

Dear Member,

Oct 2019

Your Committee last met on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019, the meeting was chaired by Norman Dixon and all Officers and Members, except four were in attendance. Officers gave reports to the Committee who discussed related topics, giving concluding decisions as required. Here are the main issues discussed.

- The Committee was again pleased to learn that the Club was in a good financial state, but concern
  was however expressed about the amount of money held by the Club. It was therefore agreed that
  it would be recommended at the next AGM (11th February 2020), that for one year only, a 50%
  reduction of the membership fee (to be £5.00 payable) would apply to existing members, new
  members after the AGM would still pay the full membership fee of £10.00.
- In addressing the above concern, it was also agreed that the cost of the Christmas meal would again be subsidised to make the cost £15.00. A notice regarding the meal for booking and menu choice will again be circulated around the coach.
- The new Programme and Newsletter have been printed and are in the process of being circulated to all members.
- Final payments to HF will be made regarding the Spring Weekend 2020 at Monk Coniston; and a notice will be sent round the coach requesting leaders and ideas for entertainment.
- It was decided that an 'expression of interest' would be made to HF for the Spring Weekend, 2021, to be held at the HF House at Sedburgh. This house is smaller than the considered alternative at Dovedale, meaning that sole occupancy is more likely to be achieved.
- Further details of the weekend at Great Yarmouth are soon to be expected from Shearings.
- The Committee was advised that membership continues to thrive with currently 115 ordinary members, which includes 6 Honorary members.
- Our Welfare Officer, Maureen Smith reported that cards have been sent to members who are in hospital or who are ill at home. Should anyone know of a member who is ill, would they please inform Maureen so that she can express the good wishes of the club to them.
- Clarification was sought by a member of the committee regarding the insurance cover for members who 'broke away' from the official ramble and did their own thing. The rules of the Club state that members should follow the leader at all times and not 'break away'. Any 'break away' party would not be on the official route of the authorised ramble and is <u>not</u> covered by the Club's insurance. The member leading the 'break away' group is particularly vulnerable to litigation should an accident occur. Exceptionally, the leader of a ramble may organise a 'break away' group e.g. to fetch help in an emergency, in such cases they would be covered by the Club's insurance.

I hope you find the above of interest.

Ivan Martin General Secretary