

WHITCHURCH RAMBLING CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Whitchurch Town Hall - 12 September 2012

1 Apologies for Absence

Jean & Richard Cann, Claire Fairgrieve, Keith Watts and Maureen Evans had notified the Chairman of their impending absence, and Julie Roach was late.

2 Minutes of 2011 AGM

The Minutes of the last AGM were not read as they had recently been re-circulated to the members. Nobody disputed their accuracy so the Chairman signed the file copy.

3 Matters arising from the minutes

The subsidies for the social events had been successfully reducing the bank balance throughout the year.

4 Treasurer's Report for 2011

Jackie Browne presented her report, highlighting the reduction in the balance of £193.97, and Julie arrived.

The Chairman asked for comments. Jean Watts noted that she would rather see the balance reduced by spending it on something long lasting, like planting trees or similar preservation of the countryside. This met with general approval so was taken as a proposal, seconded by Barry Thomas. Julie offered that perhaps we should also consider doing something for the schools. We would discuss these at the next Committee Meeting. Jackie noted that there will be a National Tree Planting Day/Week in November.

The proposal to accept the Treasurer's Accounts was made by Mike Knight and seconded by Brian Bent. All were in favour. The file copy was duly signed.

5 Election of Committee for 2012-13

Chas Roach thanked all the Committee for their work in the last 12 months. He pointed out that he had sent out a newsletter stating the Jackie would be resigning as Treasurer and Nick Copp was resigning as minutes secretary, and asking for any proposals for new Committee Members.

Barry proposed that Julie be Minutes Secretary. She was willing to do that provided it was clear that the format would be 'Next Steps', concentrating on decisions made and actions placed, except as Jackie commented, with more detail where money was concerned. Eve Jordan seconded the proposal. There were no other proposals or volunteers for that job, and the vote in favour was unanimous.

Having been relieved of the Minutes Secretary job, Nick volunteered to be Treasurer. There being no other volunteers or proposals, Julie proposed Nick and Jill Thomas seconded. The vote in favour was unanimous.

Chas thanked Nick and Jackie for their work over the years.

There were no volunteers or proposals for the post of Chairman.

The proposal to re-elect the remainder of the Committee en-block (except Jackie who could no longer stand) was made by Jean and seconded by Jackie, and was unopposed.

The Committee for 2012/13 would therefore be as follows:

Post	Name
Chairman	Chas Roach
Treasurer/Webmaster	Nick Copp
Secretary	Julie Roach

Ordinary members:

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

6 Walking programmes:

Chas opened the topic by commenting that our programme this year had been severely hampered by several factors, the weather being topmost, then when that cleared up, the Olympics. Only 2 of the Sunday walks had been done. He felt that we should have advertised these closer to the event. And then there was the clash with the Walking for Health walks during the day on a Wednesday, which appeared to have taken some of our membership.

He proposed that he contact Basingstoke & Deane about Walking for Health, when Jean pointed out that it is now being organised by The Ramblers. He would ask the local organiser, Russel, who to contact on the slim chance that they might be prepared to change the day they walk.

He asked the meeting if we would be prepared to change the day of our evening walks, and if so whether Monday or Thursday would be better. After much discussion it was decided that Chas would ask the members about changing the walk night to Mondays, and if it is a Bank Holiday, do a daytime walk instead.

Brian and Richard had been asked if they would be prepared to devise the programme of walks for 2013, which they were, and Chas would join in with that activity. Nobody else volunteered. There were some notes to be taken into account:

- Very long walks were not popular.
- Please allow more time between the end of the walk and sunset so there is no need to rush.
- Chas will ask in the newsletter if anyone wants to lead their favourite walks.

Various suggestions for advertising the programme were made.

For the Sunday walks, it appeared that the long walks, stopping at a pub in the middle, had not been popular, and that it might be better to have a shorter walk in the morning

ending at a pub. After some discussion it was decided that we would plan 6 Sunday Walks throughout the year, and that we would send out reminders a week or so before each. Also some of them might be figure of eight all day walks so people could join in just the morning or just the afternoon.

7 Social Activities:

Walking weekends

Chas related details of last year's weekend, and the upcoming one, and asked that anyone with suggestions for next year let him know before the next committee meeting. Mike volunteered to be co-opted onto the committee to research his own suggestions.

Christmas Dinner

Chas had researched The Red House, The Red Lion and The Gill Nethercott Centre. After much discussion there was a vote and 11 were in favour of The Red House as against 4 for The Red Lion. After considerably more discussion Chas stated that he would investigate The White Hart and The Bourne Valley Inn and we would discuss it further at the next committee meeting – 8:30pm The Bell on Thursday 20 September.

Summer party

Jean would be happy to have that early in July.

BBQ

Maureen was happy for that to be in August again.

Skittles evening

Everyone was happy to go to The White Hart, Stoke at the end of February/beginning of March again as per the last time.

8 Any Other Business: Insurance

Chas related a contact we had earlier in the year with another rambling club on the topic of insurance and felt that we should find out what our legal position would be in the event of litigation. Julie agreed to investigate.

The meeting ended at 21:15