**LDWA Lakeland Group 4th Annual General Meeting**

**Stonecross Manor Hotel Kendal, 24 November 2018**

**Member Attendees:**

Nicky Wood (Secretary), Thomas Sellers (Walks Secretary and Webmaster), Ian Dyer, , Karen Goodyear, Frank Hodson, Brian Leslie, Robert Nutton, Margaret and Alan Parker, Chris Pilcher, Caroline Roy, Ian Scott, Ron and Ann Smith, Fred and Helen Stubbs, Richard Tait, Linda Wilkinson

**Apologies of Absence**

Colin Firth, Davina Harrison, John & Beryl Offley, Barry Utting, Tony & Christine Willey, Ken & Jenny Wyles

**2 Minutes of 2017 AGM**

Minutes agreed as an accurate record.

**3 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising

**4 Changes to Lakeland Committee**

Nicky (acting chair for start of meeting), explained that changes to committee come from the retirement of Ron and Ann Smith after over 24 years of service to the group. Tribute was paid to all their hard work over the years, and a presentation was made of a card and a gift of HF Holiday vouchers. Ron and Ann thanked the group and expressed how much they had enjoyed being part of the group for so long.

**5 Nominations and Election of New Committee Members and 6 Introduction of New Committee**

We have two people happy to join the committee – Ian Dyer and Robert Nutton, with Robert happy to stand as Chair.

Robert is from Giggleswick and has walked with Lakeland group for many years, but has also been involved in challenge walks with the LDWA and walked with other groups. He has marshalled for us and led walks. He has run his own retail business so comes with good business acumen and marketing skills.

Ian Dyer is from Skipton and joined LDWA in 2005 when he walked with our group straight away. He also joined the West Yorkshire group and has been their Chairman for the last four years. He continues to be a committee member for them too. Ian has helped marshal on many of our events and led several walks combined with West Yorkshire members too.

We held an election with the results:

Ian Dyer – General Committee Member – Proposed by Margaret Parker, Seconded by Brian Leslie

Robert Nutton – Chairman – Proposed by Ian Dyer, Seconded by Karen Goodyear

(Robert assumed the Chair for the rest of the meeting)

**7 Secretary’s Report**

Nicky reviewed our challenge walks:

**Spring in Lakeland** is now co-ordinated by Richard and Karen which means we can run the event each year. 2017 was a success with 222 entrants out of 250 limit. The new venue in Ambleside worked well and food was well received with gluten free and vegan options. SportIdent went smoothly for membership, although we do see more runners through this. We used the LDWA Pacer system to log entrants and finishing times and plan to print certificates on the day next year. We reduced single use plastic and can avoid plastic cups in the future. Members were asked to sign up to marshal at the 2019 event which is **Saturday 13 April 2019.**

* Richard Tail thanked everyone for their support and feels confident of 250 entrants for 2019
* Chris Pilcher said how much he enjoyed the event.

**That’s Lyth** was a success again in 2018 with a profit of £1212 our highest for three years. We had great help from 8 Holehird garden volunteers who will be back again in 2019! We need to vary the diet a bit as there was too much sugar and not enough fruit and savoury items. In 2019 the event is **Sunday 27 January 2019** and will be full in a few days. We have used SportIdent effectively. Members signed up to help.

* Frank commented that we don’t need car park permits now that there is a £1 charge for the day at the SLDC car park and we don’t need to marshal the car park as people found their way ok last year.

**Hadrian’s Hundred.** We are sharing the **Garigill** checkpoint with West Yorkshire for this event. It is the checkpoint at about 40 miles and is just before the night section over Cross Fell (highest ever 100 location) with a 15 mile stint to the next checkpoint. It is open from 2pm Saturday until 9am Sunday. We have access to bunk beds in the room above the hall on the Saturday night so we can have a shift system for the checkpoint. And we have the bunk room and the village hall for Sunday night so that we can stay and do some walking on Sunday afternoon and Monday. The Group will pay for this accommodation as a thank you to Marshals. Members were asked to sign up for this where possible. We have pencilled in to help at the 2020 South Wales event but not yet committed to 2021 Trans Pennine hundred.

**Nicky then gave feedback from the Local Group Representative’s meeting held in Kent last week:**

**Insurance** – we need to keep a log of members attending walks in future which will be stored centrally for 3 years. And for visiting non-members we need name address and email details too. Nicky has designed a form for us to use and will ensure walk leaders get a copy of this to fill in. The form will then be returned to Nicky to file electronically.

**Data Protection** – Nicky is our DP Officer. She has notify the National Co-ordinator annually we don’t keep:

1 Email lists of all members for **general** circulation. The LDWA Bulk email database should be used for general emails (specific emails to individuals or small groups about specific events or walks are ok, this just covers general emails). **Blind carbon copy should be used to protect addresses.**

2 No information about individual medical conditions can be kept for more than 3 months

3 No lists of individual’s data relating to events can be kept for more than 3 years – other than summary data such as a results list on the website.

4 No membership data should be kept separate to the LDWA database. So no name and address lists. These can be downloaded from the LDWA database, used for specific mailings then destroyed.

