

Manor Walking Club

Minutes of committee meeting Monday 11th March 2019

Present:

Tim Nicholson	Chair
Margaret Smyth	Treasurer/Membership Secretary
David Green	Secretary/Programme Secretary

1. The minutes of the 11th December 2018, and issues agreed by e-mail subsequently, were agreed.

2. Matters arising

It was noted that an Independent Examiner of the accounts will not be needed until 2020, when a full year of the 2019 accounts will be available. TN will clarify this with Jim Pratt

TN

3. Insurance and constitution

Committee members had examined the insurance documents and were satisfied that the policy meets the needs of the Club.

In response to a query sent to the insurers, Hiscox, it was noted that whilst officers and members are protected by insurance from liability claims resulting from any member's negligence, an important exclusion is 'reckless' acts. A written reply from Hiscox confirmed the committee's view that if a Club member were to deliberately ignore our Club guidelines on safety, then that individual might be deemed to have acted recklessly and in the event of an incident resulting in a damages claim could find themselves personally responsible and without the Club's insurance cover.

The Club's insurers therefore ask that the officers of the Club ensure that all members are aware of the safety code and the potential consequences of not following it.

It was agreed that a memo to this effect, to be sent out to all members on behalf of the committee, will be prepared by TN.

TN

(TN subsequently also proposed that a statement to the above effect be added to the Safety Code page on the Club website.)

DG

It was noted that in order to fully meet our insurer's requirements we should nominate a Club officer to oversee the Club's Health and safety arrangements. It was agreed that this person will be the Club Chair (and this function will be added to the Club Officer roles)

DG

It was also noted that members should be reminded to carry appropriate first aid supplies for their personal use.

DG

With regards the Club constitution it was felt that at the first review, the statement in 11 c) 'All members of the Club shall be jointly and severally responsible for the financial liabilities of the Club.' should be removed and replaced with a statement which bars any Club member apart from one of Club officers from entering into any contract or purchase on behalf of the Club, and that Club officers may only do so if there are funds in the Club's bank account to meet the commitment. MS will draft a suitable phrase and this will be issued to members as an agreed committee resolution.

MS

(Subsequent to the meeting :- e). The elected officers of the Club, Treasurer, Chair, Secretary, are the only ones authorised to make purchases or enter into any financial contract or any other form of contract or agreement on behalf of the Club insofar as there are sufficient funds to cover any such transaction.)

4. AGM preparation

i) Reports

Reports from the Chair, Treasurer/Membership Secretary and Secretary/Programme Secretary will be ready to go out with the final AGM agenda

ii) Agenda items

It was noted that Bob Worboys has been nominated and seconded for the post of Chair-elect to be voted on at the AGM. TN will check with BW that he is still willing to stand.

TN

The agenda item for 'D' walks will be amended to read 'normally local to the Wirral and Chester'

DG

Items submitted by members for inclusion were considered. A request to add an amendment to the sharing of phone numbers was discussed. This was to include the sharing of full e-mail addresses. As this is not supported by the committee, it was agreed that DG will contact the member to see whether he still wishes it to be included.

DG

A proposal that 'A' walks should not be offered during December, January and February in future was also discussed. This is not supported by the committee but if the club member proposing it cannot be contacted then it will need to go onto the agenda as requested.

TN

5. Other business

It was noted that a venue other than the Toby Carvery might be more suitable for AGMs in future, possibly the Gladstone Village Hall, whilst holding a walk and lunch at the Toby on a separate date