

A COVENTRY WAY ASSOCIATION - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 5th December 2006

Present:

Cyril Bean, Iris Bean, John Aylmer, Bob Carey, Bill Day, Ivy Dowell, Bill Eve, John Green, Bill Hartnett, Ken Nicholas, Peter Page, Bob Rainsley, Bernard Roebuck, Doug Shelton, Frank Tonkinson, Alan Townsend, Ron Weston.

1. Apologies

Miranda Aston, Bob Brandon, Keith Greenall, Greta Greenall, and Ulli Ull

2. Minutes of the 2005 AGM - Agreed.

3. Matters Arising - No matters arising.

4. Chairman's Annual Report

John Green presented the Chairman's annual report. The AGM is when we look back to this time last year then fast-forward to now and consider our performance during the year. John highlighted in particular:

- The 21Walks book sales have been incredible and although other agencies still have a stock our stock can be counted on two hands.
- Thus at the Godiva Festival with no books to sell how were we to present our Association? Well we solved the problem by presenting the local countryside in photographic form and informing visitors about the splendid work carried out by our working parties.
- Warwickshire Walking Festival was supported by our Association organising and guiding seven walks over five days, which attracted over 100 people. We led 7 walks, including three evening walks which were very popular, and a long (17mile) walk on Sunday which was not only well supported but led to many requests to organise similar walks in the future.
- Both these Festivals will feature again on our 2007 calendar.
- The September Challenge attracted walkers and runners from all over the country and was rated the best yet and our backroom staff are to be applauded for their sterling work. Even more encouraging, participants' feedback supported this view. A woven badge has been made available to successful entrants along with the ever-popular T-shirt. This year the walk began and ended at the village hall, which enabled Anne Wade and Ginny Haw to present refreshments, which were much appreciated. Our thanks and congratulations must be given to Anne and Ginny, especially as Anne had run 40 miles and Ginny had walked 20 miles before getting back to Meriden and immediately cooking hot meals for returning entrants.
- Working Parties are addressed later in the meeting - see item 8.

John closed his report with the words "I feel confident you will agree that the 2006 has been a successful and busy year for the Association achieved by dedicated members for which as Chairman I am extremely grateful and look forward next year to the revised editions of A Coventry Way book and the 21 Circular Walks book."

5. Statement of Accounts

Copies of the accounts and a report from John Aylmer (Treasurer) were distributed. They show a healthy balance following the good book sales, and positive net returns from the Godiva Festival and Challenge events. John G thanked John A for his good work, and Iris Bean for her audit.

6. Membership Fee for 2007 - remains at £3 per household.

7. Committee, Officers, Overseers and other Volunteers for Specific Duties for 2007

ACWA Committee and Officers for 2007 were proposed and seconded. There being no further proposals from the meeting, they were declared elected.

A request for further volunteers to become Overseers or Working Party members was made. John said that we were particularly keen to recruit two more Overseers. Any readers of these notes, who would like to volunteer, please contact us.

The full list is attached as Annex A.

8. ACWA Working Parties

8.1 Achievements 2006

Work in areas around Stoneleigh, Berkswell, Meriden, Corley Ash, Ansty and Chapel Green has resulted in 10 wooden and 10 metal kissing gates, plus 1 pedestrian gate, being installed this year to replace stiles.

The pedestrian gate is used on the new Permitted Path running behind the hedge to avoid use of a dangerous stretch of the B4102 on Circular Walk 20 just south of Chapel Green, between the Heart of England Activity Centre and Hayes Hill Farm. Negotiating this with the landowners/farmers and implementing the new path was a significant achievement.

Walk 6 is now stile free, Walks 21 & 21A will soon achieve that status as will Walk 17A later in 2007.

8.2 Plans for 2007

This year the working party has met each month on the 3rd Sunday, but next year the intention is to meet on the 3rd Wednesday. This is due to a gate being stolen between delivery on Friday and proposed installation on Sunday. There is also the possibility of an occasional working party on a Sunday for those less fortunate people who work during the week. Work is already arranged for January and work for February and March is currently being negotiated.

8.3 Volunteers for Working Party participation

YES WE NEED YOU and would appreciate extra bodies to have fun and much satisfaction.

9. Date of ACW Challenge 2006 - Sunday 2nd September

The date has been confirmed and published, and applications to participate are invited.

10. Any Other Business

10.1 Next Working Party

This will be held on Wednesday 17th January 2007 just east of Berkeswell Road, Meriden. See the Internet news or ring John Green for time and place to meet and more details.

10.2 Next Overseers Meeting

This will be held on Sunday 18th February 2007 at 7pm at 46 Benedictine Rd.

The full current list of ACWA Officers, Committee Members, Other Volunteers and Overseers is:

Officers

Chairman	John Green
Secretary	Peter Page
Treasurer	John Aylmer
Auditor	Iris Bean

President

President	Cyril Bean
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Committee

Chairman	John Green
Secretary	Peter Page
Treasurer	John Aylmer
Committee Member	Bob Brandon
Committee Member	Bob Carey

Other Volunteers for specific duties

Membership Secretary	Peter Page
Webmaster	Peter Page
Newsletter	Bob Brandon
ACWA Challenge	Bob Brandon & Bob Carey
Press Officer	Bill Hartnett
Volunteer co-ordinators	John Green & Bob Carey
Geocaching	Keith Greenall & Cyril Bean
Book Sales	Keith & Greta Greenall, Cyril & Iris Bean

Footpath Overseers

Overseers Chairman	John Green (including lead interface with Local Authorities)
Walks 1, 2 & 3	John Aylmer
Walks 4, 5 & 6	Miranda Aston & Ulli Ull
Walks 7, 8 & 9	Bill Hartnett & Bill Ewes
Walks 10,11 & 12	Frank Tonkinson & Doug Shelton
Walks 13, 14 & 15	Peter Page (acting) & Bernard Roebuck
Walks 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 & 21	Bob Carey & Alan Townsend
Roving Overseer	Peter Page (i.e. any walk as requested by chairmen or any other overseer)
A Coventry Way	Bob Brandon