

Minutes of AGM 29/09/13

Present

Committee

- Carol Wilkie, Keef Hopkinson, Lynn Birch, Clare de Normanville, Sara Collin, Judith Flanagan

Members

26 members attended

Previous AGM minutes

- Warm welcome to all and apologies noted.
 - Last year's AGM minutes read out and agreed as a good record.
- The following matters in last year's AGM were not taken up this year- a first aid kit taken out on walks and carried by the walk leader and it was noted that we could change e mail supplier as we were and still experiencing problems with Hotmail. All other ideas discussed were acted upon.

Issues raised by members

- The group's resources were previously held by LB / CW. These will be handed over to the next chair. It would be handy if these resources were listed on the web site. The borrowing of items also needs to be dealt with.
- Training on the GPS needs to be addressed.
- As finances cannot be concluded tonight due to the date of the meeting - final figures need to be given to the members via some method, perhaps e mail.

Annual report from the Chair

CW read out her Annual report. In the report the following points were made:

- Numbers have gradually grown so the group now has more than 200 members. These members are coming from an ever increasing area.
- There are now a bigger group of walk leaders - although we do still heavily rely on a small numbers of leaders.
- Flicker now hosts the group's photos.
- There has been a lot of social events this year - which have been successful.
- So many highlights- too many to recall all.
- A beautiful summer for walking.
- Very successful weekends - which are always booked extremely quickly.
- Excellent state of finances.

CW feels she leaves the group in an excellent state, She has enjoyed her time as Chair, and wishes the new committee all the best in the coming year.

Membership secretary - Sara

- During the past year the group has continued to grow. It has grown from 167 to 204 over the year.
- The contact list was an issue last year, but this has been dealt with and hopefully everyone is on the mailing list. Many thanks to Clare for all her help in dealing with this issue.
- New members are now officially welcomed to the group.
- Very little advertising has taken place as the group is growing. Asking new people on walks how they found out about us and it tends to be via either the web site or word of mouth.
- The ramblers are now more efficient at sending notice of new members - so there is less of a backlog.

Web editor - Clare

- At present the web site tends to be ticking over well.
- Now we are now using Flickr for photographs- it is easier to manage this aspect of the web site.
- Cde N has had several handover sessions with her successor.
- Using Hotmail for the group e mail site is proving a problem - and C de N recommends using G mail.
- Due to the work load of this role, next year the position will be split into 2
 - Web editor
 - Photo editor
- As the new web editor is out of the country, C de N will continue her role until he returns.

Walk coordinator - Keef

- With a quick calculation, we have arranged around 158 walks over the last 12 month period.
- With 3 walks a weekends, at times it is difficult to always find a leader.
- There are now 43 walk leaders -although we are still heavily dependent on a small amount of characters.
- This year we attempted several evening walks - but suffered from a lack of leadership, so only a small number were arranged.
- Generally "walks ticking along well."
- Position to be filled by 2 people - who will need to arrange how they will organise themselves.

Social Secretary - Weekends - Jude

- 4 weekends organised over the past year-Richmond, Ambleside, Llanberis and Dent. All were very well attended and booked up quickly. It even did not rain in Dent!
- Other weekends have been organised independently of the group - which are advertised on the web-site. However we ensure that we make it clear that these are weekends not organised by the group.

Socials- evening events

As there has been no individual responsible for socials, these events tend to have been organised by a variety of people:

- The monthly pub meets have varied greatly. Some have been well attended and others not so. It was felt that these meets need a member of the committee to welcome new members. Some of these meets have not always had a committee member attending - sometimes due to unforeseen circumstances - ie snow, illness.
- A variety of group meals have been held. However they have been difficult to organise due to having to depend on individuals to organise.
- Events held at the Nether Edge Bowling have been very successful. The winter thank you to walk leaders was extremely successful , despite the snow, and more than 74 attended the last social.
- The Ceilidh at Christmas was extremely well attended.

Treasurer - Lynne

**Due to the date of the meeting, the financial figures of the Club cannot be presented officially. The Financial year is not completed.

- The Treasurer is leaving the post in an excellent state of affairs, due to the fact virtually all events have been oversubscribed.

Main Funds

- Group received £227 from SYNED ramblers (Area organisation of Ramblers). We received £20 donated from the ramblers as part of its "Holidayfund". Therefore income of £247

- Spent- £254.20 - on Web site subscription/ YHA membership/ Administration / Post / AGM expenses/ Flicker.
- Therefore deficit of £7.20 - but this is mainly due to early AGM. (2 AGMs in 1 financial year)
- Started the year with a balance of £538 - and finishing year with a balance of £531.04
- Previously the Area Group (SYNED) gave us a donation of £500- due to cashflow problems. They have not asked for the money back - but the group always tries to keep in the funds.

Weekend funds

- There have been 5 weekends away this year(also accounting for the Grasmere Weekend). These have all been fully booked.
- These funds have a surplus of £220. £115 of this fund was accrued on the Dent Weekend. We aimed to make no profit at this weekend- but there a few late arrivers and much more discount was given than expected.

Social funds

- A lot of money was accrued because of the Christmas Ceilidh - it was oversubscribed. A surplus of £123.41
- 2 refunds boosted accounts . We received the full deposit back from the proposed New Year stay in Coldwell and £249.50 from the YHA due to weekend in Helvelyn which was not fully booked. We can thank Derrick Garfield for this last deposit - due to his persistence.
- We have accrued a surplus of £967.81 in the self-funded account.
- A donation of £80 was given to the "Edale Mountain Rescue Team". This was largely raised at the Ceilidh and on certain walks.

Funds total

- Therefore in total in the Main and Self-funded Accounts we have a surplus of £1,879.79. We are in a very strong financial position.
- We therefore should have a surplus of £1,348.45 for next year. We are not in a position to ask The Ramblers for money. Due to the formula when receiving our money - we will receive £254 from the Area next year.
- The funds need to be approved at the end of the year.
- Suggestions of ways to spend next year's money include;
 - Walk leader training
 - The issue of publicity needs to be considered by the new committee
 - The idea of giving more to the "Mountain rescue" was discussed - but we are restricted as we are a charity ourselves.

Summing up

A huge thank you needs to be given to the retiring members of this year's committee. Members of the group are often unaware of the work that goes on behind the scenes. Behind a successful group such as ourselves a lot of work is involved.

Carol thanked the group on behalf of herself and Keef. She has been on the committee for 6 years and enjoyed the experience. There are many happy memories over these years .

New committee elected are :

Chairperson - Sandra Knaggs

Membership Secretary - Sara Collin

Treasurer - Jill Brogden

Meals / Socials coordinator - Maria Hardy

Web editor - Peter Robinson

Photo Editor - Ian Steer

Walks co-ordinator - joint position: Sue Killeen / Jean Billingham

Weekends coordinator - not filled - but idea of sub committee muted.

Minutes written by Sara Collin - 1/10/13