Members should check their personal settings on the LDWA member login section – tick to make sure you can receive bulk emails if you want to hear from us! We can’t guarantee you will hear about everything otherwise as we will use this system – and Facebook of course.

**New Logo**

The LDWA is considering two options for a new logo. Lakeland group members were generally underwhelmed by these and feel the logo should reflect walking more clearly. Nicky will feed this back.

**Safeguarding** – we have a commitment to safeguard young people and vulnerable adults. Each group will have the Chairperson as the Safeguarding Officer. Robert has been given the background notes to this. There has never been a safeguarding incident in the LDWA but there needs to be a procedure in place.

**NEC Budget and Future Needs** – the LDWA website and database needs a lot of attention. This website drives all events and all local activities and local web pages so it is important that the funds are in place – around £200,000 over next 5 years. David Morgan is confident this can be raised but any action we take to increase the number of LDWA members will help (see agenda item 11b)

**100 Event Rules** – some qualifying events are being removed because they are too fast to allow average walkers to qualify. Alan Warrington is the current 100 co-ordinator.

**8 Social Walk Secretary’s Report**

Tom recapped on our walks since the last AGM. These included our Christmas walk on the Mell Fells. The January Gummer’s How walk was snowed off apart from Nicky, Ian and Tom doing a short version – this walk is available again in Spring 2019. We also had walks at: Staveley, Parlick and Fair Snape, Conishead Priory, Ingleborough, Dunnerdale, Ilkley Moor, the Northern Fells, Barbondale, Ullswater and High Street, and most recently Ken and Jenny’s circuit from Milnthorpe of Silverdale and Arnside.

* In addition 7 members of the group completed the Pennine Way which has been a two year project.

**9 Finance Officer’s Report**

Tony is away on holiday today but provided a report and the annual accounts which were circulated. Nicky confirmed that our subsidised activities for the group amount to £520 for the year, compared with £687 for the previous year. Equipment purchases refer to water containers for Spring in Lakeland. We are going to change to an online bank account which will offer us more flexibility in paying for things but also earn us interest and we will add our new committee members to this.

**Tony also asked for suggestions for donations and these were:**

Frank Hodson– could we consider the Woodland Trust

Caroline Roy – could we contribute to helping disabled people get access to the fells

Brian Leslie– Bendrigg Trust may be an option for the above

Margaret Parker – Cancer Care Group in Kendal have a section helping patients recover through walks.

**10 Motions requiring a vote**

Ian Scott proposed the motion – to alter the name of the group from Lakeland LDWA to Lake District LDWA. He explained that we missed a marketing opportunity here when we changed from Westmorland and North Lancs five years ago. Whilst changing our bank details it would be timely to consider this.

Helen Stubbs – commented that we would be more likely to come up in google searches if called Lake District

Fred Stubbs – asked if Cumbria had been consulted – Nicky explained they had and did not mind the idea.

Caroline Roy – always preferred Westmorland and North Lancs but assumed it was too late to change back

Frank Hodson – explained we used that name to keep the old County Name alive.

Nicky explained NEC had been consulted and were not able to support a name change at the moment because of all the IT issues involved but would look at it when convenient. They had been strongly against it because they felt we wanted to change our Geography – but we have resolved that with them now.

General consensus was Lakeland is not a strong brand. The group would be happy to be called Lake District (with Cumbria remaining Cumbria) – or as suggested by NEC Lake District South (with Cumbria changing to Lake District North). We will take this away and discuss further at committee, and with the NEC.

**11 Topics for Discussion**

**11A What would we like in the future group walks programme.**

Ideas included:

A Peak District weekend away – and Tony has an idea for this

North Wales – Tom said it is a long time since we have headed there and he has a round in mind.

European Marches – Frank explained how good these walks had been in the Flanders area.

Scotland – Helen Stubbs said we have not been as much to Scotland as we used to

Cotswolds – Fred Stubbs would like to explore her. Nicky suggested the Donnington Ale Trail.

Guernsey and Jersey – Nicky Wood likes the idea of combining these two.

We will take these ideas to committee and try to fulfil some of the dreams.

**11B Should we have a price differential on events to encourage LDWA membership**

The issue here is that many people enjoy our bargain priced walk/runs but put nothing back into the LDWA locally or nationally. And the LDWA Nationally needs the membership fees to help with all these business finance challenges ahead.

Richard Tait has emailed us with his thoughts on this – which largely concur with charging more.

Fred Stubbs agrees a serious difference should be charged as runner are paying very little compared to outside events

Tom Sellers said we could have a problem if people are not prepared to pay more.

Ian Dyer commented that you only have to pay membership once a year and get to come on many subsidised events that way.

Robert Nutton agreed most people will get value for money by entering several events.

Chris Pilcher commented that if we get lots of runners joining the LDWA it might long term impact on groups with lower number of actual walking members.

There was a general feeling of support for increasing the differential and doing all possible to encourage LDWA membership. Again, we will discuss at the committee meeting.

**12 Any Other Business**

There was no other business

**The meeting was closed at 4.30pm**