

AYCLIFFE FELL WALKING CLUB
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD WEDNESDAY, 7TH NOVEMBER 2018

1. ATTENDANCE

Adam E, Auton C, Bayne M, Beadle M, Bell N, Blaser M, Bonsall J, Buckle B, Cameron J, Colley R, Cummings A, Davies R, Holmes A, Jackson G, Jakob A, Jeans T, McClemon R, Miller D, Miller G, Morl G, Morrison D, Mullen K, Nattrass K, Oldham G, Pinkney S, Richardson L, Riley B, Singleton T, Smith J, Snowdon S, Snowdon I, Todd R, Todd M, Wilby P, Wilkinson B. (35 members present).

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM & MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the previous AGM (8/11/17) were approved. The following matters arising were raised and discussed:

- 2.1 Coach facilities (item 3, para 3)** - the issue of toilet cleanliness had been raised with Enterprise and it was noted there had been a noticeable improvement since the last AGM.
- 2.2 Archive CDs (item 4, para 3)** – these were now held by Maria Todd and were supplied on the basis of a voluntary contribution to Club funds.
- 2.3 Contributions to Mountain Rescue Teams (MRTs) (item 5, para 4)** - no contributions had been made during 2017 due to the Club running at a loss, however, it had been agreed to double the contribution for 2018 and the Secretary was pleased to report £150 had been paid to both Swaledale and to Langdale & Ambleside MRTs.
- 2.4 Coach Costs (item 7.1, para 3)** – following a cost review, involving six other coach companies, the Secretary had achieved a 12.5% cost reduction with Enterprise Travel compared to 2017. A tabulation of comparative costs was available for perusal by members. The Secretary advised that Enterprise was now wholly owned by the European Travel Group.
- 2.5 First Aid Capability (item 7.5, para 3)** – the Secretary asked whether any members were now equipped with lightweight first aid packs. Sheila Pinkney advised that course details had been distributed to members. Whilst it was suggested the packs available were limited in content, nevertheless, the Chairman said it would be better that something, rather than nothing, was carried by first aiders. This would be raised at the forthcoming Committee meeting.

Action - AJ

3. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

- 3.1** The Chairman thanked Mick Beadle for the continued use of the Invoyn Sports & Social Club facilities for the Club's AGM.

3.2 Communications - the Chairman was disheartened to note there had been some disgruntlement within the club. Stephen Snowdon raised the issue of the appointment of Maria Todd as Treasurer and said that this matter should have been brought before the AGM for discussion by members. The Chairman explained a Committee Meeting had been held early December 2017, following the AGM, to deal with splitting out the Secretary's duties. Maria had volunteered to act as Treasurer at this time and with the Chairman unable to use his vote as this would have forced a tie, the decision was taken to ask Alan Holmes to stand down as Treasurer and for Maria to be appointed. He apologised if this had caused issues. Eddy Adam said that perhaps an Extraordinary AGM should have been called at that time but as it had not, then things should remain 'as is'.

3.3 Data Protection – the Chairman advised that a DP Policy was now in place for all club members. Under GDPR it was suggested all members be asked if their email could be shared (amongst members).

Action – AJ

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT

4.1 Summary of Walks 2018 - was provided. The best attended walk of the year was in April, with 71 joining the Eden Valley walk; the least appreciated was the Shap walk, lots of mud encountered! The Christmas get together at the Buck Inn, Reeth had been well received. Average attendances of 59.1 were slightly down on 2017 (59.5). Six trips were in profit, six incurred a loss.

4.2 Weekend Away, Hawes - well attended by 37 members, the best ever. The Secretary thanked Jenny and Geoff for organising the event once again.

4.3 Club Membership - stood at 91 adults (87 in 2017) plus 7 Life Members, 1 S&SC Member & 3 juniors = a total of 102.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

5.1 General - thanks were given to Sheila Pinkney for collecting and banking monies and to Barry Wilkinson for assisting in provision of this year's Statement of Accounts. Tim Jeans commented the figures were easy to read and understand. Maria explained that Barry had convinced her of the need for a balance sheet and she had agreed to include one next year. George Morl said rather than P&L the columns should be headed 'Income & Expenditure'. This was noted. £500 received in late payments for 'non-shows' had boosted funds.

5.2 Discrepancies on 2017 - there were several discrepancies in the accounts, which were thought mainly to relate to "Advanced Expenses" held over from the previous year. Eddy Adam suggested that the accounts be referred to the Committee for ratification and re-issued as appropriate.

