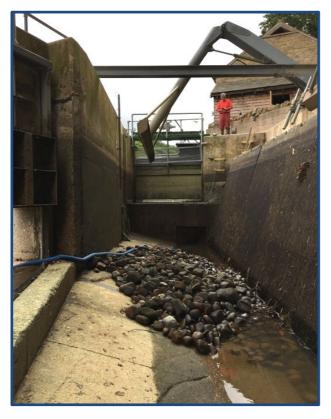
Month by month and year by year numbers, incidentally, are available on our web site.

With fish wellbeing in mind, the Environment Agency halted fish trapping in July 2021 and this has not been re-instated, hence our inability to determine the salmon and sea trout percentages based on trapping data.

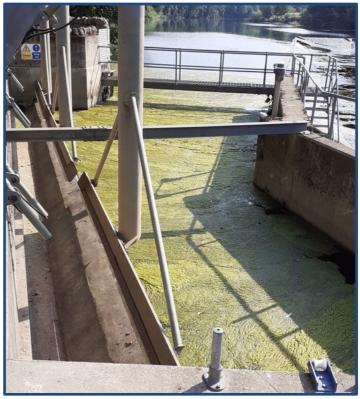
We believe that river pollution has some responsibility for reduced numbers, especially as we had the blue green algae floating on top of the water during July 22.

Warnings therefore again about swimming when algae is spotted anywhere in our local stretch of the river.





One of the inlet scree "wiper blades" and Stone coming in during high river flows.



Algae entering the inlet July 2022