Thames Valley LDWA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Sunday 25th January, 2026, 14.30

Lane End Village Hall

Agenda: As published (summarized as headings below)

Attendees: S. Ahmed (Chair), L. Ashwell, A. Beck (committee), B. Boddy, G. Bullock , L. Caswell, H. Davies, M. Dobrin, R. Doole, M. Downes , S. Easingwood-Wilson (Treasurer), J. Ginty, C. Harvey, M. Jones, A. Howell (committee), L. Ledger, D. Macgregor (Secretary), M. Matei, D. Norbury, M. Reed, S. Richards, J. Sheen, C. West, P. Wheeler.

Apologies for Absence (Agenda Item 1):

A. Attard, G. Croucher, P. Lawrence, G. Scott, E. Turner

Agenda Item 2 : To approve the minutes of the 2025 AGM

The minutes of last years meeting were unanimously approved .

Agenda Items 3-6 : To receive the annual report of the committee and statement of accounts

A report of the committee for 2025 had previously been made available online to members and was also handed out at the meeting (attached for NEC version of these minutes). The Chair offered the opportunity to officers and others to update their written reports.

Secretary/Challenge Walks : Acknowledged an increase in attendance at the AGM. Highlighted that 2026 was the groups 50th anniversary year and a series of events were planned, which would later be presented. Reported another successful Marlow Donkey and commented that if current trends continued, this was likely to soon become a members only event. Reported on the Local Groups weekend and commented that despite a drop in volunteers, we were still in better shape than many groups.

Treasurer : Small deficit reported for 2025, reflecting the strategy of using Marlow Donkey proceeds to subsidize benefits for the members such as the Church Teas and Xmas Party. There remains plenty of money to subsidize the 50th anniversary events. There were no questions on the accounts. The Chair thanked the Treasurer for her service and gave her a small gift.

Social Walks: While leaders were usually available, often at short notice for 20 mile walks, this was frequently not the case for shorter (c15 ml) walks, so less of these had been held and so the number of walks had decreased. Appealed for more leaders especially for the shorter walks and highlighted the availability of gpx files on the Walks Database.

Agenda Item 7: Election of Officers

The Secretary and the Treasurer are retiring at the end of their 5 year terms. A nomination has been received for Treasurer. The Chair informed the meeting that the Secretary role was now being split into two positions (Meetings and External/Communications), only the first of which had a nomination. No nominees came forward for the second of these roles but she asked that those present to consider whether they could help. D. Macgregor will continue for the meantime in an acting role until a volunteer is found. A Beck commented that much of the communications work could be channeled through the newsletter rather than the bulk email system.

The Chair was willing to remain in post, so the formal position i , as proposed by J.Ginty, seconded by S. Richards, and agreed unanimously:

	Nomination
Chair	Shahina Ahmed
Secretary (Meetings)	Alison Attard
Secretary (External)	Vacant (D. Macgregor acting)
Treasurer	David Norbury

Agenda Item 8: Elections of committee members

Existing committee members are willing to continue, though several vacancies remain. The formal position is, as proposed by M. Downes, seconded by S. Richards, and agreed unanimously:

	Nomination
Committee (Walks Sec/Website)	Andrew Beck
Committee (Challenge Walks)	Duncan Macgregor
Committee (Logistics)	Anushka Howell

Agenda Item 9: Appointment of independent examiner:

		Proposed by	Seconded by
Nomination:	Ron Doole (continuing)	D. Macgregor	L. Ashwell

Agenda Items 10 : 50th Anniversary Events

At the 2025 AGM a group of volunteers outside of the committee was set up to organize a series of events for the 2026 50th anniversary year. A detailed report on this was prepared and circulated by L. Ashwell. A listing of all events and their current status is now on the TV LDWA website at https://ldwa.org.uk/ThamesValley/W/10563/50th-anniversary-events.html
. Contributors such as event leads and walk leaders are acknowledged, including L. Ashwell, A. Howell, J. Ginty, G. Croucher, S. Richards, L. Caswell, A. Beck, B. Boddy, A Attard and D. Macgregor. Attempts are now being made to get as many details as possible into the next issue of Strider.

The main event on Oct 10th is in a state of advanced planning. Possible keynote speakers have been approached, but as we are not paying for these, we will only know their availability at very short notice. All these events are free to members, subsidized by our large bank balance. A discussion was held as to whether deposits should be required to ensure attendance but it was agreed that this should be replaced by reminders to notify us if not attending. A discussion was held over possible charges for non-members, including those who had contributed in the past as committee members and volunteers in the past. It was agreed that the default would be to charge £10 for guests and non-TVLDWA members, though the Committee were in favour of very limited exceptions for past Chairs.

D. Macgregor thanked all contributing to these events, especially L. Ashwell, and those present showed their appreciation with a round of applause.

Agenda Items 11 : Open Discussion

No issues were raised

The meeting closed at 15.00