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# AGM Minutes

Quarter 3  
September 03 2012

Time- 14:00 Held At The: Dow Corning Training Centre  
(TrainC02) W109

## 1. Welcome & Apologies:

Gwyn Phillips, Frank Maltby, Jill Price, Laurie Harrison, Muriel Longden, Rurh Beasley, Paul Price, Milton Eskins, Gloria Surridge, Margaret McMillan, Patricia Ross, Tommy Lake, Brenda Dowdell



## 2. Chairman's Report:

Welcome to this our 30<sup>th</sup>. Annual General Meeting of the Retirees Association.

A couple of month's back I was forced to call an Extra-ordinary meeting to dissolve the Retirees Association. It was forced on us as health problems to several of the committee members and the sad loss of dear Angus Crockett left us with no working group to run the Retirees Association. There appeared that no-one was interested in joining the committee at this time. This was a very traumatic time not only for the Association but also for me as the last thing I wanted was to see us disband.

Fortunately at that meeting we were delighted to welcome on board Robert Wardle as Secretary and Richard Thomas as our new treasurer. It was agreed that we continue to this A.G.M. to officially endorse their positions as Secretary and Treasurer. I apologise for not organising a detailed account of that meeting but things were very difficult for me at that time.

Robert has already taken on his roll very seriously and we have already seen trips being organised with assistance from Brenda Dowdell.

Richard is quietly coming to terms with the very difficult job as treasurer and I am sure will be a great asset to the Retirees.

There are no words that can truly express our thanks to Angus and Mavis Crockett, Brenda and Bert Dowdell and Mary Currie for the outstanding contribution they have given to the Retirees. I personally witnessed their hard work and dedication and the time given as committee members.

The Walking and Skittle groups are continuing to function and Val Caple is looking to issuing another Newsletter in the near future. Anyone who has an item or photographs for inclusion in the newsletter please contact Val.

We are slowly getting back on track and the Retirees Association can look forward to a long and happy future.

Unfortunately due to the problems at the beginning of the year and the short time we have to organise things the Committee have decided not to have a dinner. Plans are already in the pipeline for a lunch so watch this space.

Our Site Manager Dave Ott will be returning to the United States at the beginning of November and we wish him and his charming wife our best wishes for the future. Dave has been very supportive of the Retirees Association. The new Manager will be Brian Austin and we wish him well in his new role and look forward to his association with our group.

My thanks must go to Rob Wardle and Richard Thomas for stepping into the breach at such short notice, to Val Caple as Membership Secretary and to Ruth Beasley and Bob Griffiths for being on the Social Committee. To Sue and Jim Sugden (Skittles) and Stuart McMillan (Walking group) and last but not least to Robin Pitcher for his Web site and keeping us well informed.

Finally my thanks to you all for attending these meetings and being so supportive of this Association.



### 3. Secretaries Report

Don our chairman stood in for secretary and treasurer duties due to the sad loss of Angus (treasurer) for several weeks prior to the EGM held on May 28<sup>th</sup>. Both of these positions were filled towards the end of the EGM.

Minutes of the EGM have not been produced due to Don's workload and family commitments at the time. A *precis* of the EGM is therefore given below:

Don had called the meeting because of active committee members health problems, plus the sad loss of Angus who was our treasurer, he had hoped to fill the vacated or soon to be vacated committee positions.

Members present agreed that they did not want the association to fold and accepted Don's proposal to continue as an association until the AGM in September (today). The appointments of treasurer (Richard J. Thomas who latterly was a SAP team leader on site) and myself as secretary was readily accepted by those present. Nobody present at the EGM was willing to fill the soon to be vacated posts of the social committee members Bert, Brenda and Mary Currie who said at last years AGM that because of health problems, they would not stand for re-election for 2012/13.

Members who regularly join the day or short break trips had also been asking why the committee had not issued a programme of day trips for this year. Two short breaks had been proposed but lack of support meant both had to be cancelled. Unfortunately some members did not realise how serious the health situation was of our organisers.

