

# Minutes of 36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of Solihull Ramblers

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023 @ 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm

Solihull Municipal Sports & Social Club, Brick Kiln Lane, B91 3LE

## 1. Welcome & Apologies

Bob Thurtle opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. He explained that due to ill health, Les our Chair, was unable to attend this evening's meeting. 28 Members in attendance.

Apologies received from :- Les Harrison, Viv Dobson, Nick Hillier, John McFetridge, Linda & Mac Sheasby, Jill Bradbury, Pauline Lindo & Colin Rock.

## 2. Minutes of 35<sup>th</sup> AGM held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Minutes were available on the website as well as hard copies at the meeting - minutes were agreed as a true & accurate record of the meeting. Carried unanimously.

## 3. Matters Arising

None

## 4. Chair's Report

In Les's absence, Jeanette read out Les's report (attached).

Bob made an appeal for someone to take up the role of Vice Chair.

## 5. Treasurer's Report & Approval of Accounts

Sue Price prepared the Treasurers Report which was subsequently examined by Peter Holland who stated that the accounts gave a true & fair view of the group's finances for the year. Carried unanimously.

## 6. Election of Committee

The following members have agreed to stand for a further year:-

|                                           |                   |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Chair                                     | Les Harrison      |
| Secretary                                 | Val Gibbons       |
| Area Representative and Walks Coordinator | Nick Hillier      |
| Website Editor                            | Viv Dobson        |
| Membership Secretary                      | Richard Collins   |
| Footpath Secretary                        | Bob Thurtle       |
| Committee Member                          | Margaret Leighton |
| Committee Member                          | Jeanette Lee      |

Voted in en block, Carried unanimously.

Our treasurer Sue Price stood down on 30.9.2023. Sue Scurrah has agreed to take over this role.

We have a vacancy on the committee for Vice Chair who ideally would take on the Chair's role when Les steps down next year. John McFetridge has volunteered to join the committee.

### Vacant positions nominations

|                             |                                                                                                |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Vice Chair Nomination       | Vacant                                                                                         |
| Treasurer Nomination        | Sue Scurrah, Proposed by Helen Furniss, Seconded by Cilla Parker - carried unanimously.        |
| Committee Member Nomination | John McFetridge, Proposed by Mike Golder, Seconded by Margaret Leighton - carried unanimously. |

## 7. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Peter Holland reappointed, Proposed by Richard Rayner, Seconded by Jeanette Lee. carried unanimously.

## 8. Closure of AGM Business

End of formal agenda @ 19.52 pm

## 9. Any Other Business (not AGM related)

A member raised the 'Tuesday Car Share' WhatsApp group that is used by long walkers & it's accessibility to all members. There is also a 'Ramblers Walks' WhatsApp group for short walkers though generally as the walks are more local, car sharing generally isn't utilised unless the walks are further afield. The WhatsApp groups also post photos & other discussions. There was a general discussion about use of the WhatsApp groups & Facebook & car sharing meeting points.

It was agreed that car sharing is encouraged and we should try hard to make it work - for the environment, saving petrol & less cars being parked up at walk start points whilst members are on a walk.

It was suggested that the committee consider:-

- The format of WhatsApp groups, car sharing group/s &/or general forum group for photos/discussion
- Adding the WhatsApp Groups to our website so that existing members and new members can ask to be added to them as required.
- Adding details of 2 car share points to our website to promote car sharing.

A member raised an issue with printing off walks - the map prints across 2 pages - does anyone have a solution for this?

Nick Hillier requested we appeal for more walk leaders - Mike Golder offered to aid new walk leaders including going on pre-walks.

As Saturdays' scheduled walk in Great Alne has unfortunately been cancelled, Jeanette is now leading a 5m walk from Lapworth instead - added to website today.

### 9.1 Social Events

Post-Christmas Meal - Freddie Mercury Tribute night at The Lake Barston Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January.

Meeting closed @ 20.11pm with everyone wishing Les a speedy recovery.