

DCRA AGM Meeting Minutes 7th Sept 2021

The Agenda was

- Chairman's Welcome
- Bereavements
- Apologies
- Appointment of the Committee
- Treasurers Report
- Membership Report
- Walking Group Report
- Secretaries report
- Meeting dates, content and talks for the rest of the year
- AOB

There were 10 people at the meeting. All Covid requirements were observed.

Bereavements

Brian Sneddon

Apologies

Richard Taylor
Sue Taylor
Brenda Dowdell
Mike Dams
Jane & Bob Wardle
Steve and Helen Kraus
Jonathan Mead
Gloria Surridge
Tony Cheeseman
Ron Free
Robin Pitcher

Appointment of the Committee

All the Committee members agreed to be re-elected. Proposed by Dave Townsend, seconded by Stuart McMillan.
Unanimously accepted

Treasurers Report

Margaret went through the accounts.
Year-end summary covered in March meeting and copy will be attached to September meeting showing income and expenditure 2020. Accounts have been audited and approved by D.T.Edwards.
Total income 2020 £485.58
Total Expenses 2020 £487.61

Total Assets at year-end £5010.31

Due to the situation with Covid lockdowns there was very little activity and expense during 2020.

Report attached for 2021 Year to date 31/08/2021

Income Year to date £431.09

Expenditure to end August £307.64

Assets Year to date £5133.76

Income is declining each year due to lower membership numbers and no outside support (DC).

The main expenses now are liability Insurance (which has not yet been paid this year), In memory donations, printing and support for the walking group. No other social activity taking place.

A more detailed breakdown is attached to this report.

Margaret was thanked for her report

Membership Report

Val went through the membership report and so far, we have 246 members.

14 members did not renew in 2021.

182 members paid by Standing Order.

Numbers continue to drop as we are not recruiting new members. As far as we know retirees are not given information about

the DCRA when they retire from Dow.

Walking group Report

Stuart went through the walking group report and a full report is attached. Over the past 15 months the group we only able to undertake 5 walks.

The walking group thanks the Committee for the £200 bursary to cover refreshments during the group activities.

As a result of a discussion whether Stuart could include shorter walks, Diane Baker offered to arrange 'Strolls and chats' to places of interest in the Barry area. She already takes Barry WI members on similar excursions.

If you are interested in joining her please contact her on 07910570231 or dilzbaker@gmail.com<<mailto:dilzbaker@gmail.com>>

Other local groups organise short walks, for example U3A, Valeways.

Sue Sugden tells us that the Nordic Walkers still meet regularly and can be booked via Age Cymru.

Dave Townsend is a member of Barry Healthy Hearts, which meet in the Highlight Park Community Centre on Tuesdays at 10.45 - 12.15.

There is an adult playground on Barry Waterfront.

Secretaries Report

There were no matters arising or comments from the last meeting minutes sent out recently.

AOB

Don noted that 75% of members who replied to the questionnaire would like to meet for lunch or dinner.

He offered to look into the possibility of organising a lunch early in 2022

Brewing Group

The Brewing/fermentation group met on 21st July 2021 to brew a batch of beer on Richard's brewing kit. There were 4 people at the meeting and we brewed a Belgian style Abbey type beer. It is a dark beer about 5.5% alcohol by volume using pale, crystal and chocolate Malts. It was fermented for 6 days before racking it into a pressure barrel and leaving for 2 weeks before bottling it. It is now maturing in the bottle and should be ready to sample now.

The group are trying to organise other events including brewery tours, beer tasting and wine tasting. Anyone wishing to take part in the group should contact Richard at rgtaylo1@gmail.com or phone 07814 702589 or 02920 530524



Meeting Dates

Tuesday 14th December 2021 at 2pm Highlight Park Community Centre

Any feedback to Richard rgtaylo1@gmail.com or phone 07814 702589 or 02920 530524

Richard

07814 702589

<http://www.richardtaylorchemistry.co.uk/>

DCRA Treasurer's Report September 7th 2021

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Regards,

Margaret McMillan

DOW CORNING RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION WALKING GROUP
REPORT TO 6th SEPTEMBER 2021 AGM MEETING.

With the staged reduction in Covid restrictions the walking group activities have gradually returned to normal, with walks now resumed on a monthly basis with the attendees feeling more at ease to be out walking in the group again.

After 11 walkers turned out for the June walk around Bath City Skyline (as per June report) 9 members drove up to Craven Arms in Shropshire for a week long walk around the southern part of the Shropshire Way, starting at Bridges just south of Shrewsbury and finishing in Iron bridge, covering 64 miles, climbing 2915 metres in 38 hours walking over the six days. The walking was good, the scenery superb, the hotel very accommodating and the weather treated us kindly. Overall a very good walking holiday enjoyed by all but will probably be remembered by most by the walking through field after field of broad beans.

