

RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION

Mid Lancashire Area

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at Broughton and District Club on Saturday 27th January 2018 at 1:45 pm.

PRESENT Brian Dearnaley (Chairman)
 Eric Crichton (Vice Chairman/Treasurer)
 David Kelly (Secretary)
 plus 26 members were present and Diane Simcoe (RA Central Office support for the North of England).

APOLOGIES Apologies were received from 8 members.

1. Brian Dearnaley welcomed all those present to the meeting and thanked those who had been involved with the catering.

2. **Minutes of the 2017 AGM**

The minutes of the AGM held on 5th Feb 2017 had been made available to all present. It was proposed by Bryan Rawlinson and seconded by Joe Howard that the Minutes be accepted. The minutes were then approved.

3. **Matters arising**

Updates on three subjects were included on the Agenda. No further matters were raised.

4. **Annual Report & Statement of Accounts**

Copies of the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 30th Sep 2017 were available at the meeting and also on the web site.

Kevin Matthews stated that the Lancashire Weekend Walkers continued to meet as an informal group of walkers, without a formal committee or a treasurer. Walks are usually arranged at short notice, which does have the advantage of walks can be picked to suit the forecast weather.

It was proposed by Geoff Wright and seconded by Joe Howard that the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts be accepted.

These were accepted by the members present.

5. **Election of Honorary Officers**

The following Officers were elected / re-elected -

President	No nominations made		
	Name	Proposed	Seconder
Chairman	Brian Dearnaley	Kevin Matthews	Bob Singleton

The meeting accepted that a new post of Web Master should be created and that Eric Crichton is to be nominated to fill this post.

With Eric Crichton standing down as Treasurer, the meeting accepted that Carole Chandler be nominated to fill this post.

It was proposed that the other existing post holders would be elected on-block, which was accepted by the meeting

Vice Presidents	Roger Brickell
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Vice Chairman	Eric Crichton
Secretary	David Kelly
Footpaths	Joe Howard
Publicity	Kevin Matthews

The above was proposed by Eileen Entwistle and seconded by Eileen Dearnaley, and was agreed by the meeting.

6. Appointment of Honorary Auditor

Ken Standing had indicated that he did not wish to continue as the Area's Auditor. No nominations were made regarding the Auditor for the next set of accounts. It was agreed that this matter should be deferred to an Area meeting during the next year.

7. Consideration of Motions given in writing

None

8. Motion for Submission to General Council (National AGM)

None

9. Any Other Business

John McKenzie stated that the footpaths in Lancashire are deteriorating and that writing a letter about this to Lancashire County Council does not seem to have any effect.

John added that he had been involved in correspondence regarding an error on the OS Explorer Map for a footpath in Clayton le Woods, which turned out to be the fault of OS. It may be better in future when errors are discovered to correspond with the OS first.

John continued that he had made up two tread boards for repairing stiles where these had gone missing. Fortunately the stobs (uprights) were in good condition. The RA should be doing more in this respect.

The situation now is that the single report of a problem is not likely to result in any action being taken, for staff at Lancashire County Council appear not to take action until a few reports have been received, therefore it would appear sensible to make further reports of issues using alternative methods in order to give the impression of multiple reports being made of an issue.

10. The AGM was then closed at 2:05pm.

This was followed by a display of dancing by the Leyland Morris Men. The members present were encouraged to participate in a couple of dances.