

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the LDWA West Lancs Group held on Monday 28 April 2014 at The Peter's Bar, School Lane, Bamber Bridge, Preston.

Meeting opened 19.30 hrs Members Present 23

1. The Chairman opened the meeting and thanked the members for attending. Four years ago, I was voted on and told to carry on the meeting – that was the way it was done. I stumbled my way through then and again for the last 3 years and I think I have got it right this time.
2. Apologies were received from Alec & Margaret Burford Mac Calvert Kate Motley
John & Marilyn Crook
3. Minutes of the previous meeting, which were sent to members, were passed as a true record.
Proposed by John Evenden Seconded by Jean Bobker **CARRIED**
4. Matters arising from the previous meeting.
 - a Nil.
5. Minutes of the committee meeting held to discuss the 2014 Budget. (see attached) were agreed.
Proposed by: Pauline Edwards Seconded by: Gareth Seal **CARRIED**
6. Annual Reports:
 - a Secretary – Thanks to Margaret for reading letters and correspondence. All passed to committee and members. Past Walks on the website has been handed over to Stan Bradshaw and Doreen Viney who are doing an excellent job. We have had some new members, who live in the area, joining us on walks. It is noticed that an influx of members is when the Hundred comes around and then some tend to drop off. This is my last AGM as Secretary and Sue Allonby will be taking over. In 1988 I took over from Martin Manley, one of the original members of the Group, but as I have been unable to attend the walks for the past two years, I have decided to retire from the position of Secretary. I wish Sue all the best in the position and hope that she enjoys it as much as I have done.
 - b Treasurer – the accounts have been presented in a simple way so that all can understand them. Various questions were asked and answered satisfactory.
Proposed by Sue Allonby Seconded by Shirley Bradshaw
that the accounts be passed as a true record. (See attached) **CARRIED**
 - c Group Walks Organiser – Thanks were given to Walk Leaders for a varied programme – mid-week and weekends. Tuesday walks were the most popular. All new ideas for walks will be considered. Total number of walks – 74. Average number of members on walks is as follows: Tuesday walks – 12, Strider walks – 13. Leaders – 20.
 - d Magazine Editor – Thanks were given to all members who contributed to the Magazine. In future the magazine will be discontinued in favour of publishing news on the web site.
 - e Property - The property has been checked and all is correct. The driver of the van, Dave Turner and his assistant Sheila, transporting the equipment to Challenge Events was thanked. Items returned from checkpoints to be in a clean condition.. A new Gazebo has been purchased during the past year.
 - f Chairman – A good report – I hope. Not a lot to say really - only that four years ago when I sat here for the first time, I was feeling quite nervous. Most likely because I was new to this kind of job, also because I saw quite a number of problems ahead of me.

Tonight, I am pleased to say, I am much more relaxed. Thanks to the good work and support from other Committee members and workers within our Group. I believe our Group to be in pretty good shape and many of those problems I foresaw, one way or another, appear to have resolved themselves.

Walks are well supported. Meetings are well attended. Helpers are coming forward to marshal at our events. Our finances are sound. We now have a good working website. We have new members who are integrating more and more into the Group. A very big THANKS to all and I mean all.

What I would like to see over the next 12 months – That is easy – more of the same. Also - be welcoming to potential new recruits - Walk Leaders try to keep come up with interesting and varied walks.

Oh; and has a post script – keep alive the banter and good humour. Having smiles on our faces does us all good.

7. Proposals.

- a. Nil.

8. Election of Committee

- | | | |
|----|-----------------|-----------------|
| a. | Chairman | Stan Bradshaw |
| | Treasurer | Jaqueline Peaks |
| | Walks Organiser | Dave Taylor |
| | Property Member | Mike Motley |
| | Member | Ian Wardle |

Proposed by Margaret Waller Seconded by Pauline Edwards
that the above committee members be elected for a further year.

CARRIED

- b Secretary & Web Sue Allonby
Proposed by: Shirley Bradshaw Seconded by: Ian Wardle

CARRIED

- c Vice-Chairman Jeff Parr
Proposed by: David Taylor Seconded by: Doreen Viney

CARRIED

9 Chairman's Thanks.

First of all welcome to Sue Allonby in her new roll as Group Secretary and Website Manager. I am sure she will make a good job of it. Please give her all the support you can.

Secondly welcome to Jeff Parr in his new roll as Temporary Vice Chairman. Who I hope will give me all the support he can.

Now for the Thanks. 20 years ago Shirley and I joined West Lancs and although it was not for us at that time, we did manage to get to a few meetings.

John Viney apart, the two members who stood out at those meetings as being the backbone of the Group was Doreen, sat alongside John, and Bob beavering away in the corner taking notes. No doubt this situation had been going on for several years already.

Twelve years or so later, in 2005, Shirley and I re-joined the group, this time to stay. Sure enough, Doreen was there at meetings, still at the head of the table, but in the roll of Vice Chair alongside Graham Preston, and Bob still in his corner, struggling more and more taking notes, but by now being backed up, where necessary, by Margaret.

Now for the present 8 years later – they have both decided to call it a day and step down. Between you Bob and Doreen, you must have put in thousands of hours on our behalf, not only in your official capacities, but whenever of wherever there has been work to be done, you have both been there willingly throwing in your two pennyworth and more.

We at West Lancs owe you a big Thank You and would like to present you with a few gifts of appreciation. Partly to give you a little instant pleasure and partly a little something more long lasting. Ladies First. Shirley came out of hiding with a bunch of flowers which Pauline Edwards presented to Doreen.

Shirley produced another bunch of flowers which Pauline presented to Margaret for having supported Bob for all these years. Pauline was thanked for the presentation Doreen and Bob were then presented with a few gifts by the Chairman on behalf of the West \Lancs Group. Photographs were taken and will be put on the website.

10 Any Other Business

a. Nil.

11. The meeting closed at 20.45 hrs.

After a buffet meal an excellent talk and slide presentation by Ian & Karen Wardle showing their exploits in Tasmania.