Both the walking and skittles group remained functional throughout because they are led by different members to the day/short break organisers.

We do hope some of our members will consider these positions and offer their services as social events organisers. They will be fully supported by Bert and Brenda.



I last held the post as secretary back in 2009 /10 being replaced by Mavis at the AGM in that year.

Mavis reluctantly stood down before the extraordinary meeting on May 28<sup>th</sup> this year, she has done an outstanding job, assisting other committee members who should all be thanked for their loyalty all have done an outstanding job over the years.

Once again I am stepping back into the secretaries role until the AGM in September 2013.

Since becoming secretary, several members will know, I have helped organise two day trips with Brenda, the first trip took place on July 19<sup>th</sup> when some members travelled to Sidmouth. The second day trip to the Cotswolds will take place on September 25<sup>th</sup>. Brenda has also organised a short five day break to Paignton which is planned for February 2013. I will continue to support Brenda and Bert unfortunately though, it is not in my remit as secretary to continue assisting social events.

Pie charts are included at the end of these minutes showing the responses from those members who received mail shots of the day trips. The Moreton in Marsh chart is accurately produced for the AGM however sickness etc. leading up to the departure date could affect the final figures.

Ken Doble (trolley dolly) who is not a committee member but a member of the association has been most helpful in attending site with me and assisted in photocopying, placing information into envelopes and collecting the money on coach trips.

John and Jean Harvey have passed on information about Forde Abbey and gardens near Chard which is a fascinating historic house surrounded by 30 acres of gardens. Maybe this could be considered for one of the 2013 day trips. The leaflet will be passed onto Brenda for consideration.

Because of the lack of a functional social committee, regrettably there will be no annual dinner this year. Don has already welcomed Richard Thomas as the association treasurer, I also offer my thanks to Richard who I am sure will be excellent for this role.

I received a notelet from Jill Price, Jill has asked to remain on the day /short trip list and will be in Cyprus trying to sell her property on the island and will be unable to attend the Moreton in Marsh trip.

Now for some company news helping our pensions to grow:

Dow Corning has boosted the colour range of high performance glazing sealants with ETAG approved structural glazing and insulating sealants.

A new range of harmonised colours are now available for two part Dow Corning® 3362 Silicone Insulating Glass Sealant, Dow Corning® 993 Silicone Structural Glazing Sealant and one part Dow Corning® 895 Silicone Structural Glazing Sealant.

These improvements permits architects and specifiers to consider a broader range of design possibilities where colour choice for structural and secondary edge sealing is important.

Concrete blocks, moulds and castings are increasingly used for decorative masonry construction. Poor release of concrete from rubber moulds can cause damaged blocks, inconsistent results and wasted materials.

Dow Corning® 2418 Release Emulsion is an easy-to-use, solvent free aqueous emulsion with proven performance in the release of concrete from rubber moulds. Usage can lead to increased productivity and on-time delivery with reduced inventory and disposal costs. Fewer paver blocks are damaged when they come out of the mould with the use of Dow Corning® 2418 Release Emulsion. The emulsion helps cut the cost of production without affecting the ability of the concrete pavers and other parts to be painted or coated.

Improved formulation stability and colour consistency for solvent based paints, coatings and inks. Dow Corning® 3 Additive, manufacturers of solvent based paints, coatings and inks can now create formulations containing titanium dioxide (TiO<sub>2</sub>) and coloured pigments, including whites, greys and pastels, that stay homogeneously mixed over time, leading to improved paint stability and enhanced colour consistency. Dow Corning® 3 Additive is effective at very low use levels and thus offers very good cost-in-use versus other competitor products on the market today.

Based at Oxford UK at team of engineers working for the Centre of Vision in the Developing World (CVDW) of which James Stephenson\* is a board member have developed adjustable optical silicone fluid correction glasses to improve the quality of life of young people in the developing world who are known to be myopic (near sighted) teenagers. Dow Corning has committed \$3 million of funding and materials to the initiative called Child ViSion™

The lenses are individually adjusted by the wearer simply by covering one eye while adjusting the optical silicone fluid of the other eye. The procedure is repeated with the other eye, once vision is near perfect, the adjustable minute pumps are removed from the frames. The diagram shows the minute pumps attached on the left and with the pumps removed on the right.

