

Walkabout Flintshire.

Minutes of an Open Meeting; 7.00 pm 29th June 2016.

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

Present:

The meeting was attended by 24 members; there was 1 apology.

1. Introductions.

The Chairman (Dave Mackie) opened the meeting by asking if everyone had read the previous minutes and if there were any matters arising; there were no matters arising.

2. Finance.

The Treasurer (Sandy Macleod) presented the financial position which was;

- Cheque account: £7171.39p
- Savings account: £4496.36p
- Petty cash: £52.80p

Expenditure had included payment for the programmes of £300, hall booking £24, membership of FLVC £15 and tabards £31.50p.

3. Charitable status.

The chairman said that the agreed constitution had been signed off and was now in the hands of an officer at FLVC who would be submitting our application on our behalf.

We are now waiting an update from him on progress.

4. Facebook.

The Secretary reported that he had been having problems with accessing our Facebook account and had been, therefore, unable to send updates to members.

He had emailed Facebook admin and was awaiting a reply to his request for help.

He confirmed that the Walkabout website was unaffected and was working normally.

5. Quarterly returns.

The Secretary reminded all leaders that he would be asking for the quarterly reports at the end of June. He confirmed that this was a requirement of Let's Walk Cymru who pay for our insurance.

He said that all walks for which we are covered by Walkabout insurance should be included in the return. Any walks led under Walking Festivals not organised by Walkabout should not be included.

6. Open session.

The Chairman asked for questions from the floor.

- a. **Could the Holywell Nordic scheme have 3 pairs of Nordic poles?** The treasurer agreed to liaise with the group and provide the equipment as requested.
- b. **When would we have a reprint of the programmes?** This was agreed to be every 6 months however, the Secretary confirmed that the on-line versions (via the website) could be updated right away if any changes are flagged to him via email.
- c. Sandy confirmed that **we were now able to train our own walk** leaders and any requests for further training (including refresher training) should come to him (or via the website email address if preferable). The meeting felt that the emphasis for new walk leaders should be on leading some existing walks rather than expecting them to plan and organise additional walks.
- d. **Is any analysis of walk patterns being done on the returns** especially to monitor the increase or decrease in walking numbers? The answer is “no” at a local level. However, this led on to a comprehensive discussion about promotion of the Walkabout Flintshire scheme. Ideas for increasing our coverage included;
 - Mold Connection and similar publications; either adverts or articles
 - Word of mouth
 - Programmes with walk leaders (to hand out to interested parties met on walks)
 - Printed slips of local walks with walk leaders
 - North Wales Media publications; articles and news items
 - Health service liaison
 - Local radio
 - Stands at local supermarkets etc. **Three ladies volunteered to take this on and Neville Howell agreed to co-ordinate the project**
 - Stands at local fetes, fairs, festivals etc. **The Secretary will research this for 2017 events**
 - A banner or pop-up would need to be made to support the two ideas above – **Secretary to liaise with FLVC to produce a suitable banner**
 - Target younger walkers by creating more evening and week-end walks
 - Promote the social aspects of walking or joining a group after a walk to socialise
 - Inserts in local newspapers
 - Create/encourage walks in new areas such as Leeswood, Caergwle and Saltney

The chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm and thanked all present for their contribution to the debates.

Minutes taken by Peter Kime, Secretary to Walkabout Flintshire Committee.

Walkabout Flintshire website is www.walkaboutflintshire.com

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