

Chorley Rambler's AGM
Wednesday 6th December 2017
Euxton Institute, Wigan Road, Euxton, Chorley

Mike Wisdom introduced himself and opened the formal part of the meeting.

There were 29 people in attendance at the AGM and 12 apologies were received.

1/ The notice calling the AGM and describing the matters to be considered today was mailed on or about the 20th Nov 2017 to all our members. Will someone move that the reading of this notice now be dispensed with.

Proposer - Martin Smalley Seconded - Alan Blundell

2/ Our first item of business is the approval of the minutes of our last AGM on the 6th Dec 2016. A copy of the minutes can be obtained from our secretary and is also available on our website. Will someone move that the reading of the minutes held on 6th Dec 2016 be dispensed with and that they be approved and adopted as presented. Proposer - Tony Farrah Seconded - Brian Allman

3/ I now place before the members the Audited Financial statement up to the Fiscal period 30th September 2017 together with the Auditors report on. Will someone move that the reading of the Financial statement and auditors report be dispensed with. Proposer - Marian Owen Seconded - Eileen Entwisle

4/ The next item of business is the appointment of the committee. I will ask Marian Owen to take the chair for the election of our chair person. Are there any nominations for Chair Person. If there are no nominations I declare Mike Wisdom be re-elected as our Chairman. The following are committee members in their respective positions elected at the previous A.G.M. or co-opted since and have agreed to stand for re-election to the committee in their various capacities.

Paula Armstrong Secretary
Walter McDermott Treasurer
Alan Blundell Programme Coordinator
Marian Owen Footpath Coordinator
Eileen Entwisle Membership Secretary
Amanda French Social Media Officer

Do we have any nominations for committee members? Can we have a proposer and seconder that the existing committee members be elected en-bloc.

Proposer - Marian Owen Seconded - Tony Farrah

5/ We now need to nominate someone to be our representative at the Area committee meetings and AGM. I attended the meetings last year so I am willing to continue as your Area Rep... Are there any nominations? No nominations received.

Proposed - Marian Owen Seconded - Martin Smalley

6/ The next matter is the appointment of the Chorley Ramblers Auditor. Ken Standring has decided to step down. John Warner has agreed to audit our accounts for the next fiscal period. Will someone move that John Warner be the Auditor until the next AGM.

Proposer - Marian Owen Seconded - Tony Farrah

7:25pm - the formal part of the meeting was closed.

Mike Wisdom went through the finances and what things were.

Eileen Entwisle spoke about membership - slightly down on last year.

Alan Blundell - Programme Secretary - thanked everyone who led a walk and thanked Denny Robinson for the coach walks. Marina and Linda will also be chasing people up for walks. Phil Atherton suggested that there could be routes made available for people to lead if they were daunted by organising a walk. Mike Wisdom pointed out that there were some documents regarding a walk leaders checklist that were available. Derek ? has been going round to various Parish notice boards putting up some laminated posters advertising the Chorley Ramblers. Sue Fletcher asked if this was bringing people in. Mike Wisdom replied that he would let her know next year as it was a new initiative. There was a discussion about other places to display posters including doctors surgeries, hospitals, Tesco, Morrisons etc.

Marian Owen - Footpaths Officer - Marian reported on obstructions and how Lancashire County Council are struggling to keep footpaths clear. 66% of paths have been checked in the last 12 months - Marian thinks this may be too low a figure. Marian thanked the footpath checkers for their hard work. Marian is planning to hold a footpath checkers meeting next year. Maybe some small team working - there are some footpath checker vacancies in Croston, Adlington and Coppull.

Brian Allman thanked Marian Owen for all her hard work with the footpath checkers and Brian agreed that the figure for the percentage of footpaths checked was too low.

Planning Applications & Closures etc - we no longer have an officer for this position. Marian Owen has phoned LCC and Chorley Borough Council several times but Pat Beresford still receives the information.

Mike Wisdom has recently written to all Parish Councillors to ask them to let him know if any planning applications are happening in their parish.

Miles Without Stiles - this is a suggestion for a way to spend some of Terry Lewis's legacy money. Metal kissing gates are £450 - £500 each (wooden ones cost more) and metal pedestrian gates cost £350 (again wooden ones cost more). LCC would supply at cost and check where they were going (pipes etc). The areas being suggested for Miles without Stiles are the Anglezarke reservoir - 5 mile circular, Rivington circular - 5 miles and Clayton-le-Woods to Cuerden Valley - 5 mile circular. These routes provide access links to the Chorley Circular. Marian Owen highlighted how many gates could be required for each of the walks - the question was raised about who would be responsible for future maintenance costs. Chorley Rambler's present on the night agreed that up to £8000 could be spent on the Miles Without Stiles initiative.

David Kelly - Area Secretary – Gave a talk and slide show explaining the lack of progress LCC are making repairing our footpaths.