

Manor Walking Club

Minutes of committee meeting Thursday 26th September 2019

Present:

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

1. The minutes of the 11th March 2019 were agreed. There were no matters arising.
2. The current statement of accounts was discussed. The club has got a balance of £765.32 and anticipating expenditure on web site domain name renewal and insurance renewal before January 2020, we should have a final balance of around £400. Tim will check the arrangements for an independent internal audit of these accounts.

TN

3. Arrangements to enable members to renew their membership were discussed and it was agreed that Margaret will send out notification at the end of November. The annual subscriptions become due on 1st January 2020 and although our constitution states that three months may elapse before a member is considered to be in arrears, the committee hopes that all members will renew before the end of January.

MS

Payment of the annual subscription for 2020 will be taken to be renewal of membership and continued agreement to abide by the rules of the club. No further action will be required.

Using the authority given to the committee by the 2019 AGM to decide the subscription, it was agreed that the 2020 subscription will remain at £12.00 as there is some uncertainty over the number of members who will renew. The membership currently stands at 80.

4. Programme matters. It was noted that the dates for the forthcoming winter programme are nearly all now taken up by volunteer leaders. However there are a number of 'A' walks outstanding. No further adjustments to the 'A' programme will be made at this stage or for next summer's programme but the situation will be kept under review.

More feedback has been received concerning 'D' walks and it was noted that the number of members attending 'D' walks is frequently no less than the number turning out for 'A' walks. Therefore it was decided to reinstate the monthly 'D' walks, starting from February 2020.

DG

5. Club holiday. A memo from David Turner was tabled, outlining the current situation and the perceived problems. The committee has not received any offers of help from members volunteering to take up the role of organising an HF overseas holiday in 2020, nor does there appear to be a big demand for one. However, some interest has been expressed in a short break in the UK as a walking holiday, possibly near a centre of interest for non-walking partners and spouses. With that in mind Dave will send out a simple questionnaire to try to determine the best time of year and the likely level of uptake. (Autumn 2020 might be a suitable time).

DG

Related to the above is the idea of holding a 'social' such as a dinner. The committee would want those interested to come up with specific ideas and to assist with the planning.

6. Members' names, phone numbers and addresses. The current arrangement of sharing mobile phone numbers, by agreement, seems to be satisfactory and so the committee decided that no

further action is needed. Any member who requires another member's details may enquire via a committee member who will pass these on but only if permission is given.

7. Wirral Walking Festival - May 2020. In order to feature in the advertising material, our club will need to offer at least one public walk on the Wirral, probably similar to our 'D' walks. Dave will enquire whether one walk will be sufficient. We will need volunteers on the day(s) in order to manage a public walk.

DG

8. Constitution. The constitution is up for review at the next AGM. Dave will send out a reminder of this at the end of November in order to allow sufficient time for consideration. One amendment has already been agreed by the committee and will be put to the AGM. It relates to statement 11c:

'All members of the Club shall be jointly and severally responsible for the financial liabilities of the Club.'

The committee proposes that this be deleted and replaced by (in 5e - Funds and Finance)

'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'

A note to explain this proposed change will be sent out in November.

DG

9. Any other business

i) It was noted that at the 2020 AGM a Treasurer/Membership Secretary Elect will be appointed to take up post in 2021, on the assumption that the current post holder (MS) is willing to carry on for a further year.