

South Wales Long Distance Walkers Association

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Rogerstone Welfare Ground - 4th November 2017 3pm

Those present: Jason Winney, Rob Wilkinson, Rod Hollands, Rob & Jill Richardson, Norma Lloyd, Bill & Katy Fear, Angie Williams, Judith Fox, Jo Johnstone, Claire Murray, Ferne Davis, Alan Warrington, Gwyn Matthews, Sue Johns, Gerry Jackson, Cheryl Llewellyn, Simon Pickering, Andrew Clabon, Mike Batt, Tony Alcock, Laura Turner, Shirley Hume, John Tinelli, Jamie & Valmai Lewis.

1. Welcome from Jason.
2. Apologies received from David & Gill Morgan, Mandy & Phil Lodge, Hugh & Heather Woodford, Helen & Steve Hunt, Aranka Pratt, Eddie Ball
3. Confirmation of 2016 AGM minutes and matters arising – the minutes were agreed and accepted.
4. Chairman & Walk Secretaries Report – Jason said it had been a good year and thanked walk leaders. Planning for Y 100 Sir Fynwy was progressing well with the HQ and most checkpoints identified and booked. He is in the process of writing the route description. Jason thanked the retiring committee members for their commitment and support. The change in Rhonnda Rollercoaster pricing strategy has not resulted in an increase in membership, but entrants are willing to pay the additional entry fee and not join the LDWA. He noted that too many walks are in the east of South Wales and expressed a desire that more walks should be in the west of our region.
5. Treasurer's Report – Rob W reported a bank balance of ~£5k. A £1k loan will be made to the 2020 100 in order to book halls etc. Due to the late AGM the figures cover 13 months. Rob noted the difficulty in paying for the hall in Trehafod. £581 was spent on the NYM 100 and nothing has yet been received back from the NYM committee. Overall the finances are in good shape, the report was agreed and accepted by those present. Rob ended his time as treasurer by reading a short poem.
6. Walk Secretary's Report – see 4.
7. Election of Officers – The following were elected unopposed:
Chair: Claire Murray (Proposed by David Morgan, Seconded by Rob Richardson)
Secretary: Rob Richardson (Proposed by Hugh Woodford, Seconded by Cheryl Llewellyn)
Treasurer: Judith Fox (Proposed by Shirley Hume, Seconded by Rob Richardson)
Walks secretary: Jason Winney (Proposed by John Tinelli, Seconded by Rob Richardson)
Challenge walk coordinator: Ferne Davies (Proposed by Jo Johnstone, Seconded by David Morgan)
8. Group Challenge Walks
Where Ravens Dare to be mothballed due to forestry access issues and lack of support this year.

Rhondda Rollercoaster is very successful and will continue. Halls have been booked for 2018.

Offa's Twisted Wye Kanter was very successful in 2017 and nearly full for 2018. Taith Torfaen North has been proposed as a replacement for WRD. Route already established and no forestry access issues. Possible HQ at Blaenavon if a suitable location can be found.

9. Social Trips – There will be one social trip to Snowdonia 30th June – 1st July 2018 based in Capel Curig. There will be 2 walks on the Saturday and one on Sunday. Depending on numbers attending in 2018, it is planned to have 2 weekends in 2019 with the first in Exmoor in March.
A £30 subsidy will be paid to walk leaders to offset the cost of travelling to recce walks.
10. Christmas walk & meal– will be at The Bell, Redbrook on 9th December. Menu to be sent out shortly.
11. Charitable Donations – It was agreed that a £400 donation be sent to Brecon Beacons Mountain Rescue Team in memory of Malcom Winney.
12. Merchandise – we have 32 T shirts and 11 buffs in stock and members were urged to stock up.
13. AOB – Jason mentioned his walk on 16th December following the 100 route from Monmouth to Chepstow. Claire raised a point on whether there should be an alternative shorter walk on days when there was a long ie 30+ miles or a bothy weekend. This might encourage new members. A lengthy discussion ensued with regard to the impact on the original walk and the desire to have walks of at least 20 miles and the pace of walks. It was agreed that a trial could take place and where possible leaders of long walks could consider a shorter alternative or variation of their walk.
John Tinelli & Bill Fear raised concerns about the safety on walks and whether walk leaders should be first aid trained. This will be looked at again by the committee. It was agreed that walk leaders should be more safety aware and look out for poorly equipped walkers. Also make sure a survival bag or emergency shelter is available. John Tinelli agreed to continue as social secretary.
RW reported that there would be an article on the group in the next edition of Strider.
Gerry Jackson and Laura Turner mentioned imminent walks that would be held later this month.
Ferne Davies mentioned that she would be attending the LDWA local groups weekend in Yorkshire and asked if there was anything people wanted her to discuss. RW thanked Claire M. and Shirley H. for taking some equipment off his hands and asked if others could also come forward so that his garage was clear by the middle of December.

The meeting closed at 4.25 p.m