\*James prior to relocating in 2006 to the US where he is currently Global Healthcare market manager and leader of the Child ViSion™ for Dow Corning his career with Dow Corning started in 1997 as a manufacturing engineer at Barry. James was named young person of the year in 1999 by the UK Chemicals Association.

Detachable optical silicone fluid pumps used to adjust vision



Sales figures shown on the DC Website for the year to date are shown in a table below.

#### Year-to-Date Results

Sales in Europe have been significantly lower due to economic volatility in the region.

- Sales were \$3.09 billion, 5 percent lower than last year.
- Net income was \$192 million, 48 percent lower than last year.

	Q2 2012	Q2 2011	% Change	2012	2011	% Change
Sales (in billions)	\$ 1.57	\$ 1.67	-6%	\$ 3.09	\$ 3.25	-5%
Net Income (in millions)	\$ 121	\$ 191	-36%	\$ 192	\$ 370	-48%
Adjusted net income* (in millions)	\$ 121	\$ 188	-35%	\$ 192	\$ 363	-47%

\*Adjusted net income is a non-GAAP financial measure which excludes certain unusual items. The reconciliation between non-GAAP and GAAP measures is shown in the Consolidated Statement of Operations linked below.

June saw the opening of a new state of the art Solar Energy Exploration and Development (SEED) research centre in Belgium. It supplements existing European capacities in Belgium the UK and Germany. The Silicon Technology Centre houses research activities which aim to develop next-generation silicon-based technologies and applications, many of which to be used to improve energy efficiency in construction, automotive, electronics, LED lighting and Solar cells from wafers through all production stages.

Some other useful bits of information:

We are all experiencing a lot more flooding in some parts of Britain over recent years. Some useful tips recently passed on by an International Insurance company can be shared with you below. A copy of these tips is worth keeping for future reference.

Providing you get prior warning of an imminent flood and with some care and thought, not everything needs to go out into a skip after the event.

- ★ Consider taking valuables upstairs. Move items that can't be replaced to a higher floor such as wedding photographs, family heirlooms and antiques.
- ★ Unplug electricals: if flooding into your home is imminent, consider moving (if feasible) to a higher level.
- ★ Secure garden items: garden furniture or equipment which can cause damage to yours or a neighbours property in the event of flooding.
- ★ Check your outbuildings: If you have valuable tools or electrical appliances that may be of use to you after a flood. Move them if possible to a higher area such as onto a wall rack or shelf.
- ★ Store water: flooding can affect drains and sewerage systems so fill pots, pans, jugs bottles etc. with fresh water for consumption.
- ★ Make up an 'emergency pack': gather some essential items together such as insurance documents, a torch, radio and small first aid kit, medicines etc. So they're all to hand.
- ★ Move your car: If you feel that your home is likely to flood, consider parking your car on higher ground so that you have the convenience of transport when any flooding subsides.
- ★ Charge your mobile phone: keep your mobile battery topped up.

The DVLA recently issued a guide to the turnaround times of applications to when you can expect to receive documents you have applied for, for example driving licences, in the post. You should allow for this before making further enquiries.

Driving licence online or telephone application	up to two weeks
Postal applications of driving licence	up to three weeks
Medical investigation where DVLA doesn't need to contact a doctor	up to three weeks
Medical investigation where DVLA does need to contact a doctor	up to 90 working days
Tax Disc online or telephone	up to 5 working days
Postal application	up to one week

Duplicate disc in person at DVLA local office	same day
Refund of tax disc	up to six weeks
Replacement discs following personalised number transfer	up to 2 weeks
Vehicle registration certificate following a telephone application	3 to 5 working days
Registration sent to DVLA for change of address or keeper	up to 4 weeks
Transfer or retention of a personalised registration from a vehicle	up to 6 weeks
Acknowledgement of your statutory off road notification (SORN)	up to 4 weeks
Your notification to DVLA of the sale, transfer or disposal of your vehicle	up to 4 weeks

Val our membership secretary has provided the current membership details and there are currently 94 single members and 147 doubles, total 388.



