

Bingley Walkers are Welcome

Minutes of AGM Meeting

Date: 2nd April 2019



Present:

Christine McCabe (Chair), Sue Dennis (Treasurer), Maureen Carney (Secretary),

Andrea Ellis, Susan Hart, Christine Smith, Michael McCabe, Ronda Christensen, Jenny Hinsley, Graham Hart, Stuart Fildes, Jur Keessen, Chris Flecknoe (Baildon WaW), Richard Freeman (Baildon WaW).

Agenda No.		Action By
1	<p>Welcome and Introduction</p> <p>Christine McCabe - welcome to all and introduction to officers and committee.</p>	
2	<p>Apologies for Absence:</p> <p>Judith Brindle, Philip Davies MP, Julie Ramsden, Diana Greenwood, Heather Weatherhead, Linda Howell, Arthur Baxter, Christine Baxter, Joy Smith, Cedric Farineau.</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of the 2018 AGM and matters arising:</p> <p>The floor was asked if there were any matters arising. None forwarded.</p> <p><i>Accepted – Proposed by Andrea Ellis, seconded by Susan Hart. Carried.</i></p>	
4	<p>Chairpersons Report: Christine McCabe:</p> <p>It is now four years since our launch in April 2015 and I feel we are still rising to the challenge of being a Walkers are Welcome town with all the challenges and success stories that our accreditation involves.</p> <p>I'm sure the rest of the steering group will agree that we are still heading in the right in direction and gaining momentum in the town with lots of people now recognising our logo and joining our monthly walks. As in previous years we were delighted with the very positive comments we received in our Annual Accreditation Review which we received in January.</p> <p>Once again we have regularly attended and enjoyed joint meetings with local and national groups. So much so that this year we have volunteered to hold the Northern Area Get-Together which will take place at Bingley Arts Centre on May 11th. We felt that now we are established in the town we had much to offer and we are currently in the process of planning this event with the support of the National Committee and local groups. Bingley</p>	

Town Council has once again been very supportive in that we were given a grant to help towards the cost of hiring the venue for the event.

Naturally walking is our main focus as well as encouraging people to visit Bingley and boost the local economy. Our regular Sunday walks continue to be a success with our numbers often in excess of 15 walkers. We walk come rain or shine and despite atrocious weather our March walk attracted nine people.

These walks take place on the second Sunday in every month. We meet outside Bingley Arts Centre at 10 a.m. and walk for approximately 2 hours. Our walk leaders have been Ronda Christensen, Cedric Farineau, Sue Dennis, Linda Howell, Heather Weatherhead, Susan Hart and Michael McCabe. My thanks go to them for their time in preparing the walks and leading them and to all the members of our committee who have provided back up on the walks.

Once again our December walk finished at Tarquins Tea Rooms in Myrtle Park where the staff there provided walkers with mulled wine and mince pies. A good example of us helping to improve footfall in our town.

We continue to work alongside our partners Bingley Green Dog who do a great job in keeping our footpaths and urban areas clean.

We had a stall at the Bingley Canal festival which again proved a popular event despite it being the Royal wedding day. Following that we had a stall at The Otley Walkers Fair in November.

Our biggest event last year was our Walking Festival held on Bank Holiday Monday May 7th. There were five walks on offer during the day including a children's walk and also a long distance walk. In total we had over 140 adults and children on the five walks. The weather was kind to us, if a little hot at times and we were all very pleased with the outcome of the day. We are currently in the process of promoting our third festival which will be on Monday May 6th. This year we will once again have five walks on offer.

We participated in the Bingley Parish Church Christmas Tree Festival and my thanks go to Andrea Ellis for her hard work in decorating the tree.

Publicity wise we have been featured in several small articles in the Telegraph and Argus as well as a large colour double page spread about walking in the Bradford area. The Visit Bradford Sparkling Bradford leaflet featured our Christmas walk. The new Bingley Directory has also proved to be a good way to spread the word about our group.

We have liaised with The Aire River Trust and as a result of this Nick Milsom from the Trust is leading the family walk on May 6th.

We have continued to try and maintain the paths on our walking routes throughout the year and we have an excellent relationship with Brad Met's Rights of Way Officer Danny Jackson who was most helpful in improving the condition of The Riverside Walk prior to our walking festival in May.

We were approached by The Pickles Pubs chain to help them produce a walk booklet containing eleven walks starting and finishing at the various pubs. The collaboration has come to fruition and proved very successful. The booklet is now on sale in Pickles Pubs in the area and we as a group get all the profits from the sale of the booklet. The staff at the pubs are

holding a charity event on April 8th using the Marathon walk devised by Cedric and his friend Joost.

My thanks go to Cedric Farineau for our brilliant website which is still flourishing and keeps everyone up to date with our events, as well as other walking related events in the town. Cedric will give us an update on the website later this evening but suffice to say he is expanding it all the time with innovative ideas

In conclusion I would like to record my thanks to all the members of the steering committee without whose support the group would not have been possible. In particular to Maureen our Secretary who never fails to amaze me with the speed in which she produces faultless minutes. Also of course to our Treasurer Sue who meticulously looks after our accounts

Our group has been very fortunate in the people who volunteered to come on our steering group. We have all worked very well as a team and long may it continue. Also of course my thanks go to all the local businesses and shopkeepers who have supported us.

