

# South Wales Long Distance Walkers Association

Minutes

Rogerstone Welfare Ground – 18.09.11

## **Present:**

Hugh Woodford, Heather Holmes, Dave Williams, Rob Richardson, Byron Davies, Liz Jones, John Gwatkin, Arny Williams, Sharon Bodman, Cheryl Llewellyn, John Tinelli, Norma Lloyd, John Cunnane, David Morgan, Gwyn Matthews, Claire Murray, Alun Jones

## **Apologies:**

Angela Williams, Rod Hollands, Gerry Jackson, Phil Mitchell, George Baugh, Andrew Clabon, Jason Winney, Bob Smith, Marina Crockford

2010 minutes reviewed and agreed.

## **Chairman's Report:**

John stated that the year had been a year of progress. The group has seen extra walks in the calendar throughout the year with more walk leaders offering walks. The group had expanded so that it was now running two challenge walks and that the group was a cohesive unit with friendships being forged. The group had seen increased links to other walking groups, particularly the Ramblers. John thanked David Morgan for his enthusiasm.

## **Treasurer's Report:**

Gwyn produced the group's accounts. Despite spending £2011, the groups' accounts were still very healthy due to the income from the challenge walks. The Where Ravens Dare challenge walk made a £90 profit and the Rhondda Rollercoaster walk made £400. The balance at the year end was £3253.99.

## **Walks Secretary Report:**

Alun gave his last report as Walks Secretary.

Walks completed = 30

Average distance = 20.3 miles

Walks over 25 miles = 4

Walks between 20 – 25 miles = 13

Walks under 20 miles = 13

Number of walk leaders = 11

## **Election of Officers:**

Chairman – John Cunnane

Proposer – David Morgan

Secunder – Gwyn Matthews

Secretary – David Morgan

Proposer – John Cunnane

Secunder – Dave Williams

Treasurer – Gwyn Matthews

Proposer – Claire Murray

Secunder – Alun Jones

Walks Secretary – Claire Murray

Proposer – Gwyn Matthews

Secunder – David Morgan

Alun Jones was thanked for the work that he had undertaken whilst in post as the walks secretary.

### **Group Challenge Events:**

David Morgan gave an update on the two challenge walks currently being organised by the group. He outlined that WRD had grown from last year's inaugural event, and that as of today, there were 67 entries on the 26.5 mile route and 22 on the 15.5 mile route. The meeting heard that the route had been altered from 2010 following feedback and had been increased to 26.5 miles from last year's 25. In addition, the route now went to Cwmcarn and avoided Abercarn.

With regards to the RR, following last year's magnificent feedback, the route would continue in its current form. Regrettably, dogs were to be banned from the RR due to the quantity of sheep on the hills at lambing time.

Dogs would still be allowed on the WRD.

### **Valleys 100 Update:**

David Morgan updated the group on the work that was being done on the 2014 100. All checkpoints were now booked bar one, and a site visit was being held on the 20.09.11 to resolve the final CP.

David produced the Valleys 100 logo for all to see.

### **London 100:**

David Morgan advised the group that the South Wales committee had committed itself to running a CP on the 2012 100. This was due to the fact that as we will be seeking help for our 2014 100, we needed to help other groups. The CP will be at West Clandon which will be at 77 miles. The CP was to be in a marquee and would be open from 0100 on the Sunday to 0100 on the Monday.

Gwyn Matthews would collate details of helpers.

It was agreed that the group would also offer help now to the 2013 100 organising committee in order to try and secure an early CP.

### **LDWA 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – 22/23 September:**

David advised the group of an email that he had received from John Batham of the national committee. 2012 will see the LDWA 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the group will be expected to mark the anniversary in some way. That could mean a social walk or a challenge walk. The event didn't have to be strictly on the weekend in question, but somewhere near the date.

Dave Williams proposed that the group challenge walk WRD which is always staged on the first Saturday in October be used as our commemorative event. This was widely accepted as a proposal.

**Social Trip:**

David advised the group that the committee wished to create a social trip for the group in September 2012. The group would book a Youth Hostel and the funds would pay for the accommodation. The idea was to travel to Snowdonia and walk the Welsh 3000 foot mountains over two days. Hugh Woodford pointed out that the proposed walk was difficult due to the height gains to be made but a classic route.

A discussion took place that questioned whether Snowdonia was too far for a weekend, particularly as some people would have to drive back after a gruelling second day and then go to work the following Monday.

The committee was asked to look at alternative venues nearer to home and Dolgellau, Exmoor and Cornwall were suggested.

The committee would explore the options suggested.

**AOB:**

Hugh Woodford stated that the group had 20 / 30 active members and questioned as to the number actively leading walks.

A lively discussion took place regarding the walks secretary spreadsheet that is to be routinely used for booking walks.

It was felt that some people didn't like / know how to use the spreadsheet and that some people liked to be contacted by phone.

Gwyn Matthews outlined to the group that the planner had been created to reduce the burden of work on the walks secretary.

The consensus of the meeting was that walk leaders were to be encouraged to lead at least two walks per year and that by taking this approach, the group would grow and produce a variety of walks.