



MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 6TH APRIL, 2017

Present

Jerry Walker (Chairman), Frank Horner (Gen. Sec.), Lynn Watson (Treasurer), John Gooch (Walks Co-ordinator), Julia McNelley (Membership Secretary), Jane Bekker, David Gibson-Brown, Liz Hudson, John Ling, John McNelly, Brian Smethurst, David Watson and Tim Wyles.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from David Bailey, Penny Bailey and Charles Hacon.

2. Minutes of the meeting held 9th February, 2017

The minutes of the meeting held 9th February, 2017, were confirmed and duly signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising

1. The Chairman reported there were 6 new Walk Leaders who have undertaken the instructors course and would be available to lead and assist in our walks.
2. It was reported that St Johns Ambulance courses for First Aid and CPR would cost £38.00 per person or £150.00 for a group. After discussion it was felt the group training would be most advantageous cost wise but further investigations should be undertaken to find more about the 'Heartbeat' scheme.

4. Finance Report

The Treasurer informed members there was a balance of £1083 in the funds. Accounts were now ready for auditing.

5. Annual General Meeting 11th May, 2017

It was agreed that the Committee should consist of 5 Officers and 10 Committee Members. All current members stated they were willing to stand should the membership agree.

6. Dogs on our walks

When Walk East Norfolk was set up it was agreed and minuted any reference to dogs would be hidden but they would not be prevented attending walks. John Gooch had requested this matter to be raised as some recent events had caused upsets. The Public Liability insurance we had would not be affected as dogs attending would be the responsibility of the dog owners who should ensure they had their own insurance cover. The Chairman had undertaken research by other walking groups/organisations and found they all approved dogs walking with their owners on advertised walks on condition they were kept on short leads. John Gooch believed we would become a 'Dog Walking Group'. This was denied and all members present agreed to dogs being able to attend on condition short leads were used at all times. It was also confirmed the matter should be put back on the monthly Walks Programme.

7. Membership Fees 2017/2018

It was agreed that membership fees should continue to be £10.00 per annum and be reviewed next year.

8. Members Behaviour

This matter was placed on the agenda following a recent incident where a member confronted the Chairman and dog owners and then tried to obtain support from other members for dogs to be banned from our walks. John Gooch wanted this item to be discussed under Item 6 but the General Secretary did not do so as the items were separate in that members behaviour could relate to any incident(s) and not specifically to dog issues. This was confirmed by the Chairman and agreed by other members. Under the Constitution the paragraph relating to ‘Membership and sub-paragraph (iii)’ was such the committee felt it should be applied to the member who had caused great upset to the Chairman and other members. However, it was agreed the member involved should be sent a warning letter concerning her behaviour and should not have her membership withdrawn at this stage. There were no members present who disagreed with this action. The letter would be sent by the General Secretary on behalf of the Committee.

9. Events

Jane reminded everyone the ‘Hot Cross Bun’ picnic was coming up and requested we ask members for raffle prizes again to raise funds to support the Christmas Lunch where a free prize draw ticket would be given to each member attending. A reminder was given relating to the Summer Evening meal and John stated numbers seemed to be positive. Thanks were given to everyone who has or is making our events such a success and very popular.

10. Any Other Business

The Chairman informed members he had now entered the walking group in the publication “Ageless Opportunities” which is available free of charge in the Great Yarmouth and surrounding area.

10. Date, time and place of next meeting

It was confirmed the next meeting would be held 1st Junel, 2017, at 2.00 p.m. in the Village Hall, Runham. (This was later amended to 13th July, 2017)

Chairman _____

Date _____