

Committee Conclusions from a meeting on 23/03/2015

1. Review of accounts. These are in a healthy state.
Proposal: the £316 held in the accounts for the North West Air Ambulance be rounded up to £370.
2. Expenditure for next year:-
 - a. Transport subsidies for point to point walks. **Proposal:** to continue with 50% subsidies for these, should anyone offer to put any on, subject to an overall cap of £500
 - b. Hire of meeting room at Peter's Bar. Mike Motley is currently researching a couple of alternatives, including "The Anchor" pub, and will look into these further, aided by another group member (yet to volunteer).
 - c. Hotpot suppers. **Proposal:** these make the group meetings into more social occasions, and that they would continue for the AGM plus another 3 meetings per year.
 - d. AGM. **Proposal:** To continue with hotpot supper + dessert and speaker expenses.
 - e. Equipment. **Proposal:** to buy 2 stainless steel buckets for event CPs, and 100 stackable mugs and visqueen for the Amble (as cups etc. will no longer be available in the hall, and we can't risk leaving any mud if we want to keep using the hall).
 - f. Sundries. These are minimal (postage stamps).
 - g. Overall cap on expenses. **Proposal:** to set a nominal expenses "cap" of £1000, which Jacqui could then flag up if we approached this figure.
3. Pudding Plod.
 - a. Whilst many people had enjoyed the meal at the Calf's Head, this wasn't the case for everyone. **Proposal:** Dave Taylor to check out a few other pubs which offered a good walking area, suitable car parking and reasonably-priced food to see if an alternative can be found. He will do this by June. If there isn't a suitable alternative, then we will re-book the Calf's Head.
 - b. **Proposal:** The Plod will be held on the Saturday before Christmas.
 - c. **Proposal:** the Plod format will be the same, with refreshments provided part way round again (if a volunteer for this can be found). We will not have the £5 deposit, but all those invited will be asked to RSVP and for their meal choices (by the date required by the pub). In addition, anyone who books a meal but is then unable to come, must let the sec. know (or they will be asked for payment for the meal).
4. Christmas meeting. **Proposal:** To continue with drinks, a quiz and possibly also hotpot.
5. Loan of equipment. We have received various requests from East Lancs Group to borrow our equipment for the 100. We agreed they can borrow our cutlery and plastic plates/bowls, as long as these are checked out and back personally with Mike, at a time suitable for him. We declined their request to borrow our new gazebo, as we can't spare a member to supervise it being put up or taken down, and don't want it damaged. The sec. has already informed East Lancs of these decisions.
6. A new draft group constitution has been received from National LDWA. **Proposal:** Although it looks complicated, the Committee will adopt and personalise this as soon as it becomes the "official" one from National LDWA.
7. The committee all felt very happy with our website, especially since it has helped to bring us some new members.
8. **Proposal:** to continue with our charity donations to NWAA (now done via a sealed box, so easier) and the Bolton Fell Rescue (which is the team who come to the Amble). We also

agreed with John Evenden's suggestion to pay annual affiliation (£55) to the Ramblers, to support their vital work in protecting the footpaths and rights of way we all rely on.

9. Committee:-

- a. Stan is happy to continue a Chairman for another year (unless another candidate comes forward), with a proviso that summer meeting dates be flexible.
- b. Vacant position of vice chairman. Someone is urgently needed for the role, with a view to them possibly taking over as Chairman in the future
- c. The Committee thanked Dave Taylor for his 10 years as Walks Sec. (he's organised programmes totalling over 700 walks!) and will welcome Dave Whitaker as new Walks Sec.

10. Events:-

- a. Ian reported on the Amble and explained the new regime in the hall (which is why new mugs are needed).
- b. Bottoms Up. Sue to send relevant docs. etc. to Ian.

11. Any other business

- a. An expensive all-weather clipboard went missing at Bottoms Up 2014, presumably from one of the two outdoor CPs. If anyone finds it lurking somewhere, please return it to Mike.
- b. Dave Taylor will send a request to all active members to consider leading a walk. Help will be given to anyone who might like to try this but isn't totally confident.
- c. A suggestion was received to move the monthly long Strider walk held on a Tuesday to a Thursday or another Saturday. This was discussed, but it was agreed that this wouldn't relieve any pressure on organising the 10 mile Tuesday walks. At the moment, members occasionally offer a 10 mile alternative to the monthly longer Tuesday Strider walk.
Proposal: To continue with this where members are willing to put on an extra short walk.