

# Bingley Walkers are Welcome

## Minutes of AGM Meeting

### Date: 5th August 2020



Agenda No.	
1	<p><b>Welcome and Introduction</b></p> <p>Christine McCabe - welcome to all and introduction to officers and committee.</p>
2	<p><b>Apologies for Absence:</b></p> <p>Heather Weatherhead, Ronda Christensen, Jenny Hinsley.</p>
3	<p><b>Minutes of the 2017 AGM and matters arising:</b></p> <p>Thanks to MC for setting up a Zoom meeting.</p> <p>The floor was asked if there were any matters arising. None forwarded.</p> <p><i>Accepted – Proposed by Andrea Ellis, seconded by Christine Smith. Carried.</i></p>
4	<p><b>Chairpersons Report: Christine McCabe:</b></p> <p>It is now five 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. This year in particular we have had the added challenge of keeping the momentum going through the Coronavirus outbreak and as we hold our AGM in August this is still ongoing. Our Facebook page and website have really come into their own as away of keeping in touch with both our walkers and our supporters.</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 more and more people now recognising our logo and joining our monthly walks.</p> <p>As in previous years we were delighted with the positive comments we received in our Annual Accreditation Review which we received in January. We mustn't get complacent though and are aware we have various areas which we can improve on in the future.</p> <p>Once again we have regularly attended and enjoyed joint meetings with local and national groups. So much so that last year we held the Northern Area Get-Together which took place at Bingley Arts Centre on May 11th. Along with the support of the National Committee, local groups and Bingley Town Council who once again have been very supportive and gave us a grant to help towards the cost</p>

of hiring the venue for the event.

Forty five attendees enjoyed the day representing twenty two Northern area WaW groups. Many of them used public transport to get Bingley and the welcoming floral arrangements at the station were appreciated by all. We tendered the lunch time refreshments out to local cafes and the Coffee Lounge came up trumps and supplied us with an excellent buffet lunch at a very reasonable price. Ros Dawson from Bingley Town Council opened the meeting and we enjoyed a presentation from The Canal and River Trust as well as presentations from our local groups and walks in the afternoon.

Three members of the committee had a very enjoyable and informative day when we travelled by train to Kirkby Stephen for the annual Get-Together and we also attended Welcome Way meetings and joint meetings with Baildon, Burley and Otley Walkers are Welcome groups.

We were asked by Bradford Cancer Support Group to help with a local charity walk by planning the route which we were delighted to do. Some of our steering group were involved on the day and the event raised £1,865 for the charity.

Our regular Sunday walks continued to be a success until they were curtailed in March and our numbers were often in excess of fifteen walkers. Our Jingle Bell Stroll on which we sang carols at various venues in town attracted over thirty walkers despite the bad weather. However sadly Storm Ciara hit our town on the day of our March walk resulting in us having to cancel a walk for the first time in almost five years.

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 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 biggest event last year was our third Walking Festival held on Bank Holiday Monday May 6th. There were five walks on offer during the day including a children's river and nature 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, and we were all very pleased with the outcome of the day. Following the event we received a donation of three sets of walkie talkies to be used on walks from Specsavers who had a stand in Market Square on the day of the festival. This year's event like our monthly walks had to be cancelled.

Once again 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. On this occasion we were also invited to the Friday night reception which gave us ample opportunity to spread the word about Bingley WaW.

Publicity wise we have been featured in several articles in the Telegraph and Argus and promoted our Christmas walk in the Visit Bradford Sparkling Bradford leaflet. The Bingley Directory has also proved to be a very good way to spread the word about our group.

	<p>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.</p> <p>The Pickles Pubs initiative has been very fruitful and helped us raise a considerable amount of money. We had a stall at The Teddymania event in Prince of Wales Park which was a success and enabled us to interact with other local voluntary groups as well as the general public. We also had a stall at The Plastic Free Bingley Fair which was held at Bingley Arts Centre and Bingley Town Council’s June Farmers Market</p> <p>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. It has come into it’s own during the recent pandemic as walkers looked for different places to enjoy their daily exercise.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Christine McCabe.</p> <p>Chair Bingley Walkers are Welcome.</p> <p>August 2020</p> <p><i>Proposed to accept report: Andrea Ellis; seconded by Jenny Hinsley. Carried.</i></p>
5	<p><b>Treasurers Report: Sue Dennis:</b></p> <p>As you will see we ended our fifth year of activity with £854.32 in the bank as at 31st December 2019. Almost £220 less than we had in December 2018 – although that figure included a £250 grant received from Bingley Town Council towards the cost of running the Northern Get Together in May 2019.</p> <p>As it happened the Get Together turned out to be quite profitable as income including the grant, various donations and payment by attendees exceeded expenditure (basically Arts Centre hire and food) by approximately £280. Another excellent money spinner in 2019 was the Pickles Pubs leaflets, as the owner very generously donated all the income from sales to Bingley Walkers are Welcome as a thank you for devising the walks, a total of £203.00. Sales of our own leaflets, Fred Hoyle and Bingley Loop were down substantially on the previous year bringing in £111.50 in 2019, compared with £361 in 2018. Donations at the walking festival just about covered the printing costs.</p>