The July walk was centred on the eastern part of the Brecon Beacons in the Black Mountains. The greatest navigational and driving challenge was to find the car park at Black Hill, but it was managed by the 10 walkers that turned out. After a descent into a valley we climbed up the flank of the hill opposite and walked along Offa's Dyke Path towards Hay Bluff, where we had lunch before turning south to make our way to Black Hill with expansive views all around before the descent over the Cat's Back and back to the car park. A fab 10 mile walk.

We travelled westwards in September to the Afan Valley above Port Talbot, only to find the access to the Rhyslyn car park near Pontrhydyfen was closed owing to Forestry tree felling activities. We were redirected to another car park higher up the valley but on starting the walk we soon established that the tree felling area also excluded us from a critical bridge and river crossing on the planned walk. So undaunted a Plan B was hatched and the 7 walkers completed a very pleasant 8 mile walk to Cymer and back on opposite sides of the valley in warm, sunny weather.

Only seven hardy walkers turned out for the Lord Hereford's Knob walk on the first day of September. We looked up from the carpark towards Hay Bluff to be greeted by low cloud obscuring the peak, but undaunted we stumped up the nose to the trig point in low visibility to walk south with the chilling wind behind us along the ridge for 6 km before reaching a 'pile of stones' and turning right down a very steep bracken covered slope down to Capel-y-ffin which had suffered a landslip in February and still had the road to Llanthony closed. We decided to walk up the valley towards the escarpment to avoid the brisk headwind and eventually reached Lord Hereford's Knob (or Twmpa) at 685 metres. We enjoyed the view awhile and then descended to Gospel Pass and down the road to the car park. A fabulous hill walk 12 miles long.

Upcoming walks are;

6 Oct	Oakdale and Manmoel Circular	7.5	E/M
	Meet 1030 Pen-y-fan pond north of Oakdale (ST 198007) on A4048		
3 Nov	Shirenewton, Earlswood, Wentwood Forest, Shirenewton	8	M

	Meet 1030 at Shirenewton village (ST 482 937)		
1 Dec	Walk: Dyffryn, Tinkinswood, Dyffryn. Xmas Lunch: Red Lion, Bonvilston	5	E
	Meet 1030 Dyffryn Gardens car park CF5 6SU and after at 1230 Red Lion car park, Bonvilston, CF5 6TR.		

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

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

DOW CORNING RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION WALKING GROUP
RECORD OF YTD INCOME AND EXPENSES 2021

Date	Transaction	Income £'s	Expense £'s
01.01.21	Opening balance	81.17	
21.06.21	Annual Summer Hol. Subsidy	200.00	
26.06.21	Refreshments (9)		16.80
27.06.21	Evening Meal (9)		90.00
28.06.21	Last Evening Drinks (9)		36.35
	Totals	281.17	143.15
	YTD Closing Balance		

Copies of all incomes and expenses forms and receipts are available for audit.

The number in brackets relates to number of walkers on each trip.

The planned week long Summer Walk in Portugal in June 2021 has been postponed until June 2022 as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic uncertainties. However we arranged a week away in June walking the southern part of the Shropshire Way based in Craven Arms instead. We were blessed with some fine weather and good walking.

Membership is currently 41

Many thanks from all the Walking Group members for the valued support given from the DCRA and the Executive Committee.

Regards
Stuart McMillan
01.09.2021

Dow Corning Retirees Association					
Income and Expenditure Account for 2020					
2020 Income			2020 Expenditure		
Welfare		0.00	Welfare		40.00
Members Subscriptions		485.00	Xmas cards/gifts		46.00
Admin		0.00	Admin		310.61
Coach Trips		0.00	Coach Trips		0.00
Annual Dinner/Lunch		0.00	Annual Dinner /Lunch		0.00
Interest earned		0.58	Nordic Walking Group		0.00
			Walking Group Expenses		91.00
			Secretary's Expenses		0.00
			Treasurers Expenses		0.00
			Subs		0.00
	Total Income	485.58		Total Expense	487.61
Surplus(+)/ Loss (-) for 2020					-2.03
Balances - December 31st 2019			Balances - December 31st 2020		
Current Account		3419.59	Current Account		3302.98
Unpresented Cheques at the end of 2019		-45.00	Unpresented Cheques		-40.00
Savings Account		1665.58	Savings Account		1666.16
Treasurers Float		0.00	Treasurers Float		0.00
Secretary's Float		0.00	Secretary's Float		0.00
Walking Group Float		-27.83	Walking Group Float		81.17
Coach Trips Float		0.00	Coach Trips Float		0.00
			Net Assets year to-date		5010.31
			Add Loss in year		2.03
		5012.34			5012.34

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