



DCRETIREES.ORG.UK

Q3 AGM MINUTES

Chairperson:
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Secretary:
Robert N. Wardle
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Treasurer:
Richard J. Thomas
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Membership Secretary:
Val. T. Caple
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SEPTEMBER 05 2016

APOLOGIES:

Krista Thomas, Don Partridge, Tony Cheeseman, Cliff Gray, Jane & Rob Wardle, Diane Doble, Christina Whitchurch, Linda Jones, Annie & Milton Eskins, Gloria Surridge, Margaret McMillan, Ruth Beasley, Ron & Sylvia Free, Brian & Mary Currie, Bob Griffiths, Bert & Brenda Dowdell

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Welcome once again to our Annual General Meeting.

We approach the next twelve months with some uncertainty and we need to address the changes that we will be facing.

Dow Chemical have now made changes on site and as yet we do not know what impact this will have on our retirees and the Association.

Ryan Howell will be here today to hopefully update us with the latest news and changes.

We must also face the facts that our group is finding it more difficult to get people on board and stand for Committee.

It is crucial that we have people prepared to stand and take over when committee members are resigning their posts.

My one regret is that we fail to get more retirees involved with the Association but I am a born optimist and hope things will change in the future.

I personally thank all the Committee members for their support and dedication that they have shown over the past twelve months.

Finally thank you all for attending these meetings as without you there would be no association.

Best Wishes..... Don Surridge.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

We will not, for the foreseeable future continue offering pond dipping events normally held during schools summer vacations. These events have been supported by members for the last two years but it now seems an ideal time to stop. My personal thanks to all the members who have been able to support the events over the last two years. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Catherine for all she does in coordinating events (pond dipping / brass band performances) for DCRA members.

The committee would like to express great thanks to Don Surridge who is stepping down for the second time from the committee as chairman. We have immensely appreciated his contributions over the years of his service and we wish him well.

We are grateful to Ken Doble who has continued to organise day trips and short breaks all of which I have assisted but I shall be stepping down next year after the five day short break to Bournemouth, March 2017.

The position is available if day trips / short breaks are to continue and it is open to all members of DCRA by simply contacting any member of the committee but there's no guarantee someone will volunteer to step up.

We are becoming a paperless association therefore the revised constitution can be found using the following website: <https://www.flipsnack.com/565A8E7EFB5/dcra-constitution-fdt5r8mmd.html>

Members who would still prefer a paper copy should contact Val Caple our membership secretary telephone 01446 775794 or by email val.t.caple@care4free.net

We received five emails votes for the proposed amendment to be included in the voting today. Two additional votes in favour also be included are from Jane and myself.

We know people are living longer, their health and fitness is important to associations such as Age Cymru who receive a grant from the government for organising health and fitness programmes. Age Cymru now have plans to start running Tai Chi courses within the Vale of Glamorgan. They hope there will be enough enthusiasm, any members with an interest in participating can contact me direct.

It is time to consider making changes as suggested in our chairman's report, I will be stepping down at the next AGM (2017) unless we have a willing volunteer before that deadline. It is a role I have held twice and for a number of years but it is now becoming time for another male or female member to take a lead role.

Best Regards - Rob

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. Financial status year to-date:

Current account balance:	4865.10
Unpresented Cheques:	
Welfare	-20.00
Dow Corning (Shop Takings)	-645.00
Savings account balance	1662.73
Float totals	483.28
	=====
Net Assets YTD =	<u>£ 6346.11</u>

See additional sheet (Income and Expenditure Account for 2016 up to 1st Sept) for a summary of 2016 accounts year to-date.

A further breakdown is available during the meeting for those members wishing to see it. Any further queries please contact the treasurer.

2. DCRA accounts for 2015:

The 2015 accounts have been audited and are available during this meeting for review and approval by the members.

Many thanks again to Dave Edwards for auditing the accounts.

See additional sheet (Income and Expenditure Account for 2015) for a summary of 2015 accounts.

3. Standing Order payment option for 2016 Membership Subs:

Some of the standing order requests (around 15) did not go through and the relevant members have been informed, some payments have now been received (3 cheque's have not yet been banked so are not included in the YTD accounts) with about 8 still to come in.

I will not be putting my name forward this year for any position. I understand that it is unlikely that my current positions (Treasurer and Friendship Group Coordinator / Secretary) will be filled so am prepared to carry out the roles in an “acting” position only with the positions remaining open. I will be actively seeking to reduce my workload.

Richard Thomas (DCRA Treasurer)

Richard Thomas gave his report on the year's financial position. Copies of the accounts shown below were circulated to those present. He gave a comprehensive explanation of the accounts stating that our finances are in a very healthy position.

The accounts were officially adopted and Don thanked Richard for his work on the accounts.

Income and Expenditure Account for 2016					
2016 Income YTD (1st Sept.)			2016 Expenditure YTD (1st Sept.)		
Welfare		0.00	Welfare		190.00
Members Subscriptions		552.00	Xmas cards/gifts		0.00
Dow Corning Part Matched Subscriptions		289.00	Tesco Vouchers		0.00
Manning DC Shop (Paid by Dow Corning)		2187.92	Manning DC Shop		131.92
DC Shop Takings		2635.00	DC Shop Takings		2635.00
Admin		0.00	Admin		152.99
Coach Trips		942.00	Coach Trips		1064.44
Annual Dinner/Lunch		1210.00	Annual Dinner		7.68
Friendship Group		30.00	Friendship Group		48.00
Interest earned (end July 2014).		0.50	Nordic Walking Group		0.00
			Skittles Group Expenses		0.00
			Walking Group Expenses		20.90
			Secretary's Expenses		0.00
			Treasurers Expenses		0.00
	Total Income	7846.42		Total Expense	4250.93
Surplus for 2016					3595.49
Balances -End of Dec. 2015			Balances - 1st Sept. 2016		
Current Account		1565.71	Current Account		4865.10
Unpresented Cheques at the end of 2015		-780.00	Unpresented Cheques		-665.00
Savings Account		1662.23	Savings Account		1662.73
Treasurers Float		0.00	Treasurers Float		0.00
Secretary's Float		0.00	Secretary's Float		0.00
Skittles Float		4.18	Skittles Float		4.18
Walking Group Float		-1.50	Walking Group Float		179.10
Coach Trips Float		0.00	Coach Trips Float		0.00
DC Shop Float		300.00	DC Shop Float		300.00
			Net Assets year to-date		6346.11
			Minus surplus year to-date		-3595.49
		2750.62			2750.62

