

## A COVENTRY WAY ASSOCIATION – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2015

.

<b>Venue</b>	King Henry VIII School, Classroom in Swimming Pool Building.1
<b>Present</b>	J Aylmer, R Brandon, R Brown, R Carey, T Cornfoot, B Eve, J Green, N Meynell, K Nicholas, P Page, B Roebuck, R Rainsley, B Swain, D Shelton, F Tonkinson, S Veasey, A Wade, R Watson.
<b>7.25pm</b>	Chairman John Green welcomed the attendees, including Simon Holloway, and introduced the Guest speaker, Matthew Nicholl
<b>7.30pm</b>	Matthew works for his father's company, which markets computer software for recording the location and health of trees. He demonstrated this software and explained its use. The assembled found the presentation most interesting.

**A short refreshment break ensued.**

<b>8.30pm</b>	<b>A.G.M. commenced.</b>
<b>Apologies</b>	None had been received.
<b>Minutes of AGM 2014</b>	Distributed to the Attendees. Formally accepted.
<b>Matters Arising</b>	Work continues on gravel extraction between Ryton and Wolston. We don't expect it to be any problem for us, for the next two years at least.
<b>Chairman's Report</b>	<p>This year has again been successful in carrying out the aims of our Association, which were set down by Cyril Bean so many years ago. That was to encourage more people to enjoy the many public footpaths around Coventry and to ensure those paths were easily accessible. With that aim in mind, the Working Party has continued to meet once a month. However, due to the financial constraints within the local Councils their tasks have been mainly confined to clearing overgrown footpaths, rather than installing or replacing furniture. Mother Nature has ensured that there has been no shortage of work, by placing many trees across paths and by producing the fine crop of path blocking vegetation.</p> <p>The Challenge, now renamed A COVENTRY WAY CYRIL BEAN CHALLENGE, attracted a "full house" and was supported by many volunteers who give their time freely. As a result the Runners' World Magazine was once again inundated with plaudits about such a fantastic event. An Auction Insight Evening arranged as a THANK YOU to all involved and I am sure was appreciated. Once again the Challenge made a surplus of funds and this enabled the Association to make donations to several Charities.</p> <p>The new edition of the 21 Walks Book has sold well; mainly at Go Outdoors. With only 30 left in stock, consideration must be given to what happens next.</p> <p>Finally the time has come for me to step down. I do so with heavy heart and yet with great pride. The achievements of A Coventry Way Association over the last twenty years have been immense and I wish to place on record my gratitude to all of you for making it a most enjoyable journey.</p>

JOHN GREEN

- Secretary's Report** Secretarial duties these days are minimal; no correspondence has been received by me, though I guess some items are still going to other officers due to their historical links. However, I continue to be the Membership Secretary and Newsletter Editor, which gives me some work to do and, during the year, I have taken on the role of Event Secretary for the Challenge, from Bob Carey. The latter has involved far more participation than the others.  
KEN NICHOLAS
- Treasurer's Report** John Aylmer presented the audited accounts to the attendees, and showed the Association to be in a very healthy financial position. These were accepted unanimously. John also informed us that we were obliged to supply five copies of the walks book to Edinburgh University (for onward distribution) and one to the British Library, for national archive purposes. This, including postage, at our expense. Thanks were extended to John and Bob Rainsley (auditor).
- Working Parties** Even though only clearance work had been possible, due to the aforementioned financial constraints on Councils, only one month was missed during the year. There had been problems at Red Hill Farm, where the path down the side of the field had been constantly overgrown. Both the owner of Red Hill Farm and his gardener were approached by Peter P and both were happy for the gardener to keep this headland clear. The tenant farmer of the field in question was also approached and said he was happy for the gardener to do this. A later visit by myself confirmed that he had indeed cleared the section that is used by ACW but the section used by Walk 17 going northwards from point 5 was yet to be done. Hopefully both these sections will be maintained in the future. The permissive path at the Quicken Tree has now been adopted by Warwickshire CC and, therefore, is now a definitive path.  
BOB CAREY
- Challenge** Bob Brandon thanked all those who had helped out this year and contributed to its continued success. He confirmed that the Challenge 2016 would take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2016 and appealed for helpers once again. Peter Page asked that all necessary changes to the "green book", for the Challenge, be notified by mid-January at the latest.

**Committee:** The following were elected.

<b>Chairman</b>	John Green	(There being no one else prepared to stand, John reluctantly agreed to carry on, but with reduced input)
<b>Secretary</b>	Ken Nicholas	
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Aylmer	
<b>Working Party</b>	Bob Carey	
<b>Co-ordinator</b>		
<b>Member</b>	Bob Brandon	

**Other Specific duties:**

Auditor	Bob Rainsley
Membership secretary	Ken Nicholas
Webmaster	Peter Page
Newsletter Editor	Ken Nicholas
ACWA Challenge	Bob Brandon, Anne Wade, Bob Carey, Ken Nicholas.
Geocaching	Keith Greenall
Book Sales	John Green

**A.O.B.** Bill Eve suggested that we submit our historical documents to the City Archivist. Bill will liaise with John Aylmer on this.

Bob Brandon reported that the cost of running The Challenge was rising and suggested that we might want to increase the entry fee for future years. It was agreed to put up the fee by £2.00 from 2017.

**Meeting closed at 9.30pm.**