Action – AJ/Committee

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

6.1 Chairman - George Morl proposed Andy Jakob as Chairman and this was seconded by Geoff Oldham.

6.2 Secretary – Alan read out a statement of Resignation as Club Secretary. He said this had been brought about for a number of reasons, including having been made to relinquish the Treasurer's role last December without an election, i.e. in direct contravention of the Club's Constitution. In addition, there had been relentless sniping and criticism over recent years by two committee members, most of it petty and unwarranted! This had come to a head with further intense criticism following the late departure of the coaches from Hawes. The Secretary showed a pie chart of all his duties (available for perusal), stating the Treasurer's job was a small part of his overall duties. Alan wished the Club all the very best for the future.

Stephen Snowdon expressed huge thanks to Alan for his superb work for the club. Barry Wilkinson formally thanked Alan for his time and effort over many years with the club. The Chairman said he was pleased Alan had stayed this long, given his intention to leave following the Committee meeting in December! Alan's announcement came as a shock to members, many expressing that his resignation would be a huge loss to the Club.

The Chairman asked if anyone was willing to stand as Secretary but there were no volunteers.

6.3 Treasurer – Barry Wilkinson proposed Maria Todd, seconded by Moira Bayne.

6.4 Membership Secretary – Barry Wilkinson suggested this work could be separated from the Secretary's role, to include collection of annual subscriptions, plus a central point for collection of members' data (addresses, contact numbers). On this latter point, the Chairman would speak to the Committee for agreement re Data Protection. Mick Beadle volunteered as Membership Secretary and this was seconded by Anne Cummings.

6.5 Committee Members – Further requests were sought for Committee Members and Anne Cummings put her name forward. Therefore, the following candidates were unopposed for election and agreed to serve AFWC in the following committee roles for the duration of 2019:

Chairman – Andy Jakob

Secretary – Vacant

Treasurer – Maria Todd

Membership Secretary – Mick Beadle

Committee Member – Sheila Pinkney

Committee Member – John O'Sullivan

Committee Member – Anne Cummings

Action – AJ/Committee Members

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

There were none.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 8.1 Xmas Draw Cancellation 2018 (M Todd)** - The Treasurer reported that due to the recent takeover of Ineos, alcohol was no longer allowed on site and the Committee had therefore taken a decision to cancel the 2018 draw and ask whether members wished to hold, perhaps, a Summer draw for 2018. A view was expressed that Members' views should have been sought prior to the decision having been made, nevertheless, a vote was taken whether to cancel the Xmas Draw going forward and this was carried 21 for, 14 against.

- 8.2 Walk Selection Process (S Pinkney)** – this matter was held over given the Secretary's resignation.

- 8.3 Club Weekend Away (E Adam)** – Eddy advised that, following research, camping prices for Pooley Bridge were deemed expensive at £28 p.n. camping, the pods were £90 and lodges £530! Geoff Jackson had suggested the Club go back to Braithwaite as there was plenty of different types of accommodation; costs were unknown but Colin Auton thought camping was roughly half that price. Once the dates for the 2019 walks had been agreed by the Committee, the date for the weekend away could be scheduled.

Action: E Adam/J Cameron/G Jackson

- 8.4 January/February 2019 Walk Dates (R Colley)** – Roger asked that the 2019 dates were not as early as those in 2018 and the Secretary advised that was due to his holiday commitments. Tim Jeans suggested that, where possible, the same Saturday monthly was chosen. However, Brian Riley said that account also had to be taken of school holidays, Easter etc and that as long as the 2019 dates are issued as a schedule, then members could diarise them in advance.

9. PROGRAMME OF OUTINGS FOR 2019

Roger Colley asked if the coaches had been booked for 2019, the Secretary confirmed they had not. Barry Wilkinson suggested some routes could be used from the archive CD, taking account to check changes re bridges etc. Volunteers were sought to be walk champions for routes, with Andy Jakob stating he would gladly head up co-ordination of the walk leaders. Sheila Pinkney volunteered for this. If anyone else would be willing to take up this role they should contact the Committee.

The 2019 walks were agreed as already issued by the Club Secretary. Dates would be agreed by the Committee, taking account of the points in 8.4. Priorities would be taken for winter walks to be local.

Action: Committee

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

10. ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES

It was an oversight, admitted by the Chairman after the AGM, that he had forgotten to ask the membership to agree to a contribution to a Mountain Rescue Team. He hoped the members would forgive him and that the usual donation of £150 would be acceptable.

Andrew Jakob, Chairman

Alan Holmes, Secretary