

Minutes of NWOA AGM

Saturday 17th October 2015 Caton Village Institute

Present:

Richard Tiley (LOC) - Chair, Dick Collins (SROC) – Hon. Sec, Steve Round (SELOC) - Treasurer, Mark Edwards (SROC), Christine Goulding (BL), Pete Kidd (SELOC), David Maliphant (BO/LOC). Dave McCann (MDOC), Pete Owens (DEE), Miriam Rosen (SROC) , Ian Smith-Ward (LOC), Dick Towler (LOC), Paul Turner (SELOC) and Hamish Willis (PFO).

1. Apologies for absence

John Taylor (WCOC),

3. Minutes of AGM held on 11 October 2014

These were accepted as a correct record. Prop.DMcC , Sec. PO.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters not covered by later items.

5. Reports

Chairman RT reported that the first 6 months of his chairmanship had been dominated by preparations for the JK. Dick Towler and his team had done an amazing job delivering high quality events to more than 3000 people over 4 days. Competitors had been very complimentary. However, E & EC Minutes and articles in Focus and CompassSport had been rather negative and E & EC seemed more concerned about map scales than event quality.

Many of the helpers at WOC2015 were from the north-west and mention should be made of Steve Round who worked on the project as Treasurer over a period of years.

Work has already commenced on BOC 2017 and the 2018 Lakes 5-days.

The NW junior squad were congratulated on continuing to be ranked as one of the highest performing junior squads. They again placed 2nd in the JIRCs.

A new website has come on-line and Mark Sammon was thanked for his support for the previous version.

Junior Squad Sue Roome submitted a report outlining squad activities. There had been a large increase in numbers this year (now over 40, compared with about 25 previously). The younger girls look very promising and this bodes well for the future.

Fixtures DT reported that scheduling had gone smoothly and that there had been more co-ordination with other areas. There has been a problem finding a club to put on the Harvester. Jean Payne (DEE) is taking over and Dick Towler was thanked for his work as Regional Fixtures Secretary over 5 years.

Lake District Access 15 different clubs/groups had used 30 areas last year. This was roughly the same number as the previous year. The National Trust now has an “automated” request system for their Lake District areas.

Co-ordinator of Controllers There had been some difficulties in finding controllers but Derek Allison is to run a controllers course. Also, safety courses were being run, these being required for grade C controlling.

6. Accounts

SR presented accounts for the last financial year. The financial position remains strong with assets at about £64K, £6K down on a year ago. Expenditure on activities had been less than expected primarily due to a drop in junior squad expenditure. The EOC contribution was the largest single item of expenditure. Junior income was strong with total funds of about £30K. Consideration needs to be made as to how this should be spent.

The JK made a surplus of £23K of which our share was £8K.

The meeting thanked Andrew Addis for auditing the accounts.

The accounts were accepted Prop. IS-W Sec. ME

7. Budget/membership fees

SR presented figures for the budget. Our financial strategy remains the same. We were asked at the last CDM to be more proactive in putting on courses. However, these can be expensive and could take us over-budget.

The website is an on-going cost and the new website involves payment to Paul Frost.

SR suggested that a grant of £1K should be made to each club and this was agreed by the meeting.

There was a general discussion concerning how funds should be spent including the possibility (suggested by DMcC) that an area of forest with a “club hut” could be purchased. However, it was felt that the cost would be excessive in terms of our available finance.

It was agreed that Facebook and Twitter are useful sources of publicity but it was felt that a number of individuals would be needed to organize this.

DMcC suggested that a group of people with marketing skills should be set up to consider recruitment issues.

Coaching/First Aid course costs had been lower than the previous year.

It was agreed (Prop PO Sec CG) that those wishing for support to attend courses should make their application to NWOA through their club.

8. Election of Executive Committee

The following were elected (Prop HW Sec PK) :

Chair:	Richard Tiley
Hon. Sec.	Dick Collins
Treasurer	Steve Round
Committee members	Miriam Rosen and Dave McCann

9. Appointment of Auditor

Andrew Addis (Prop IS-W Sec DMcC) was reappointed as Auditor.