

WHITCHURCH RAMBLING CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Whitchurch Town Hall - 14 September 2011

0 Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman announced that, with Brian's approval, the club had made a donation of £60 to The Woodland Trust to dedicate 10 trees in Duncliffe Wood, Dorset to the memory of Heather, our friend and former Treasurer of long standing.

1 Apologies for Absence

Brian Bent, Claire Fairgrieve, Jeff Geary, Keith Watts

2 Minutes of 2010 AGM

These were read and, there being no objections, the motion to accept them was proposed by Maureen and seconded by Jackie.

3 Matters arising from the minutes

Chas noted that the Treasurer's Report had requested suggestions for reducing the Bank Balance, but that none had been received. He would make sure that the matter would continue to be pursued in the next newsletter. Julie suggested a social evening in the Gill Nethercott Centre with invitations to former members.

Chas commented that both of the Winter Activities had been successful, although the number attending the dinner had been less than expected. Also that both parties in the Summer Activities had been a great success, with thanks to Maureen and Jean & Keith.

Chas mentioned that the effort to involve everyone in the selection of the Wednesday Walks had been too complicated and very few had responded, so he proposed that next time we should plan the walks at a meeting with Chas, Nick, Brian, Richard, and also that it be open to anyone else interested.

For the speed of the Wednesday Walks, Chas thought that the requested reduction in speed had been more or less adhered to apart from the odd walk which started off faster than those at the back found comfortable. Nick remained unconvinced.

4 Treasurer's Report for 2011

Jackie reported that the Bank Balance from the Statement dated 24 September, when she took over the post, had been £610.89.

The money taken for the Summer Party had not only covered the claimed catering expenses for that event, but coincidentally also the costs for the Barbecue, although that had not been the intention. Thus we had not managed to run down the balance as intended. Although the final balance of £562.81 was a reduction this was entirely due to the £60 memorial donation.

Julie suggested reducing the charge for the Summer Party. Jackie pointed out that there are now other factors to consider such as the possibility of hiring coaches, or the Gill Nethercott Centre. Also the membership has reduced to 44 from 66 the previous year and more in the past (which was thought to be due to competition from the daytime Wednesday walk).

The motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was proposed by Jean and seconded by Julie. Chas thanked Jackie for her work with the accounts.

5 Election of Committee for 2012

Chas said that in response to his letter to all members requesting nominations for committee members and suggestions for agenda items he had received no replies. Nick observed that this meant that all the members are completely happy with the way things are being run.

Chas asked for any last minute surprise nominations and there were none. Richard volunteered to re-join the Committee as he had already been involved in organising the Wednesday Walks.

The motion to re-elect the Committee en-bloc and add Richard was proposed by Barry Thomas and seconded by Jean Watts. This was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Chas thanked the Committee for their support during the year.

Post	Name
Chair	Chas Roach
Treasurer	Jackie Browne
Secretary	Nick Copp

Ordinary members:

Brian Bent	Richard Cann	Maureen Evans	Eve Jordan	Julie Roach
Barry Thomas	Jill Thomas			

6 Winter Activities

Chas suggested that as Christmas Dinner venues remain difficult to book we have Skittles in November or December and a late anti-climax dinner party in January or February.

Julie asked if we could have the Skittles earlier so that it would not be so cold.

Chas requested venue suggestions for the Skittles and the following were forthcoming, mainly from Vic:

The White Hart, Stoke
 The Northbrook Arms, East Stratton (formerly The Plough) (by coach)
 The Cart & Horses
 The George & Dragon, Wolverton
 The Phoenix Inn, Twyford

During a lengthy discussion it was decided to change back to the traditional sequence, with the Dinner before Christmas and Skittles after.

It was agreed that Vic would recce venues for a date around 25 February, then Jill would look into the possibilities of coach transport, possibly subsidised by up to £40 from club funds.

For the Dinner, Chas, who already had details from The Red House for a February/March date would try to organise something there around 26 November.

7 Summer Activities

Both Maureen and Jean offered their premises again for a Barbecue and a Summer Party.

After lengthy discussion about dates it was agreed that Jean would liaise with Maureen to pick the dates, not too close together.

It was suggested that there be a coach trip to Duncliffe Wood (near Shaftsbury) for a day out and to see Heather's trees. It was thought that September might be a good time of year to do this. Jean offered to quiz Brian about this, and liaise with Maureen, who offered to look into coach transport.

8 Any Other Business

Richard asked if anyone knew why there is a Beech hedge by the fence along the river from the Church to Fulling Mill. There was concern that when it reaches maturity it will intrude across the footpath. It was agreed that we would 'keep an eye on it' and consult Keith to find out what, if anything should or could be done.

Anne reminded us that we had thought about organising a picnic in the Hidden Valley (which we passed on one of the Vernham Dean walks). It was agreed that the Committee would look into the possibility of doing so, perhaps on a Sunday in the Summer.

The meeting ended at 20:05