In addition to the usual expenses – WaW Subscription, Insurance, website and room hire, in 2019 we purchased a ‘fin flag’ to use as an advertising tool whenever we have a display stand, this is very much an investment, looks very professional and we will be able to use it for many years.

Looking to the future, my feeling is that income from the sale of walk leaflets will continue to decline, Pickles Pubs may very well have been a one off, so donations and grants are likely to be our only sources of income and therefore we need to cut our cloth accordingly.

That concludes my report but I would be very happy to try to answer any questions

Sue Dennis

Treasurer Bingley Walkers are Welcome

August 2020

### Income and Expenditure Account to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec, 2019

Income:	£	Expenditure:	£
Brought Forward	1073.63	Walkers are Welcome Subs	100.00
Fred Hoyle Leaflets	49.00	Tarquin’s Christmas Walk	24.00
Bingley Loop leaflets	18.50	Printing and Artwork (Festival)	172.00
Donations - Festival and Misc.	202.56	Fingerprints Business Cards	60.00
Welcome Way (3 @£6.00)	18.00	C Farineau – Website 2019	37.68
Pickles Pubs	123.00	Annual Insurance (Zurich)	84.00
National WaW donation (RGT)	£100	WaW Otley - Welcome Way	12.00
Regional Get together	430.00	Postage - Banner	13.14
History 1 @ £1.50	1.50	BLT – balance of room hire	250.00
Misc Leaflet sales	42.50	Shiplely Print – FinFlag	190.80
AGM contributions	22.50	C McCabe – Refreshments RGT	10.25
Pickles Pubs	80.00	C McCabe – Gazebo weights	15.00
		Coffee Lounge - RGT food	275.00
		WaW Otley - Welcome Way	18.00
		Kirkby Stephen – AGM	45.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2161.19</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>1306.87</b>
<b>Balance at Bank:</b>	<b>854.32</b>		

Any questions?

None forwarded

*Proposed to accept report: Cedric Farineau, seconded by Andrea Hart - Carried.*

<p>7.</p>	<p><b>Website and Facebook Update: Cedric Farineau:</b></p> <p>Traffic throughout the duration of 2019: 28,106 sessions (site visit from 1 second to 30 seconds),from that there 46,851 page views.</p> <p>Looking at 2020 up to end of July; 32,232 sessions and 48,784 page views. An incredible increase in traffic.</p> <p>Climbed considerably since mid-May.300 sessions a day on average.</p> <p>Most Popular – St.Ives and Goit Stock, followed by self-guided walks in Bingley.</p> <p>Keeping everything updated including Covid-19 guidelines and advice.</p> <p>We should be looking at getting some revenue from this traffic in the form of advertising in the future and CF will look into it.</p> <p>Facebook: traffic throughout duration of 2019: 687 page likes</p> <p>Traffic by the end of July 2020: 761 page likes</p> <p>Twitter: 693 followers</p> <p>Huge thanks to Cedric for all his hard work which has led to this success.</p>
	<p><b>Elections of Officers – Chair, Secretary and Treasurer:</b></p> <p><b>Chairperson</b> – Christine McCabe</p> <p><b>Secretary</b> - Maureen Carney</p> <p><b>Treasurer</b> – Sue Dennis</p> <p><i>Block Proposed to accept officers’ appointment for 12 months: Linda Howell , seconded by Susan Hart – Carried.</i></p> <p><b>Election of Steering Group:</b></p> <p>Ronda Christensen: Resigned previously due to relocation.</p> <p>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 Christine McCabe, seconded by Maureen Carney – carried.*</i></p> <p><i>*Committee and officers have proposed and seconded in the absence of the general public due to Covid-19.</i></p>

8.	<b>Open Forum, Comments and Questions:</b> Not applicable - absence of general public due to Covid-19.
10	<b>Any other business:</b> None forwarded.
11	<b>Meeting closed at 7.25pm</b> <b>Date of next meeting: TBC - 2021</b>