



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Bridgnorth & District Walking Club on Thursday 25th November 2021 at 7.30 pm at the Bridgnorth Library.

Present: Clive Dyson (Chairman), Tim Day (Treasurer), Hilary Davies (Programme Secretary), Caroline Haigh (Secretary), Anne Furlong, Martin Howitt, Marion Law, Karen Crawford, Pam Day, Kate Dyson, Ina Roberts, Gill Steed, Eileen Roberts, Dave Evans, Keith Chandler, John Bourne, Keith Fradgley, Tammy Ratoff, Richard Bown.

Apologies: Peter and Ruth Dunkley, Dot Cox, Jo Henderson, Bob Bosson, Ian Kidd, Dave Jones, Ali Sacre, Mary Loach, Ron Vaughan.

1. Minutes of the 2020 AGM.

Last year's minutes were approved as an accurate account.

2. Matters arising, not otherwise on the agenda.

No further matters.

3. Chairman's report, Clive Dyson.

Clive's report had been circulated to all members beforehand. Clive mentioned that most of the Club's walks have managed to go ahead this year with good attendances under the circumstances. He reported that the Bridgnorth Right of Ways Association will be shutting down. Clive set this up in 2017 and has undertaken most of the administration. It is proposed to return funds to the groups who have donated them, subject to a vote at BROWA's AGM.

Clive thanked everyone on the committee for their work and support.

4. Treasurer's report, Tim Day.

Members had a copy of Tim's report before the meeting. He confirmed that the Club has 45 paid up members, which is two less than last year. Tim predicts that numbers will fall again and as a Club we need to try to encourage new, younger members. The General Account balance has increased by £167.82 to £839.29 due to reduced activities. We have also benefited from a £30.00 payment from RWH Travel (Ramblers). The Holiday Account has a balance of £812.44. Tim announced that the bank is introducing a £5 per month charge.

Tim confirmed that annual subscriptions will remain at £12 for the year 2022 to 2023.

The accounts were approved by the committee and members.

5. Programme Secretary's report, Hilary Davies.

Hilary's report had also been circulated beforehand. She reported there has been a good variety of walks and all have managed to go ahead. Although the numbers attending have been less this is thought to be due to people being cautious in light of the pandemic and the travelling involved. Hilary paid a special thanks to all of the walk leaders.

The holiday to Glarmara was a success with good weather until the last day.

It was mentioned that mountain walks may be organised on weekdays as well as Sundays. Notice of mountain walks may be quite short to fit in with weather windows, particularly if we hold any in winter. Clive commented that this provides flexibility and he has a list of people interested in mountain walks so that the whole membership is not sent emails.

Hilary thanked Clive for stepping in and taking over the Programme over recent months.

Clive proposed a formal thanks to all the walk leaders.

6. Holiday Report, Anne Furlong.

Anne's report had already been circulated. She confirmed that two holidays have been booked: the Gwbert Hotel in Ceredigion for 2022 and Glaramara for 2023. 21 members have paid a £10 deposit to reserve a place at the Gwbert Hotel. A further payment will be requested in the Spring. Anne confirmed that people can express an interest for Glaramara in 2023 now and there is a waiting list for anyone else interested in the 2022 holiday.

7. Report on Area Ramblers' Association (Shropshire), Anne Furlong.

Anne's mentioned her report included **Lost Ways**, where a right of way ends for no apparent reason causing problems for walkers. These rights of way are being looked into to see how the problems might be solved. Anne paid tribute to how hard the footpath secretaries and other volunteers all over the County worked to clear and keep rights of way open and dealt with planning issues.

8. Proposals for, and the election of, Committee Officers and Members and Ramblers' Association Delegate

Chairman: Clive Dyson will stand again;

Vice Chair: Dave Jones is standing down, Pam Day has been nominated for this role;

Secretary: Caroline Haigh will stand again;

Treasurer: Tim Day will stand again;

Programme Secretary: Hilary Davies will stand again, but intends to step down next year;

Ordinary Members:

- Anne Furlong will stand again (to act as RA delegate);
- Ali Sacre will stand again;
- Karen Crawford will stand again (to lead on Social Media);
- Marion Law, standing down;
- Martin Howitt, standing down.

The meeting voted to approve the above.

Independent examiner: Keith Fradgley was re-appointed.

Clive thanked Marion for her support to the club over many years.

9. Fiftieth anniversary celebration / Spring Meal.

Clive thanked Kate and all others who had been involved in organising the 50th anniversary celebration before it had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. It has been proposed to hold a celebratory meal, with or without an accompanying walk. After a short discussion the general consensus was to hold an evening meal being kept fairly local for travelling at night.

10. Comments and suggestions from members.

None arising.

11. Any other business.

Clive mentioned the progress of setting up a trial Facebook page for the Club. He said it would need a small team to manage it. A discussion took place about the benefit that Facebook might provide to attract new members. It was agreed to continue the trial.

Kate proposed putting a notice about the Club on the Library notice board.

Action: Kate to put a notice on the Library notice board.

Clive thanked Kate and Ina for providing the refreshments. Anne thanked Clive for all his work on behalf of the committee and members.

Clive closed the meeting and thanked people for attending.

Date of next AGM: to be confirmed.