



Wiltshire LDWA AGM Minutes

Sunday 4th December 2022

The Somerford Arms, The Hill, Little Somerford, SN15 5JP

In Attendance:	Bruce Barclay	Jon Bateman	Steve Braithwaite	Malcolm Christie
	Simon Clarke	Adrian Croker	Fredrik Folkstad	Clive Frankham
	Phil Heneghan	Richard Hickman	Carol Holmes	Paul Hopkins
	Tim James	Dave Purdy	Lucy Robins	John Sreeves
	Ben Staite	Clare Staff	Roger Swift	Andy Todd
	John Walker	Mike Willis		

Agenda Item		Actions / Notes
1.	Welcome	Andy welcomed everyone to the AGM.
2.	Apologies for absence	Stephen Carver, Bea Therin and Guy Vowles
3.	Approval of last year's AGM minutes	Proposed by Richard , seconded by Steve . Approved unanimously.
4.	Matters arising	None.
5.	Chair's report	See attached.
6.	Treasurer's report	See attached. A full set of accounts are awaited, therefore the vote to accept them will be postponed. Phil announced his intention to stand down as treasurer at the next AGM.
7.	Secretary's report	See attached.
8.	Walks Secretary's report	See attached.
9.	Election of Officers	Proposed by Clare , seconded by Dave . Andy, Clive, Phil and Stephen were unanimously re-elected to the committee in their previous roles.
10.	Motions	No motions have been received.
11.	AOB	a. Carol said that Betty Lewis sends hugs to everyone!
		b. Adrian commented that any excess money in the bank should be spent supporting group events or diverted to mending stiles, etc The committee will discuss this at the next committee meeting.

11.	AOB cont'd	c. The committee agreed to investigate the whereabouts of the money it is 'owed' by the 2022 LDWA 100 organisers
12.	Close	The meeting ended at 1430hrs.

Clive Frankham
Secretary of the Wiltshire LDWA

Andy Todd
Chair of the Wiltshire LDWA

Date

CHAIR'S REPORT

I would like to thank my fellow committee members for their work in the past year. You have been (mostly) a pleasure to work with.

I would also like to thank all you, our members, for your input into the group this past year. This group only exists because of you, our members. You have organised over 40 walks in the past year, a checkpoint on the 100, 2 challenge events, and a weekend away. Well done!

It has been good to see some old faces make a re-emergence, it is sad that some have not. It has been great to see new faces, particularly new faces which have become regular faces.

However, we still need to do more to get back to where we were before COVID, and unfortunately the next stages are likely to be harder for us to achieve. It is concerning that we are reliant on a smaller group of you than we would like, and we do need more of you to volunteer to run walks, and to help on events. We do need to try and start planning further in advance than we have managed this year, please help us to do this. Leading a walk is not difficult, if you feel you need help then please let us know.

In the past we managed one 'special' every 3-4 months, it would be good to get back to that. Not every group walk needs to be suitable for all, we are the LONG distance walkers association.

It is good to see that Bea has offered to organize a bus so we can do Gustav Holst Way next year. If anyone else has an idea of a similar walk they would like to do, then please get in contact. We also need to get back to doing some longer walks next year, please think if there is a longer walk you could agree to lead.

Good walking in 2023!

Andy Todd
Chair of the Wiltshire LDWA

TREASURER'S REPORT

This was my first full year as Treasurer for the Wiltshire LDWA, following election at the 2021 AGM. I have nearly recovered from the traumatic experience of transferring the Barclays Bank account from **Richard Hotchkiss**, which at one stage seriously challenged my will to live. Not wishing to cause a fellow member to go through from the same tortuous procedure without due cause, I am standing for re-election in the coming year, unless we have a self-sacrificial lamb amongst the membership.

Financially, the PDA represented the most significant source of income for the group, supplemented by Andy's 50-mile challenge. The principle expenditures were costs related to these events, plus polo shirts for the Trans Pennine 100 checkpoint manning, and a 50% fees contribution for the Meetup group website.

The net income from the PDA was £2,398 from 242 entries (2019 was £2,577 from 299 entries). The 50:50:50 yielded £502, which was the first time for this walk and an excellent financial result, due to Andy's efforts and his small group of marshals.

I have ignored figures for **Adrian Crocker's** weekend, as they balance one another in receipts and payments.