#### 4. Treasurer's Report

##### 1. Financial Status Year To-Date

	£	Totals (£)
Current account balance (includes £3 not shown on Aug statement)	5076.74	
Cheques not yet cashed (only 2012 cheques inc.)		
Number		
2353 T. Williams Hospital	-10.00	
2354 B. Davies Hospital	-10.00	
	5056.74	<b>5056.74</b>
Savings Account balance as per 9th July 2012	1659.37	<b>1659.37</b>
Association Floats		
Dow Corning Shop	300.00	
Skittles Group (does not included 25th Aug details)	20.64	
Walking Group	-126.41	
Trips/Hols Group	6.82	
Treasurer's Float	26.00	
Previous Treasurer's Float	-2.38	
Secretary's Float	38.00	
	<u>262.67</u>	<b>262.67</b>
<b>Overall Total</b>		<b>6978.78</b>

See detailed breakdown below.

##### 2. Audit of DCRA accounts for 2011.

Under normal circumstances the accounts for the previous year (in this case 2011) would have been audited and presented for approval at the AGM. However due to the extraordinary circumstances associated with the position of Treasurer this year, the audit has not yet taken place.

At the committee meeting held on the 21st August, I proposed that I would prepare the accounts for audit and have them audited ready for approval at the December DCRA meeting. The proposal was accepted by all those present at the committee meeting.



## Further Details of some 2012 Expenditures

### 1. 2011 expenses:

a. Welfare: 1 Hospital Payment	£10.00
b. Administration	
i. Honoraria Payments	£530.00
ii. Gratuities	£90.00
c. Tesco vouchers (payments in-lieu of)	£25.00
d. Walking Group Float shortfall	£159.01
e. Previous Treasurer's Float shortfall	£45.11
Total	<u>£859.12</u>

### 2. Admin expenses:

a. Previous Treasurer's Expenses	£17.27
b. Secretary's Expenses	£12.00
c. Committee Meeting Refreshments	£10.00
Total	<u>£39.27</u>

### 3. Welfare:

a. 11 Hospital Payments	£110.00
b. 3 Bereavement Donations	£60.00
Total	<u>£170.00</u>

Anyone requiring more detailed information please contact the Treasurer.



### 5. Site Shop Report

For the period 1<sup>st</sup>.January to 31<sup>st</sup>.August 2012 sales have seen an increase of 9% against the same period last year. Although this is encouraging we would like to see more people using this facility particularly retirees.

We have a very extensive range of Pyrex ware (The best in the Vale) and the Dow Corning sealants continue to be our best seller.

We continue to sell Safety equipment including Fire extinguishers, First Aid kits and Gas and Fire Monitor's  
We also stock a small selection of miscellaneous goods for you to sample.

My thanks to all the helpers who give of there time and particularly to Ruth Beasley for her support and commitment.

Don Surridge.





## 6. Social Committee's Reports

Due to ill health we have been unable to organise or take part in any day trips this year, however the situation was resolved when Rob volunteered to undertake some on our behalf. The first one was a trip to Sidmouth on what must have been the only fine day in weeks and a further trip has been arranged to Moreton in Marsh for September. Coach trippers should also have received information regarding a proposed lunch at the Beaufort Arms in Raglan for early December. Both the day trips sold out quickly and required waiting lists. Our sincere thanks to Rob for undertaking these trips on top of his 'secretarial' role.

A short return break to the Palace Hotel in Paignton has been booked for February, this again sold out very quickly and the coach is full, balances are due Christmas Eve but will be collected early-December so they can be paid into Edwards prior to the holiday period.

Jim and Sue recently held another successful skittle night in the refurbished rugby club, many thanks for providing an entertaining evening.

