

Skibbereen Walking Group

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2015

Held on 30th October 2014 in The West Cork Hotel at 8.00pm.

PRESENT (38 in total with 15 apologies)

Committee: Chairman – Charlie Crowley, Secretary- Donal O'Donovan, PRO – David Sprott, Treasurer – Emmie Hegarty, Hill walk coordinator - Paddy Leahy, Road walk coordinator – Tim Whooley, Events Organiser – Desmond Barry.

Members: Marie Sprott, Wilmie Owen, Rosemarie O'Mahoney, Heather Hogg, Gert Skerra, Con McCarthy, Richard Courtney, Denis O'Sullivan, Angela O'Donovan, Ann Whooley, Donal Duggan, Eileen Daly, Brigid O'Brien, Jackie Keogh, Lal Thompson, Pat & Maura McCormack, Ted Cadogan, Betty & Richard Kingston, Kieran Higgins, Eric & Liz Threapleton, Fachtina Hickey, Susan & Jon Spencer, Rianne Smith, Marian Nealon, **Prospective members & friends of SWG.** Roger Nunn & Terry Fitzgerald Nunn, John O'Connor.

Apologies: Monica Greenwood, Jutta & Derry O'Regan, Sekeeta Crowley, Bernie O'Driscoll, Margaret Ennis, John & Kate O'Brien, Helen Sheehan, Maureen O'Hanlon, Jurgen Koch, Sharon Walsh, Phyllis Fahey, Maura O'Donovan & Carmel Dullea.

All were welcomed to the AGM by the chairman.

MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON 28th October 2014

The minutes of the 2014 AGM had been sent to the members by email so that they could be read at leisure. They were also distributed at the meeting to those who had not received them. No matters arose and no objections were raised. They were approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2014-2015

The Group had again enjoyed a good year. Charlie thanked all the walkers, walk leaders and the sweepers for their support and the members for participating. A special thank you went out to all the officers on the committee who keep the group going with their voluntary work and also to the members who led walks for SWG for the first time this past year.. Charlie commented that it was a very open and enjoyable group. Charlie thanked all members who had either spoken to him or emailed him with their thanks for his 3 years as chairman. He then mentioned the following people in particular for their continued support of the Group:

- The Southern Star and County Sound for publishing and broadcasting our programme.
- The Landowners for allowing our walks across their land.
- The whole of the committee.

The AGM expressed their best wishes to Emmie Hegarty and Carmel Dullea on their forthcoming charity trek in Nepal.

TREASURER'S REPORT and financial statement 2014 -2015

- Opening bank account balance on 01-11-2014 was **€1,257.49**
- Total income during the year was **€3369.70** – most of this went to MI (**€2,400.11**)
- There were 92 Full members and 12 associates.
- The closing balance is: **€1672.24 as at 31/07/2015**
- A standing arrangement will see a donation of €200 to Kerry Mountain Rescue (KMR).
- It was noted that the 2014-15 KMR donation was accrued in the 2013-14 and also accounted for in these accounts hence the €200 difference between 2014-15 opening balance and 2013-14 closing balance.

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2014 -2015. The main points were:

- All walks were completed to plan and no members were lost.
- Two weekends way were held. One to Dursey & Castletownbere and another to Sneem. Both were successful events.

ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Derry has stepped down as Environment Officer and as the Munster Representative on MI's Social and Environmental Panel. Derry attended MI Environmental Workshop in Connemara, Letterfrack, on 23 May 2015. This consisted mainly of a field trip on the landscape & ecology of the area under the guidance of Marie Louise Heffernan. He has emailed members with a useful brochure called "Walking with Wildlife". This is also on the MI website. Derry was not able to attend the MI Club Environmental Officer workshop in Glengarriff on 22 August 2015, but Denis O'Sullivan kindly agreed to take part instead. There is a report in the autumn issue of the Irish Mountain Log.

MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS

- A motion was put to donate €1000 to a local charity or charities. After discussion at a committee meeting and at the AGM, Coaction, Cope, Jason's Jeep and SVP were considered. The AGM agreed that the donation should go to one charity and Coaction was chosen on a show of hands.
- A resolution was put to the AGM to move the group's bank account from Bank of Ireland to Skibbereen Credit Union In a particular it was proposed:
 - To open a share account with Muinitir Skibbereen Credit Union Ltd
 - To carry out lodgements and withdrawals on same
 - To borrow monies on this account at one time or from time to time as it may deem proper
 - To be liable for any monies which shall be granted on the account together with interests in our capacity as club officers and not in our personal capacity.

