



WALKERS ARE WELCOME CIC

Towns and villages with something special to offer walkers
www.walkersarewelcome.org.uk secretary@walkersarewelcome.org.uk

Annual General Meeting

Sunday 16th October 2016 10:00 am

Admiral Rodney Hotel, North Street, Horncastle, LN9 5DX

Delegates/Members present:

Chris & Margaret Prescott	Bradfield
Shelia Messer	Gillingham
Bob Coalbran	Wellington
Annette Williams	Todmorden
Geoff Kitt	Moffat
Don Davenport	Cromer
Keith Greenwood	Snaith
Helen Kanneally	Chepstow
Ken & Catherine Hawkins	Dereham
Ann Sandell	Kirkby Stephen
Mo Ludlam	Hebden Bridge
June Grey, David Battam	Market Weighton
Andrew Franklin-Barber	Market Weighton
Andrew Clark	Chesham
Tony Jackson	Disley
Phil Folly, Richard Bradbury	Chesham
Jean Queripel	Chesham
Sandra & Ken Edwards	Bollington
Barry McCallum	Boroughbridge
Sheila & Rob Talbot	Winchcombe
Sam & Thelma Phillips	Ross-on-Wye
Peter Stone	Henley on Thames
Jackie Browne, Denys Coles	Whitchurch, Hampshire
Carli Black, Colin Bradshaw	Beverly
Eddie Hodgson, David Mangion	Spilsby
Jur Keeson	Otley
Liz Jefferson, Helen Pitman	Caistor
Don Morgan, Mike Broster	Caistor
Gail Dymoke	Horncastle
Julian Millington, Gillian Mauger	Horncastle
Kate Ashbrook	Patron

Guests:

Marion Thomas
David Rodger
Sue Crew
Ellie Tudor
Debbie Braund
Debbie & Andy North
Gary Beighton
Bob Wayne

Apologies:

Rose Wheeler	Mytholmroyd
Nigel Botting	Market Weighton
Hilary & David Phillips	Chepstow
John Woolmer	Church Stretton
Ann Scotter	Wivelscombe
Christine McCabe	Bingley
Robert Powell	Sedbergh
Susan Brown	Cilgerran
Pam Brivio	Dover
Hazel Merigold	Guisborough
Gail Fitzsimmons	Oswestry
John Kieran	Emsworth
Glyn Evans	Llandoverly
Chris Cherry	Dursley
Dave Pickersgill	Stocksbridge
Val Simpson	Cleobury
Naomi Wrighton	Wellington

1. Welcome by the National Committee, Sam Phillips. Additional apologies received.
Best wishes extended to ex-Chairman Nigel Botting through Market Weighton representatives.
2. Presentation by our Patron, Kate Ashbrook – The State of the Nations
3. Approval of the 2015 AGM minutes dated 8th November 2015.
Agreed to be a true record

4. To receive the Chairman's Report/Annual Report.

The National Committee currently comprises:

Sam Phillips	Ross-on-Wye	Director and Chairman
Barry McCallum	Boroughbridge	Director and Vice-Chairman
Geoff Kitt	Moffat	Director and Treasurer
Ann Sandell	Kirkby Stephen	Director and Secretary
Sheila Talbot	Winchcombe	Director
Chris Prescott	Bradfield	Director
Kate Ashbrook		Director and Patron
Helen Kenneally	Chepstow	
Helen Pitman	Caistor	
Don Davenport	Cromer	Joined August 2016
Mo Ludlam	Hebden Bridge	Co-opted for 2017 Get-Together

Ruth Coulthard representing Abergavenny has resigned as a Director but has kindly agreed to continue with social media for the organisation. Nominations are invited for new members of the National Committee. There were no questions for the Chairman or Directors.

5. To receive the accounts for 2015

The accounts were split at 8th May 2015 and 31st December 2015 for the purpose of the Community Interest Company registration. The Treasurer, Geoff Kitt answered questions.

6. Policies

The National Committee invited discussion on the following policy points to judge members opinion before making their decisions.

a. Population maximum

There is currently a maximum town population of 35,000 for membership.

Should this stay the same?

Should this be increased with suitably higher subscription as there have been a number of larger towns interested in becoming members?

Should this be reduced to 25,000 for new membership to reflect that we are an organisation of villages and small towns that do not have the benefit of larger council or business budgets?

Members eloquently raised arguments on each side. An indication by one member, one vote was taken. Increase 7, no change 8, decrease 6, abstention 1.

(e-mailed opinion 2 no change, 2 reduce, 2 increase)

b. Constituted groups

We would prefer to promote democratic and independent community organisations as members which have been shown to have more longevity and are able to raise their own funds.

Should we insist that all new member steering groups have a constitution?

Members presented evidence in support of the change and unanimously agreed.

Two members have sent in e-mail comments against.

7. Date of the next Annual General Meeting 14/15th October 2017

Presentation 10th Anniversary Get-Together 'The Heart of the Pennines' Hebden Bridge, Mytholmroyd and Todmorden by Mo Ludlam and Netty Williams