These are good results, largely due to the work of many members voluntarily giving their time, and often vehicle costs, without payment. Your committee's thanks are due to all concerned. This is how we are able to afford to subsidise the lunch at the AGM, charging £10 per head for a meal costing £35 per head.

An abbreviated account is set out below. If anyone wishes for more detail, please address me with your questions by email. A detailed set of audited accounts will be published at year end, and circulated to members.

Phil Heneghan

Treasurer of the Wiltshire LDWA

LDWA WILTSHIRE ACCOUNTS SUMMARY - 5TH DECEMBER 2021 TO 19TH NOVEMBER 2022

Balance at December 2021 £3,244 (actual £3,352 including £108 2022 PDA entry fees)

	Income	Expenditure
2021 AGM subsidy	-	£200
PDA entry fees (Net)	£3,420	£1,083
Ridgeway 40 contribution to costs	£195	-
50:50:50 challenge event	£905	£402
Meetup fees	-	£107
Trans Pennine 100 kit	-	£344
Total	£4,520	£2,136

Surplus: **£2,384**

Current bank balance: **£5,628**

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The publication of our monthly newsletter has resumed with circulation continuing to increase steadily each month. The upward trend is due to the number of associate members we have, i.e. those members from other groups who choose to receive our e-mails from us. Despite the use of Meetup, our primary membership appears to have decreased since my first stint as Secretary, i.e. 233 as opposed to 240.

I'm happy to continue as Secretary. I think work still needs to be done to get the Wiltshire group back to the place it was at before the COVID-19 pandemic. The committee members need to be more proactive in their activities, and better controls need to be in place, particularly with regards the organisation of challenge events. We need to learn the lessons from the 50:50:50 to ensure mistakes aren't repeated on future events. A good start would be to have a full walking programme for a rolling three months. I've also scheduled regular committee meetings so we remain focussed throughout the year, and not just on challenge events. I would also welcome any members who wish to join the committee i.e. without a specific role.

Finally, I recently spent an uplifting weekend representing the group at the LDWA Local Groups' Weekend in the Peak District, a summary of which is included in the December newsletter. I'm happy to take questions if anyone has them, however I'll circulate a more detailed report later.

Clive Frankham

Secretary of the Wiltshire LDWA

WALK SECRETARY'S REPORT

Summary of our activity in this year (Social Walks)

- Target was to have a programme of 2 weekend and one weekday walks each month.
- This has been achieved in 2022, on average, although not on a level profile over the year (varying between 2 and 4 events month)
- Many thanks to the leaders who have come forward and offered these walks over the last year.
- Attendances have improved compared to 2021, with an average of 10 but still not back to pre-COVID levels, which were typically in the mid teens.
- However the average has been depressed by a couple of events put on at quite short notice which has resulted in very low attendance (in one case only the leader!). It is preferable for volunteers to offer walks with at least several weeks (if not months) notice.
- As occurred last year, the majority of walks have been led by a relatively small group of members with just two people responsible for one third of events and six responsible for nearly three quarters. I won't name them but special thanks to them all.
- It would obviously be very much welcomed if we could have a greater variety of leaders coming forward in 2023.
- We have circulated a schedule today requesting volunteers for the next year. The ideal would be to run, as before, walks on 1st and 3rd Sundays and the 3rd Thursday of each month but please don't feel inhibited from coming forward with alternative/additional days.

Use of Meetup

- Since the beginning of 2022 details of all Wiltshire LDWA Social walks have been published on our own page of Meetup, as well as on the LDWA website in the usual way (which we will continue to do)
- This has been helpful in alerting those members who have signed up to upcoming events as soon as they are posted.
- It has also been useful to walk leaders in terms of monitoring likely attendances, and providing lists of attendees back to LDWA for insurance purposes.
- I would therefore encourage all members who have not already done so to sign up to the Wiltshire LDWA Meetup page. This can be done at: <https://www.meetup.com/long-distance-walkers-association-wiltshire-group/>
- It had been hoped that Meetup would also be a useful medium in terms of publicising the Group and attracting new participants. However whilst a substantial number of prospective members have signed up to the Wiltshire LDWA Meetup Group this has failed to translate into a significant increase in walk participation or LDWA membership.

Stephen Carver

Walks Secretary of the Wiltshire LDWA