*Proposed to accept report: Andrea Ellis; seconded by Jenny Hinsley.
Carried.*

5

Treasurers Report: Sue Dennis:

Income and Expenditure Account to 31st Dec, 2018:

Income:	£	Expenditure:	£
Brought Forward	1071.14	Walkers are Welcome Subs	100.00
Fred Hoyle Leaflets	297.00	Printing and Artwork (Fred Hoyle Leaflets)	405.00
Bingley Loop leaflets	64.00	Printing and Artwork (Festival)	150.00
Donations - Festival and Misc.	268.58	Community Action Bradford	20.00
Welcome Way	12.00	C Farineau – Website 17 & 18	87.59
Chevin Trek	20.00	Annual Insurance (Zurich)	84.00
Bingley Town Council Grant	250.00	Bingley Arts Centre - Deposit	50.00
		WaW Stickers	12.50
Total:	1982.72	Total:	909.09
Balance at Bank:	1073.63		

	<p>F Hoyle Leaflets: 186 @ £1.00, 74 @ £1.50</p> <p>Bingley Loop Leaflets: 28 @ £1.00, 24 @ £1.50</p> <p>As you will see, we ended our fourth year of activity with £1073.63 in the bank as at December 31st, 2018.</p> <p>Bingley Loop leaflets have exceeded the cost of printing.</p> <p>Any questions?</p> <p>None forwarded</p> <p><i>Proposed to accept report: Ronda Christensen, seconded by Graham Hart - Carried.</i></p>	
6	<p>Elections of Officers – Chair, Secretary and Treasurer:</p> <p>Chairperson – Christine McCabe:</p> <p>Secretary - Maureen Carney:</p> <p>Treasurer – Sue Dennis:</p> <p><i>Block Proposed to accept officers’ appointment for 12 months: Ronda Christensen, seconded by Andrea Ellis – Carried.</i></p> <p>Election of Steering Group:</p> <p>Ronda Christensen, Cedric Farineau, Arthur Baxter, Jenny Hinsley, Christine Smith, Andrea Ellis, Heather Weatherhead, Susan Hart</p> <p><i>Block proposed to accept steering group membership for 12 months – Proposed by Michael McCabe, seconded by Graham Hart – carried.</i></p>	
6.	<p>Plans for the future including our third Walking Festival: The Committee:</p> <p>3rd Walking Festival - Monday 6th May. We will be leading 5 walks as last year. One walk this year will start in Eldwick and one walk will be lead by Nick Milsom from the Aire Rivers Trust.</p> <p>Regional Meeting: Saturday 11th May 2019 – Bingley Arts Centre. Bingley Town Council will hopefully send a representative to give an opening speech at the event. This will consist of talks from the local WaW groups, 2 walks to choose from, a buffet lunch, stalls and</p>	

	<p>opportunities for networking. Coffee at 10.00am for start at 10.30am.</p> <p>Bob Davidson and Christine McCabe did the short walk with a view to this being accessible to wheelchair users. This has been passed to Open Country who will investigate further to see if this can be officially recognised as a wheelchair friendly walk.</p> <p>Q: Can you explain how the stalls will be set up?</p> <p>A: Michael McCabe: The seating at the Arts Centre slides back but will be left intact for the event, for delegates to sit and see the screen for visual aids to accompany talks. The stalls will be set up on the stage behind the screen. Those delegates setting up a stall should get there early in order to get a car park space.</p> <p>Q: How many stalls?</p> <p>A: CM: 9 at the moment.</p> <p>Q: Can we not use the entrance area for stalls, because of disabled access?</p> <p>A: CM: There isn't enough room and there are no disabled delegates at present.</p> <p>A: Michael McCabe: Also there is a photographic exhibition taking some room up as well.</p>	
7.	<p>Website and Facebook Update: Cedric Farineau: (passed on by Sue Dennis)</p> <p>I'm pleased to announce that when I compare website traffic from April 2019 to April 2019, there has been again a substantial increase. Both the website, Facebook and Twitter pages have significantly increased traffic.</p>	
8.	<p>Open Forum, Comments and Questions:</p> <p>Q: What is the latest situation with the public toilets in Bingley?</p> <p>A: (Chair) Bingley Town Council will take over the toilets as a Community Asset Transfer and will incorporate the toilets into their offices. There has been a delay due to issues with the "Changing Places" facility. Lidl have also announced they will allow the public to use their toilets when they open this Spring.</p> <p>A: Also there is a toilet in Aldi.</p>	

	A: Groups can use Bingley Pool if they arrange this in advance.	
10	Any other business: None forwarded.	
11	Meeting closed at 8.02pm Date of next meeting: TBC – 2020	