

Walkabout Flintshire

Minutes of an Open Meeting 7.00 pm 13th September 2016.

St. Mary's Church Hall, King Street, Mold.

1. Present.

There were 18 people at the meeting and 5 apologies.

2. Minutes of 29th June 2016.

The minutes were accepted as a true record albeit with an amendment that the cash in hand should have read £32.80p rather than £52.80p as stated.

3. Matters arising not covered on the agenda.

- Nordic walking poles for Holywell group had been bought at a cost of £109.56p – close.
- Neville to co-ordinate retail initiative; this would be subject to his availability. However, he will be assisting on the Cittaslow stand at the Mold Food Fair and would use this as an opportunity to promote WaF – ongoing.
- The secretary had researched local events and had presented this to the committee at an earlier meeting. Secretary agreed to draw up schedule for 2017 – ongoing.
- The banners had been produced and were on show in this meeting – close.

4. Finance Report.

The treasurer reported that the following sums were outstanding; hire of hall £24, Nordic poles £109.56p and stationery £46.00p.

Scottish Widows account	£10004.48p
Cheque account	£1430.74p
Cash	£32.80p
Total	£11468.02p

5. Charitable Status.

The chairman apologised for the slow progress on this but would be meeting John Gray of FLVC to prepare our application to the Charities Commission.

Neville and Carole agreed to assist at the meeting.

6. Social Media and website.

The secretary confirmed that a new Facebook account had been set up (@Walkaboutflintshire2015) and appeared to working ok.

He commented that the website was attracting from 150 to 250 “hits” per month. All agreed to keep the website up and running.

7. Open Session.

- The secretary gave an update on his work regarding promoting WaF in GP surgeries and the local libraries.

He had had some good responses from several surgeries which he would be following up as this would be a good chance to talk to the medical practitioners as well.

- Regarding the library service, he said that he had completed an on-line enquiry form on the Flintshire website and was awaiting results
- Question: do walk leaders tell the walkers about this open meeting? The answer was yes but there had been a poor response to come along today. This led on to a general discussion about encouraging new walkers and bringing them on to leading. It was felt that the term “assistant leader” should be used when discussing this topic with walkers as the term “walk leader” tended to put people off.

Dave Mackie said that he would contact the Hawarden walking group to see how they managed this topic.

It was suggested that FLVC could be used as a gateway when people approach them to seek volunteer work; Secretary to follow up.

- A question was raised about hi-viz vests and when they would be available. There followed a discussion about branding, colours and sizing. It was agreed that we would buy 100+ from Forrester's in Mold and the secretary would arrange purchase and distribution.
- It was also agreed that we needed an Asset Register and that the Secretary would set up and maintain one.
- Tesco's in Mold had agreed to allow a stand for WaF in their entrance and suggested that the best day be a Wednesday. Michael Fildes would get a list of dates and hand these over to the Secretary to progress.

It was suggested that each group could approach their local supermarket and do a similar promotion; Secretary to write to walk leaders to suggest this.

It would be useful to measure how many new walkers were “generated” by such promotions.

8. AOB.

- The Chairman reported that the current treasurer had tendered his resignation and that a vacancy would soon exist. He thanked Sandy for his contribution and hard work over the last few years.
- Gill Harrison said that there could be an opportunity to seek funding under the Celebrating Volunteers scheme and that she felt it would be a good idea to put on a celebratory event like a lunch. Gill agreed to take this idea forward.

- The Secretary reported that Fran Parry, a long standing supporter of WaF, had resigned from leading. It was agreed that we send her a bouquet of flowers as a thank you; Secretary to action.
- It was also said that Eunice Moore (Parkfield walk Mold) had been ill. It was agreed to send her a get well card from WaF.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting.

Date of next Open Meeting would be 10th January 2017 at 7.0 pm in St Mary's Church Hall, King Street Mold.

This would be preceded by the committee meeting starting at 5.30 pm