

Bingley Walkers are Welcome

Minutes of AGM Meeting

Date: 20th October 2021



Agenda No.	
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>Heather Weatherhead</p>
3	<p>Minutes of the 2020 AGM and matters arising:</p> <p>The floor was asked if there were any matters arising. None forwarded.</p> <p><i>Accepted – Proposed by Cedric Farineau , seconded by Sue Dennis. Carried.</i></p>
4	<p>Chairpersons Report: Christine McCabe:</p> <p>It is now six 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 past eighteen months in particular we have had the added challenge of keeping the momentum going through the Coronavirus outbreak and as we hold our AGM in October this is still ongoing, although we have now restarted our monthly walks. Our website, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter posts have really come into their own as a way of keeping in touch with both our walkers and our supporters. We recently celebrated the fact that we now have 1000 followers on our Facebook page!</p> <p>We welcomed both John and David to our committee in the last year and they are both doing a walkers leaders course in Baildon next month. I'm sure they will both be valued members the committee.</p> <p>I'm sure 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>We did get a few negative comments on our Annual Return feedback form earlier this year but I'm sure we have more than made up for that of late!</p> <p>Since we restarted our regular Sunday walks they have continued to be a success with an average of twenty seven walkers. We may have to put our thinking caps on if this continues and think of some alternative walks perhaps for slower less able walkers.</p> <p>Our walk leaders have been Cedric Farineau, Sue Dennis, Linda Howell, Heather Weatherhead, Susan</p>

Hart and Michael McCabe. My thanks go to them for their time in preparing the walks and the necessary risk assessments. Also to all the members of our committee who have provided back up on the walks.

Some of the initiatives we have undertaken this last year include:

Our joint initiative with Bingley Camera Club:

This proved very successful and we were lucky enough to obtain a grant to cover the costs and that of printing the festival flyers from the Combined Authority. Members of the Camera Club have accompanied us on our Sunday walks. They have been able to advise people on the taking of photos and have also taken some excellent photos of the walkers which we have been able to share on a Flickr album and use on our website and social media outlets. My special thanks go to Marcus Rattray for approaching us in the first place and for taking the lead in this project.

Black Girls Hiking:

We were approached by Sarah Njeri from Black Girls Hiking as she had walked with us in the past and was the newly appointed co-ordinator for Yorkshire for the organisation. We consulted National Walkers are Welcome who were very supportive of us prompting their events. Their first walk started in Bingley and thirty two walkers took part. Since then several of them have come on our monthly walks.

Heritage Walk :

Susan Hart was kind enough to lead this year's Heritage Walk which took place in September. Susan who lives on St Ives estate took a party of eighteen walkers on a history walk around the estate which was enjoyed by all despite the rain.

Plastic Free Bingley:

Earlier in the year we signed the Plastic Free Bingley Pledge and we continue to promote and support the Refill Scheme in the town.

Riverside Walk:

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. We also liaised with Nick Milsom at The Aire Rivers Trust. This resulted in Riverside Walk being improved even further by their volunteers and is now wheelchair friendly.

Once again our biggest event was our fourth Walking Festival held on Bank Holiday Monday August 30th. There were five walks on offer during the day including a photography walk with Bingley Camera Club and also a long distance walk. In total we had approximately 135 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. We also raised £180 in donations.

Publicity wise we have been featured in articles in the Telegraph and Argus and promoted our festival

walks in the Visit Bradford Sparkling Bradford leaflets. The Bingley Directory has also proved to be a very good way to spread the word about our group. In fact David got star billing on the front cover of the August issue!

We had a stall at Bingley Market in August prior to the festival and also at The Bingley Little Theatre Open Day the following week. Both proved an excellent way of connecting with local groups and the general public.

Thanks especially 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 including our Amazon Shop. The website has come into it's own during the Pandemic as walkers looked for different places to enjoy their daily exercise.

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.

I would also like to record my thanks to Maureen Carney, Sue Dennis and Cedric Farineau for all their work this year.

Christine McCabe.

Chair Bingley Walkers are Welcome.

October 2021

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

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Treasurers Report: Sue Dennis:

Not surprisingly, there was very little Bingley Walkers are Welcome activity in 2020 and in fact a certain amount of what appears in the Income and Expenditure account relates to 2019 - for example donations and outlay relating to the Christmas walk and National AGM. In addition 2020 payments for insurance and website costs are not shown in the accounts but in the note at the bottom which details outstanding expenditure due and funds available.