We would like to say a big thank you to the committee and members for the many cards, phone calls and messages of support received during the last six months and hope to be fit enough to join in the social events

### Walking Group Report

The June walk started near Abergavenny and took us first up onto "Table Mountain" before we stretched our legs and expanded our lungs to climb up to Pen Cerrig Calch and along the ridge to Pen Allt Mawr for our lunch stop. The downhill route was enjoyable as you can see the ridge you walked out on high above you. This walk was 12 miles, challenging, but most importantly, enjoyed by the seven walkers.

In June, 11 walkers visited the Azores, Portuguese islands in the middle of the Atlantic for our annual summer walk. All walkers enjoyed the first week on the islands of Sao Miguel and Sao Jorge (where the walking was superb) and 9 walkers extended the holiday to a second week and went on to visit and walk on Pico and Faial. Overall the walking was excellent, the scenery superb and the hospitality truly warm. The weather was mixed with a lot of low cloud and this unfortunately stopped us climbing up Mt Pico (at 7712 feet is Portugal's highest mountain) on Pico, so we went whale and dolphin watching instead. Fabulous holiday.

The July walk was based around Talybont reservoir and had us walking up Tor Y Foel (good views) and then down through fields to Llangynidr, where we avoided the temptation of The Coach and Horses, but headed instead along the nice, shaded and level towpath of the Brecon and Monmouth canal. We cut back and up over the lower slopes of Tor Y Foel, crossed Talybont dam and headed back to the cars. Some 8 walkers undertook the 11 mile walk, proposed by Peter Davies and it was very enjoyable on a warm, sunny day with good visibility and views.

In August we visited Pengefnordd, near Talgarth and started the walk by traversing small fields with many stiles and then found some welcome lanes below the escarpment that we then needed to climb to get up to Rhos Dirion. It was windy and threatening to rain all day so we hid away in a gully for our lunch. It was very windy on top, some of us were blown over, but we escaped the rain until we reached the cars and then it poured. Unfortunately the Castle Inn was closed but otherwise this walk, also proposed by Peter Davies, was enjoyed by eight walkers.

The September walk is an old favourite and a classic walk in the Brecon Beacons.

### **5 Sept Carmarthen Fans (Bannau Sir Gaer, Picws Du, Fan Brycheiniog) 9 C**

Meet 1030 at Llanddeusant off A4069 from Brynamman to Llandovery road (SN 798 238)

### **3 Oct Craig Cerrig-gleisaid reserve and Fan Frynach, Fan Fawr 8.5 M/C**

Meet 1030 at Storey Arms car par on A 470 (SN 983 203)



## 7 Nov Trefil, Garn Fawr Cairn/Burial Chamber, Chartrist's cave 8 M

Meet 1030 at Top House pub in Trefil (SO 119 130) off A465 Merthyr to Brynmawr road

We thank the Retiree's Association and the Executive for their continued support.

Anyone wishing to join, or wanting more information may contact Stuart McMillan (Tel 029 2070 5234, or e-mail mcmillan42H@talktalk.net).

Jim and Sue are hoping to organise two extra skittle nights before year end providing the alley is available. Jim did mention that Saturday nights at the rugby club can be a bit hectic.

## 7. Election of Officers

The six current committee members are standing for re-election for the 2012 - 2013 committee. These are:

		Proposed by	Seconded By
Don Surridge	Chairperson	Stuart McMillan	Mary Currie
Rob Wardle	Secretary	Jim Sudgen	Mary Currie
Richard J Thomas	Treasurer	Don Surridge	Mary Currie

Don announced that Ruth Beasley, Rob Griffiths have previously agreed at a recent committee meeting to remain as social committee members. Val as membership secretary who was present at the AGM (Today) also agreed to remain in office.

In what has been an eventful year, there is a turnover of committee members. During this period Mavis Crockett, Mary Currie both long term members, stood down with our thanks for all the hard work and successful outcomes that they have achieved for our association.

In their place we have welcomed Derek Butler, Bryan Clements and Sue Sugden who volunteered themselves as committee members.

Bert and Brenda have asked to remain on committee for the foreseeable future with reduced duties.



