

MINUTES OF 61st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 20th FEBRUARY 2008
AT ST LUKES CHURCH HALL, WISTASTON, CREWE AT 19.30

PRESENT

Committee	Bryan Roe(BR) Chair	Peter Dawson (PD)
	Joan Yarwood (JY)	Grace Harding (GH)
	Eileen O'Toole (EO'T)	Ken Willington (KW)
	Pauline Vawdrey (PV)	Ken Elkins (KE)
	Kath Conroy (KC)	Mavis Thorpe (MT)
	Peter Winby (PW)	Keith Nowell (KN)
	Keith Hallows (KH)	David Langford (DL)

25 General members present

1 Chairman's Opening Remarks.

Bryan Roe started by welcoming everybody to the meeting & then went on to request a minutes silence in remembrance of members who had passed away, Mo Skelton, James Robinson, Eileen Tapley & Jean Whittaker

2 Apologies for absence.

Joe Taylor, Chris England, Lorna Langford, Wilf & Jean Capper, Paul & Margaret Harvey, June Arthurs, Harry Nottingham.

3 Minutes of previous meeting—21st February 2007.

The minutes of the AGM on 22 February 2007 were approved . The minutes had not been distributed tonight as the previous year's method of making them available prior to the meeting had been so successful that it had been decided to repeat the practice.

4 Matters arising from these minutes-----there were none

5 Chairman's Report.

Bryan began by thanking the committee for their help & support during his first year as Chairman & noted that Peter Dawson, Keith Hallows, Eileen O'Toole & last but not least Pauline Vawdrey, who has conducted the financial affairs of the club so admirably ,would be stepping down from the committee so the hope was that replacements could be found at this meeting to ensure continuity. He went on to remark on the positives gained for the club by changing the coach provider to Burlands, not only the welcome return of Tom, the driver, but also the efforts of other drivers to accommodate our needs.

The Chairman welcomed new members & thanked also existing members for their efforts to make the newcomers feel at home on the Thursday as well as the Sunday walks.

Bryan noted that the website continues to be visited regularly especially just before a Sunday walk. He concluded by once again thanking the club members for their continuing support to the club & also to Gill for her proof reading skills.

6 Treasurer's Report & Annual Accounts ; Year ended 31st December 2007

Pauline reported that there had been 25 walks during 2007 which had made a loss of £933. The average on each walk fell from 47 in 2006 to 43 ; A walk averaging 10, B walk 18 & C walk 15. The Chamois holiday had shown a loss of £20 & £40 was paid in expenses to the organisers of the Cardigan & Scarborough holidays. The loss of £7 on the Hot Pot was the cost of the driver's meal. Insurance remained the same but photocopying costs were down, perhaps the result of more members being on the e mail.

Donations of £50 were paid to Talking Newspaper for use of their premises for committee meetings & £25 to the Ramblers' Association Coastline Appeal. Profit of £50 made on the Cardigan holiday was used to donate £50 in memory of Mo Skelton. There was a donation of £5 from one member (who also purchased a club badge & there are more available at the knock-down price of £1) Other income was £900 from membership fees & Abbey Bank interest of £130.90. This means that the club had a loss of £286 17 for the year but the good news is that the Balance sheet shows a healthy £4264.65 remaining.

Pauline concluded her final report as Treasurer by saying that she had enjoyed her role & would be happy to assist the new incumbent

7 Auditor's Report

Vic Ward, Club Auditor, verified that the accounts were in order & again congratulated Pauline on her work & having done an excellent job.

8 Membership Secretary's Report

Keith Hallows reported that there are now 142 paid up members (148 last year), 51 working (56), 90 retired (91) & 1 (1) junior member.

Keith has decided that he will not be seeking re election to his role although he has enjoyed the last 4 years & getting to know everybody's name.

9 Ramble Organiser's Report

Keith Nowell passed on his thanks & Peter Winby's to the walk leaders & to the committee for all the help in setting up the programme. He went on to stress that it is a struggle to get leaders for the A walks & more volunteers are needed. Peter agreed with him that it has difficult for the past 2 years to get the board completed ASAP so that it could be printed in good time. BR asked for comments from the floor but none were forthcoming.

10 Club Weekends/Holiday Breaks

10.1 Grace Harding has 42 people going on the Criccieth holiday although there may be more places available but they have to wait to hear from the hotel. Grace will contact interested parties. Walk leaders will be needed for B & C walks.

The Newquay holiday had gone well (apart from Howard's accident) & they had done some enjoyable walks for which Grace thanked all the leaders. BR expressed appreciation to the members who had visited Howard in hospital.

- 10.2 Joan Yarwood said that the Trossachs holiday has 45 going & there is a double room available. As the cost depends on numbers the final amount will be affected if this is allocated or not. Balance to be paid by the end of August
- 10.3 Keith Hallows has been looking at a holiday in Nerja for March 2009 with Portland Holidays which will cost under £500 for 14 nights at the Villa Flamenco. As there is a free place for one in 12 the best numbers would be 24 or 36. A show of hands indicated 19 were interested.

11 Election of Officers & Committee.

Ken Willington as President took the chair.

Pauline Vawdrey, Treasurer, Keith Hallows, Membership Secretary, Eileen O'Toole, Minutes Secretary had all indicated their intention not to seek re election along with Peter Dawson, who was also resigning as a general committee member.

After some difficulties in finding the requisite replacements the committee was finally elected as follows .

Chairman Bryan Roe - Proposed Barbara Vaughan seconded Ken Elkins.
Treasurer Jan Boulton - Proposed Mavis Thorpe seconded Olive Ward.
Correspondence Sec. Kath Convoy - Proposed Stan Thomason seconded Sylvia Elkin.
Minuting Sec. Eileen O'Toole until September when Marilyn Norbury will take over .
- Proposed Julie Colclough seconded Grace Harding.
Ramble Organisers Shared post of Peter Winby & Keith Nowell.
- Proposed Phil Boulton seconded Peter Thorpe.
Newsletter Editor Bryan Roe - Proposed Peter Norbury seconded Joyce Dawson

General Committee: Ken Elkins, Mavis Thorpe, Joan Yarwood, Grace Harding, David Langford. Barbara Waters to be a co-opted member. Proposed by Keith Hallows & seconded by Peter Winby.
Auditor Vic Ward - Proposed Keith Nowell seconded Maurice Hackling.

12 AOB None received prior to meeting. However there was some discussion regarding increase in subscription but it was agreed that there would be no change although the committee would look at it later if necessary.

Close of meeting 8.43 pm

Note added later: Whilst Barbara Waters had offered to be a co-opted member, she later withdrew the offer as she would be unable to attend any committee meetings, as she had other commitments on a Tuesday evenings.