One welcome new source of income was the commission received from Amazon following sales from their website resulting from purchasers linking from the Bingley WaW website. Thanks to Cedric for coming up with the idea.

Zurich Insurance extended the 2020/1 subscription by 3 months so the 2021/2 payment did not become due until July 2021 rather than April. A gesture which doesn't make much difference at the

end of the day!

I would merely say that 2021 is looking better with generous donations at the walking festival and income from the Combined Authority for our collaboration with the Camera Club plus having paid our 2021 subs, and 2020/21 website and insurance charges we have £813.75 in the bank compared with £726.62 at the start of the year.

Sue Dennis

Treasurer Bingley Walkers are Welcome

October 2021

Income and Expenditure Account to 31st Dec, 2020

Income		Expenditure	
			£
Brought forward	825.07	Annual Subs	110.00
Donations for 2019 Christmas Walk	57.00	Tarquins – Christmas Walk	116.00
Sale of FH leaflets (contra re T'q)	20.00	VE Day – Stall hire	30.00
1 x PP, 1 x FH (Plastic Free B'ley)	3.00		
2019 AGM contrib -SD, CM, JH	22.50		
Refund re VE Day	30.00		
Amazon – commission	25.05		
	<u>982.62</u>		<u>256.00</u>

Balance at bank **£ 726.62**

Outstanding

Website (2020)	£ 56.23
Insurance (2020)	£ 84.00
Funds available	£586.39

Income & Expenditure Account to 20/10/21

Income		Expenditure	
	£		£
Brought forward	726.62	Annual Subs 2021	110.00
Combined Authority	830.00	Window Stickers	12.50
Welcome Way 9 @ £6	54.00	Website 20 & 21	92.37
Loop,F Hoyle, Pickles 38@ £1	38.00	Insurance 20 & 21	180.00

	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 35%;">Festival Donations</td> <td style="width: 15%; text-align: right;">180.00</td> <td style="width: 35%;">Full Stop Printing</td> <td style="width: 15%; text-align: right;">140.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Camera Club</td> <td style="text-align: right;">480.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>1828.62</u></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>1014.87</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Balance at bank</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Funds available</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£813.75</td> <td colspan="2"></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Any questions?</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">None forwarded</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4"><i>Proposed to accept report: Andrea Ellis, seconded by Jenny Hinsley - Carried.</i></td> </tr> </table>	Festival Donations	180.00	Full Stop Printing	140.00			Camera Club	480.00		<u>1828.62</u>		<u>1014.87</u>	Balance at bank				Funds available	£813.75			Any questions?				None forwarded				<i>Proposed to accept report: Andrea Ellis, seconded by Jenny Hinsley - Carried.</i>			
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7.	<p>Website and Facebook Update: Cedric Farineau:</p> <p>Traffic throughout the duration of 2019: 28,106 sessions (site visit from 1 second to 30 minutes), from that there 46,851 page views.</p> <p>2020: 57,884 sessions (+51%) ; 111,511 page views (+58%)</p> <p>Looking at 2021 up to end of September; 42,399 sessions and 70,744 page views. We are on track to achieve the same level of traffic as last year</p> <p>2020 & 2021 lockdowns have helped us considerably with our online traffic. However, since end of lockdown (July 2021) traffic hasn't fell to pre-Covid. So this is very encouraging</p> <p>Most Popular – St.Ives and Goit Stock, followed by self-guided walks in Bingley.</p> <p>We have made some revenue via soft advertising by linking to Amazon products (% of sale via commission). £25 sent to WaW account in December 2020</p> <p>Social Media:</p> <p>Facebook: traffic throughout duration of 2020: 10,507 People reached (posts)</p> <p>Twitter: traffic throughout duration of 2020: 27,459 tweet impressions, 736 profile visits</p>																																
8	<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: Susan Hart, seconded by David Hanson – Carried.</i></p>																																

	<p>Election of Steering Group:</p> <p>Cedric Farineau, Arthur Baxter, Jenny Hinsley, Christine Smith, Andrea Ellis, Heather Weatherhead, Susan Hart, David Hanson</p> <p><i>Block proposed to accept steering group membership for 12 months – Proposed by John Kata, seconded by Sue Dennis– 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>
10.	<p>Open Forum, Comments and Questions:</p> <p>Not applicable - absence of general public due to Covid-19.</p>
11.	<p>Any other business:</p> <p>None forwarded.</p>
12	<p>Meeting closed at 7.20pm</p> <p>Date of next meeting: TBC - 2021</p>