

Walkabout Wrexham & District (WW&D) Walker Leaders Meeting

Minutes of 25<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Brymbo Cricket Club

Present:

Natalie Edwards	Geoff Blore	Ann England	Carolyn Griffiths
Nigel Monslow	Cliff Greenhalgh	Vaughan Williams	Roger Prest
Kelvin Mole	Pat Murray	Joyce Ashley	Karen Green
Pauline Haines	Glenys Young	Ann Davies	Bill Stephens
Charlie Berry	Nigel Davies		

Invited guests:

Alison Whitley (WCBC Rights of Way)  
Ann Vaughan (AVOW Volunteer Centre)  
Shane Hughes (Keep Wales Tidy)  
Denise Chadwick (WCBC Sports Development)  
Sian Hookes (WCBC Exercise Referral)  
Joanne Hughes (Cardiac Rehabilitation & WCBC Exercise Referral)  
Rachel Cooper (Groundwork Wrexham & Flintshire)

Apologies for absence:

Julie Williams	Bob Coleman	Helen Bithell	Myra Redman
Selwyn Jones	Barbara Jones	Joan Gilroy	Annette White
Mark Jones	Val Clarkson	George Clarkson	Jenny Creed

Chair	Bill Stephens
Secretary	Carolyn Griffiths
Treasurer	Pat Murray
Vice Treasurer	Joyce Ashley Karen Green

(1) Welcome & introductions

Bill welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked all attendees to introduce themselves and the walk or organisation, in which they are involved.

Shane Hughes from Wrexham Tidy Towns Project talked about possible funding from completing environmental improvements which could include diverse activities as litter picking and tree planting. Benefits would also be free insurance and training. The Tidy Town project will run until March 2011 and the group should apply for funds asap to receive funding March 2010-2011. Pat Murray asked if litter had to be sorted but Shane can organise collections and supply bin bags and equipment. Bill asked about litter picking in Erddig and although it is National Trust property, Shane has organised litter picks in N T properties previously.

(2) Minutes of last meeting

Bill asked if there were any issues but everyone was happy. Cliff Greenhalgh asked for copies of the constitution (attached).

(3) Creation of bank account

Pat, Natalie & Carolyn will visit bank on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2010 to open account. Roger Prest from Friends of Alyn Waters talked briefly about the group and then presented WW&D with a cheque for £50. The group gave him a round of applause for raising the funds.

(4) Update on town/community council letters

Natalie informed the group that donations from Community Councils totalling £255 had been received including Caia Park £70, Llay £70, Erddig £70 and Rossett £45. NE was also expecting funds from Gwersyllt and decisions from Acton and Rhos in February and March.

Natalie explained that there is a potential under spend in the project which could finance the July 'dateless' programmes and Lets Walk Cymru may be able to provide insurance. Denise Chadwick has worked with Natalie and part filled in a Community Chest bid for potentially £1'000 to cover publicity, clothing and equipment and hire of St Johns Hall. The group agreed with the items included in the bid, NE to submit on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January.

(5) Funding and revenue raising ideas for January to April

Bill suggested a fundraising target of £20 for each walk per annum to be raised. The group discussed how some walks had already met this target as no-one had objected to paying 50p for a walk. Raffles, quizzes and cake bakes were all good money making ideas. Natalie talked about a phone call from Sheila Dee, Rail Officer for Chester, Wrexham and Shrewsbury who wanted to promote walks from trains. Sheila has a potential funding pot if WW&D could provide walks using the trains. NE asked who was interested. Nigel Davies, Karen and Pauline, Isobell and Charlie were interested. Vaughan suggested contacting Jackie at Chirk Leisure Centre. NE to explore further and report back.

Ann Vaughan suggested that Natalie approach Heather Hicks at AVOW for possible funding ideas and she kindly offered a meeting room free of charge for 1 year. Ann is also happy to forward mail outs if they are enveloped. She also offered to make a computer and desk available at AVOW subject to availability. There is a charge for printing and laminating etc using AVOWS equipment and an AVOW membership of £12 per year could be purchased to receive discounts on hire of room and facilities. NE to get membership form from AVOW.

(6) Date and venue for April's meeting

Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> April 2010 at AVOW, Egerton Street, Wrexham 10 to 12pm.

(7) Items for discussion in April

July programmes will be available for collection at the next meeting and the new website is now online at [www.walksinwrexham.com](http://www.walksinwrexham.com). NE sent around a copy of the July program (attached) any changes to walk should be made by Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February. The deadline for any agenda items is 12<sup>th</sup> March. Alison Whitley mentioned that she could include the walks on the WCBC website.

(8) Any other business

Rights of Way issues can be reported at meetings directly to Alison Whitley or in between meetings, to Bill and if anyone has a problem with grid references, Geoff, Charlie or Bill will be glad to help. Alison needs a grid reference, postcode or the number off the flag/sign post.

Lets Walk Cymru will cover insurance until August 2010 and thereafter insurance will be provided by Lets Walk Cymru or the Ramblers. Nigel Davies asked about keeping paperwork. NE explained that health questionnaire, registers and risk assessment forms have to be retained by walk leaders for a minimum of six months. Any accidents should be reported to Bill who will contact Lets Walk Cymru. Cliff asked whether the register will remain the same. NE showed a revised copy of the register (on the website) which uses larger font and is better for visually impaired people. She advised that any changes will be decided on in April once the official scheme has finished. Nigel asked about recording attendance of walkers for future reports, NE agreed that something would have to be in place similar to the current scheme where figures are reported back but this would be dependant on what the funders required. Denise stated that the Community Chest bid would require figures of attendance by walkers to be collected and reported back at the end of the funding. NE suggested that each walk collate their figures and bring them to each meeting. Bill reinforced that all walks would have to be involved and be committed to reporting the figures or we wouldn't hit our funding targets.

Bill volunteered to contact Yeoman and Mountain Warehouse to see if any discounts could be obtained as Millets now closed.

Walk Leader Tutor training is taking place through Lets Walk Cymru on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> March (to train volunteers to become walk leaders) if you are interested, contact Natalie for an application form. Natalie is taking a walk leaders course at Groundwork on 12<sup>th</sup> February 9.15 am– 4pm so if anyone is interested in becoming a walk leader, contact Natalie asap. Heart Start Tutor training will take place on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2010 from 9am to 3pm at Wrexham Maelor Hospital. Six places have already been allocated but if anyone else is interested, contact Natalie for possible standby place. Roger interested.

Pat asked about Orienteering. Natalie will probably be organising another orienteering course but this will be discussed at next meeting.

Alison Whitley stated that to prioritise maintenance of the walking routes for the group, she required a map from each walk with the routes highlighted. Please can all walks supply these for the next meeting. Contact NE if you need a copy of a map for your area. Alison talked about the "Adopt a Path" scheme in which she hoped people would participate in. It involves adopting a path and regularly walking it and reporting any problems to Rights Of Way so that they could be maintained. If you are interested, please contact Alison on (01978) 729767. Pat mentioned "Walkers are Welcome" status that Coedpoeth was trying to achieve. Come everybody – let's look after our footpaths.

The group agreed that a Nat West bank account should be opened and NE read out the declaration from the Nat West bank details of which the group must formally adopt and the group agreed.

Deadline for July walk programme: 26<sup>th</sup> February 2010

Deadline for items for April's agenda: 12<sup>th</sup> March 2010