## 8. Any Other Business

The changing of one word in the dissolution section of the constitution as mentioned in the Agenda from Charity to Charities was proposed by Stuart McMillan and seconded by Sue Sugden and unanimously accepted by all members. Revised constitution rules will be sent to Val Caple to enclose with the membership renewal cards.

Mavis Crockett said that she had recently visited June Brown and that June does like to keep up to date with association news and would only be too happy to see other members calling at her home. If anyone requires June's address, please give me a call.

The association remembers the following Passings this quarter:

June 2nd Mrs Margaret Baker who is survived by her husband Jack who retired many years ago from the R&D section in Barry. For many years they lived in Wales and both were once active association members helping out in the old on site association shop.

Mrs Gwendoline Werner widow of Doug Werner sadly passed away on August 2 at Llandough Hospital. A donation on behalf of the association has been made to Ty Hapus (Alzheimer's & Dementia Care).

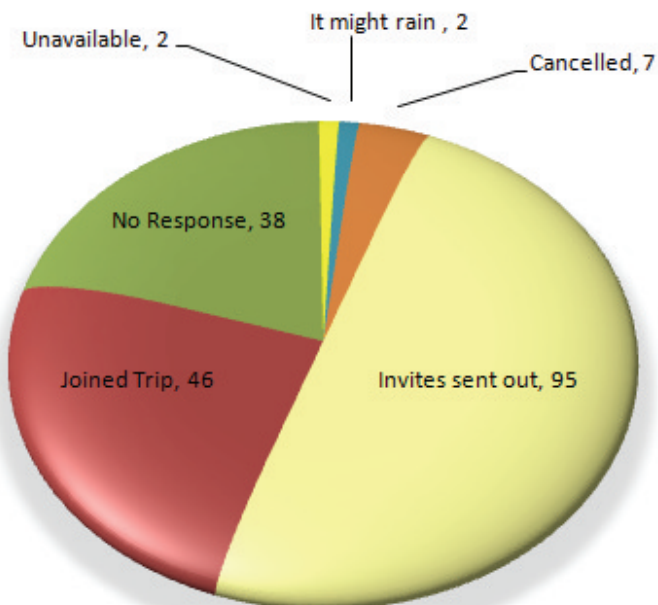
Val sadly informs me that we have lost eight members since the last AGM as listed over the page:

Mr. Jeff Raum  
Mr. John Price  
Mr. David H. Evans  
Mr. Angus Crockett

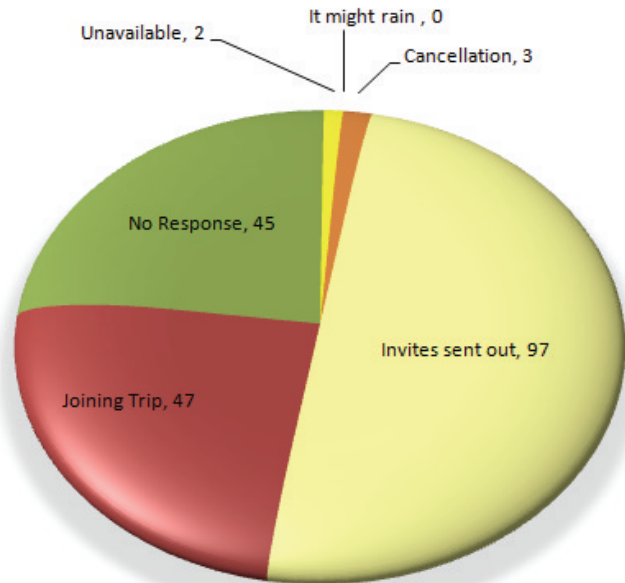
Mrs. Phyllis Maidment  
Mrs. Celia Clements  
Mrs. Olwen Davis  
Mrs. Gwen Werner

## Day trip Pie Charts

**Sidmouth Day Trip July 19 2012**



**Moreton in Marsh September 25 2012**



The 30th anniversary AGM was brought to a close with coffee, tea and biscuits being provided by site management at 15:20 hours with 30 members having attended this years AGM.

