

## **A COVENTRY WAY - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2011**

**Venue.** Cheylesmore Community Centre, Arundel Rd, Cheylesmore, Coventry CV3 6JX

**Present.** Bob Carey, John Green, Peter Page, Anne Wade, Jo' Carey, Alan Townsend, Bill Eve, John Aylmer, Barrie Swain, Bob Rainsley, Stan Veasey, Roger Brown, Bernard Roebuck, Chris Hollins, Ken Nicholas.

**Apologies.** Bob Brandon, Bob Watson, Frank Tonkinson, Doug Shelton, Dave Staff, Ulli Ull, Miranda Aston, Bill Day.

*The meeting started at 7.45pm with Guest Speaker Peter Adkins revealing his "Love affair with Paris". Paris turned out to be a Labrador Brood Bitch who has produced several puppies for training as Guide Dogs. A highly entertaining and amusing talk which was enjoyed by all followed by refreshments.*

**A.G.M. commenced at 8.50pm.**

**Minutes of AGM 2010.** - These were read by John Green and accepted.

### **Chairman's Report.**

Bob Carey highlighted the working party's activities over the past 12 months which accounted for 16 working days. Work for WCC resulted in the ACW route between Ryton and Wolston having 7 High Visibility WM Posts being installed. The Fillongley area received attention, and a 3 day exercise at Claverdon, whilst a very arduous task has resulted in the cleared path being well used.

Solihull have been keen to use our expertise, thus a number of kissing gates, bridges and boardwalks have been introduced into their area which has accounted for the majority of work days.

A fencing job for Stan Veasey and his scout group then work at Ulli and Miranda's Marton Farm saw two bridges built from scratch completed the year's work.

The CHALLENGE in April saw ACWA return to the Queens Head for the start and finish of the event using a marquee and improved parking facilities. A very successful day with thanks to "mine hosts" Lawrence and Carolyn for proving an excellent venue.

Those facilities were used once again within a few days to say a sad farewell to our President, Cyril Bean and his wife Iris prior to their move to Nottingham. The well attended buffet saw Bob Brandon and Keith Greenall recall the early pioneering days of A Coventry Way.

July saw the Association at the Godiva Festival presenting an excellent display of maps and photographs highlighting the route of HS2 through this area. The Association's sales team were out in force selling books and encouraging the many visitors to enjoy the local countryside.

### **Secretary's Report.**

John Green reported that the majority of correspondence is now by E mail. With many organisations being aware of ACWA matters such as Erosion of Green Belt, Travellers sites, HS2, Berkswell Greenway Extension, Coventry Pilgrimages, offers of help and calls for assistance have all required our consideration and has enabled the Association to maintain a good rapport with all those involved.

### **Statement of Accounts.**

John Aylmer whilst presenting the accounts (copies were circulated) thanked Jo' Carey for auditing the books and reported that the financial position was healthy although interest rates were poor. Book sales have declined to approximately 10% of 4 years ago suggesting a possibility of having reached saturation point.

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed and seconded with all in favour.

**Members Fees** :- To remain at £3.00 per family.

**Committee, Officers and other volunteers:-** Elected en block as follows.

**President:-** Cyril Bean

**Officers:-** Chairman:- Bob Carey, Secretary:- John Green, Treasurer:- John Aylmer, Auditor:- Jo' Carey.

**Committee:-** Bob Carey, John Green, John Aylmer, Bob Brandon.

**Other volunteers for specific duties**

**Membership secretary:-** Ken Nicholas

**Webmaster:-** Peter Page

**Newsletter Editor:-** Ken Nicholas

**ACWA Challenge:-** Bob Brandon, Anne Wade, Bob Carey.

**Footpath Overseers**

**Walks 1, 2, 3.** John Aylmer & Bob Rainsley

**Walks 4, 5, 6.** Miranda Aston and Ulli Ull

**Walks 7, 8, 9.** Bill Eve

**Walks 10, 11, 12.** Frank Tonkinson & Doug Shelton

**Walks 13, 14, 15.** Bob Carey & Alan Townsend

**Walk 16.** Bob Brandon & Ken Nicholas

**Walks 17, 18.** Dave Burrin & Bob Brandon

**Walks 19, 20, 21.** Bob Watson & Stan Veasey

**Roving Overseer** Peter Page (any walk requested by any other Overseer)

**A Coventry Way.** Bob Brandon.

**A Coventry Way Challenge 2012.**

To be held on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April. There will be a change of route to include the extension to the Kenilworth Greenway. This is for one challenge only and will be reviewed after April 2012.

**Donations to Charity.**

**A total of £750 was presented to the following charities.** 74<sup>th</sup> Coventry Scouts, 11<sup>th</sup> Coventry Scouts, 1<sup>st</sup> Meriden Scouts, St Lawrence Church, Meriden, Warwick Air Ambulance, Myasthernia Gravis Association, Birmingham Children's Hospital, & Coventry Special Olympics. 10 Circular Walk Books were donated to Myton Hospice shop in Daventry Road, Cheylesmore, Coventry.

**Coventry Pilgrims Walk.**

This is a new walk using A Coventry Way starting at Meriden and transferring to the Sherbourne Valley Walk at Corley, to finish at Coventry Cathedral on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2012 (Palm Sunday). Walkers will visit several churches en route over about 5 days and will be approximately 50 miles in length. The organisers are keen to use A Coventry Way Association expertise.

**A.O.B.**

- 1 Book sales. Volunteers to receive a quantity of books to sell at £5.00 or £6.00 to include the "Green Book"
- 2 The Green Book has been updated and 500 will be ordered for print.
- 3 ACW hand out leaflet has been printed and "Presentation Stands" will be purchased to assist distribution.
- 4 Problems have been reported on Walk 3 at Beanit Farm (dogs) also on Walk 10 and ACW at Marston Mill Farm, Bretford (cattle). Warwick Footpaths Department to be contacted.
- 5 Two meetings to be arranged in 2012 for overseers to report back on their walks..