

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of  
Perth & District Hillwalking Club  
held on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at 7.30 pm  
at Craigie Hill Golf Club, Perth**

There were 38 members in attendance

**1 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Fiona Stewart, Betty Blair, Tom Doig, Theresa Torrance, Nigel Bruce, John Moy, Sarah Howarth, Lyn Rankine, Cris Bonomy, Phillipa Baylis, Irene Somerville, Irene McLaren.

**2 Minutes of 2015 AGM**

These had been circulated by email. They were passed as a true record of the meeting, proposed by Andrew Glebocki and seconded by Jack Holliday.

**3 Committee Report**

The Chairman delivered the Committee's Report, commenting that the Club had lost 16 members and gained 14 new ones with a current membership of 100.

The decline in numbers was not due to a lack of effort on the part of the Committee to publicise the Club. He thanked Frances Berry for the regular exposure that the club got in the PA and the Courier. He thanked Margaret Band for continuing to develop and maintain the new web site and to Andy Miller for maintaining the Facebook page for the Club.

George gave a summary of the 2015-2016 monthly walks, the weekend meets, the Slides and Buffet night. He congratulated Tony Jackson and Charles Evans for completing their Munros in 2015.

**4 Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report had been circulated by email. The balance on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2015 was £1564.98 and at the Year End Balance on 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016 was £2086.36, making the net surplus for the year £521.38.

Coach costs have been stable over the year. For the next year the Membership Subscription will remain the same at £20, and the monthly coach fare will remain at £14.

Neil mentioned the reduction in our operating costs, and the surplus from the Slides & Buffet Evening, which were the main contributors to the surplus for the year. He also discussed the budget for 2016/17, emphasizing the sensitivity to coach prices and the numbers booking each month, as well as our membership numbers.

The report was accepted on a proposal by Kirsten Paterson and seconded by Francis Berry.

**5 Committee for 2016/2017**

Cris Bonomy and Kirsten Paterson will be standing down from the Committee. George thanked them both for their long standing time on the Committee (4 years for Cris and 11 years for Kirsten).

As there were twelve nominations for the Committee no vote was required. The membership of the committee had previously been approved at the Committee Meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> March with two new joining Committee members. Alan Davidson and David Clark were welcomed by the Chairman.

## **6 Weekend Meets 2016**

George gave a review for the Weekend Meet booking from 2011-2015. The overall number of bookings for people going on the weekend meets are falling. The new system for members booking their own place in the hostel appears not to be working well, from the poor turnout of 15 at Ratagan last September, and 9 at Loch Lochy in February. Eric and Margaret have taken advantage of the SYHA booking terms, and booked 18 places more than 6 months ahead, for the club at Ullapool for September. This allows up to 28 days before the booking is finalised and a deposit paid. The closing date was 11<sup>th</sup> March, and 14 members have booked with the club and paid in full. In future the club will advertise the venue and dates where advance bookings have been made, and the closing dates for bookings. Hopefully this will make it easier for members, without financial risk to the club. Therefore, the choice of venue rests with the Committee. Cris Bonomy checked that places were available at Ariundle in May, and to date 12 members have booked directly with the hostel.

## **7 Midsummer Outing June 2016**

For the past few years, turnouts at the midsummer outing to Arran have been getting lower. It was decided to cancel the outing in 2015 and to hold them every second year. We need 30 bookings and a payment of £17 for the bus fare, to avoid financial loss for the club, and the average loss to the club has been around £100.

For this year it was agreed that the outing for Arran would be run as a normal monthly walk with a combined coach and the bus fare of £14 in June or July with set walks. The ferry fare would also need to be paid.

## **8 Social Events**

It was agreed to hold a slide night with buffet supper again in November 2016. The Committee will investigate the best venues. A suggestion was made for The Salutation Hotel in Perth.

## **9 Combined Coach Monthly walks**

The following areas were suggested: –

Rannoch/Corrour, Linn of Dee, Blackwater, Glencoe, Glen Clova, Bridge of Orchy, Balquidder, Lairig Ghru.

George indicated the intention to run the Moffat outing again, with some different walks. Also, the train-assisted outing from Rannoch to Corrour.

## **10 Email Communications**

Email is now the main means of communication with only a few members not having an email address. The monthly bulletin is emailed to members, and new walk tables, 4 times a year. It has now replaced Spindrift to reduce costs. Walk tables and forms will continue to be printed for those members not online.

The cost of producing membership cards was raised. To reduce those costs, it was suggested that all membership information can be emailed instead. It was agreed to try it this year.

**11 AOCB**

George was thanked for his hard work as Chairman of the club and doing such a good job.

George reminded members that photographs are owned by who takes them and there is no right of privacy. Andy asked for more photographs for the Facebook page including any interesting outdoor photographs. These can be emailed or texted to him. His contact details will be on the Bulletin.

Andy Millar, Ewan Macdonald and Tony Jackson attended the Mountain Mind Quiz and did very well to finish in the “middle of the total group”. George reminded everyone how high the standards are, and suggested a round of applause for the 3 team members.

Andy raised the subject of payment for walks. People have enquired to come on walks that don't have cheque books. Could payments be made by Digital Banking? The payments would need to be referenced to the member booking, and the usual disclaimer form would still need to be sent to Elsie Wilke. The Treasurer raised reservations, and this will need to be investigated by the Committee, and of course members can still pay by cash.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 20.37.