This was approved by a unanimous show of hands.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2015/2016

Heather Hogg kindly chaired the election of new members. Initially 3 positions needed to be newly filled, as Charlie Crowley, Emmie Hegarty (treasurer) and Derry O'Regan (Environmental officer). The following had announced they were willing to stand: Donal O'Donovan, chair, Rosemarie O'Mahoney treasurer and Denis O'Sullivan Environment. Volunteers were sought for the now vacant secretary position. None were forthcoming so Charlie Crowley agreed to stand. Heather sought an additional general member. Rianne Smith volunteered to stand. The new committee is listed below with proposers and seconders

Chairman –	Donal O'Donovan	(Ted Cadogan & Tim Whooley)
Secretary –	Charlie Crowley	(Kieran Higgins & Eileen Daly)
Treasurer –	Rosemarie O'Mahoney	(Rianne Smith & Tim Whooley)
Press Officer –	David Sprott	(Donal Duggan & Marie Sprott)
Environmental Officer –	Denis O'Sullivan	(Des Barry & Rianne Smith)
Events Organiser –	Desmond Barry	(David Sprott & Marie Sprott)
General Member –	Jutta O'Regan	(Rianne Smith, Emmie Hegarty)
General Member –	Derry O'Regan	(Jackie Keogh & Lal Thompson)
General Member –	Rianne Smith	(Charlie Crowley & Betty Kingston)
Coordinator for hillwalks –	Paddy Leahy	(Tim Whooley & David Sprott)
Road walks coordinator –	Tim Whooley	(Donal Duggan & Eric Threapleton)

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Marian Nealon suggested that all members consider purchasing and using hi vis jackets when on group road walks. The suggestion was supported by the chair and it is to be stressed in future group notices.

Des Barry proposed a change to the dates of Skibbereen walks to ensure Skibbereen hill walks do not overlap with those of Clonakilty. Proposal agreed. New programme will follow this proposal.

Donal O'Donovan thanked all the members for attending and concluded the meeting. Tea and coffee was provided.

Charlie Crowley

6th November

Skibbereen Walking Group

Treasurers Report 1/11/2014 - 31/10/2015

Cheque Account			
	Income		Expenditure
Opening Balance 1/11/2014	€1,257.49		
SWG Membership Received	€3,369.70		
30/11/2014 coach hire for walk	€10.00		
MI Expenditure			-€2,400.11
Other Expenditure			-€564.84
Closing Balance 31/07/2015	€1,672.24	€1,672.24 31/07/2015	
MEMBERSHIP INCOME			
Expected income			
73 Members @ €36	€2,628.00		
19 Family 2nd members @ €32.30	€613.70		
12 Associates @ €10	€120.00		
Total Expected Membership Income	€3,361.70		
Total Actual Income Received	€3,369.70	Net 'Donations'	€8.00
EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS			
MI Expenditure			
92 MI Memberships @ €16.30			-€1,499.60
92 MI Insurance @ €7.60			-€699.20
76 Log Postage @ €4.00			-€304.00
Early Bird discount			€102.69
Total MI Expenditure			-€2,400.11
OTHER Chq Acc Expenditure			
Bank Fees & Chk Book Duty			-€51.21
Teas at AGM 2014 WCH			-€87.60
Donation Kerry Mountain Rescue			-€200.00
Donation MI Environmental Defence Fund			-€150.00
Southern Star (Smypathy Message)			-€19.68
Drinks Walk 17/11/2014			-€11.40
David Sprott (Old Bakery 07/05/2015)			-€24.95
Lal Thompson (3 Castle Walk 14/06/2015)			-€20.00
Total other chq account expenditure			-€564.84

Emmie Hegarty Treasurer 2014-2015

Environmental Officer's report for AGM October 2015

I took on the role of Env Officer in January 2012. My report since the last AGM in 2014 is as follows.

1. Coillte:

- I resigned as representative of MI in the Coillte (Munster) Social & Environmental panel in January 2015. This was due to my occasional absences abroad coinciding too often with scheduled Coillte Panel meetings. This, I felt, disrupted the necessary continuity & it was not fair on Coillte/MI to have to nominate a stand-in on occasions of absence.
- Charlie took on this role in occasions of my absence & was subsequently nominated by MI to Coillte, who have endorsed him as the MI rep on the panel.

2. MI Events

- I attended MI Environmental Workshop in Connemara, Letterfrack, on 23 May 2015. This consisted mainly of a field trip on the landscape & ecology of the area under the guidance of Marie Louise Heffernan. A particular brochure called "Walking with Wildlife" was among the items used that day. After the event, I emailed info to all SWG members about this excellent brochure, which is also available on the MI website.
- I was not able to attend the MI Club Environmental Officer workshop in Glengarriff on 22 August 2015, but Denis O'Sullivan kindly agreed to take part instead. You can read about the event in the Autumn issue of the Irish Mountain Log.

3. SWG

- This is my final report as Club Environmental Officer because I am stepping down under the 3-year rule. It was an interesting & enjoyable involvement for which I am grateful to the Club and all SWG members. I encourage all members to put their names forward as candidates to take on the role. I would like to thank Charlie (& Tim Whooley) for their hard work as Chairs of the SWG over the period of my tenure as Env Officer (indeed the same for all committee members).

Derry O'Regan Environmental Officer