Dow Corning Retirees Association					
Income and Expenditure Account for 2015					
2015 Income			2015 Expenditure		
Welfare		20.00	Welfare		370.00
Members Subscriptions		605.00	Xmas cards/gifts		98.00
Dow Corning Part Matched Subscriptions		298.50	Tesco Vouchers		3010.00
Manning DC Shop (Paid by Dow Corning)		4487.68	Manning DC Shop		242.48
DC Shop Takings		4125.00	DC Shop Takings		4125.00
Admin		0.00	Admin		698.44
Coach Trips		1119.50	Coach Trips		1681.67
Annual Dinner/Lunch		1386.00	Annual Dinner (2014)		1323.82
Friendship Group		70.00	Friendship Group		64.80
Interest earned (end July 2014).		0.83	Nordic Walking Group		5.70
			Skittles Group Expenses		14.21
			Walking Group Expenses		251.50
			Secretary's Expenses		0.00
			Treasurers Expenses		0.00
	Total Income	12112.51		Total Expense	11885.62
Surplus for 2015					226.89
Balances -End of Dec. 2014			Balances - End of Dec. 2015		
Current Account		819.62	Current Account		1565.71
Unpresented Cheques at the end of 2014		-275.68	Unpresented Cheques		-780.00
Savings Account		1661.40	Savings Account		1662.23
Treasurers Float		0.00	Treasurers Float		0.00
Secretary's Float		0.00	Secretary's Float		0.00
Skittles Float		18.39	Skittles Float		4.18
Walking Group Float		0.00	Walking Group Float		-1.50
Coach Trips Float		0.00	Coach Trips Float		0.00
DC Shop Float		300.00	DC Shop Float		300.00
			Net Assets end of 2015		2750.62
			Minus surplus end of 2015		-226.89
		2523.73			2523.73

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE:

Chairman - Trevor Rees (proposed by Don Surridge - seconded by Rob Wardle)

Secretary - Rob Wardle

Treasurer - Richard Thomas (acting treasurer and friendship secretary for next twelve months)

Membership Secretary - Val Caple

General Committee/Support Group - Bob Griffiths (rep: Walking Group) Derek Butler (both not present)

Sue Sugden will stand again for committee / skittles Kaye Incledon has offered to help Sue when required, but Kaye is NOT available for committee duties.

Auditor - Dave Edwards

Trip Organiser - Ken Doble BUT NEEDS ASSISTANCE OF ANOTHER MEMBER FOR 2017 PLEASE.

No other names from the attendees were forthcoming for committee duties.

An opportunity for meaningful involvement in the association remains open to all members. We could really do with some new ideas from our members.

SHOP REPORT:

The shop opening times 1130 a.m. To 1.30 p.m..every Wednesday.

The cost of purchasing sealants is £1.60.

The small sealants remain at £1.00

We have a comprehensive range of Pyrex goods, arguably the best in South Wales. We still have some promotional items at very competitive prices and are always looking to purchase new lines.

I have introduced some new items namely; Sauce pans, Frying pans and Saute pans. We also have a new range of Ceramic Fry Pans at very competitive prices.

We have a stock of “Bolle” safety glasses in clear and dark lenses. Ideal for sporting activities e.g. cycling etc.

Sealants continue to be our best seller and are still a very good buy.

Finally my thanks as always to Ruth Beasley, Gloria, Dianne and Ken Doble.

Regards... Don Surridge.

Contact details.

Don Surridge Home Number. 01446 735437.

Mobile Number. 07811076015.

Dow Corning Shop. 01446 746619.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP REPORT:

Volunteer activity:

Two return trips carried out since last meeting, one to Llandough, one to Barry hospital.

One potential new volunteer, awaiting email response.

If anyone is interested in becoming a volunteer please contact me (Richard Thomas) on 01446 737218, email rjthomas@maintop.co.uk.

Friendship Group Expenses:

Since the last meeting (6th June) we have received £10.00 (not yet banked so not included in YTD accounts) in donations from members who have used the service. No costs were incurred.

WCVA STOPPING SUPPORT FOR VOLUNTEER CRIMINAL RECORD CHECKS:

The processing of the above checks by the WCVA was extended until September, but no sign of a further extension, if no extension is forthcoming it is hoped that they can at least recommend another organization to process the necessary checks.

Richard Thomas (Friendship Group Coordinator / Secretary).

WALKING GROUP REPORT:

In June nine members visited western Crete for a week long walking holiday to enjoy the warmth of the sun, good food and some tough rocky walking routes. We were based in two resorts, Paleochora and Porto Loutro, the later only accessible by boat or by walking in. The paths were overall well defined, especially those on the cliff edges. The weather was hot so we had to make plenty of taverna stops for cold drinks.

The July walk had us returning to the Hay on Wye area to repeat a fabulous walk up the north nose of Hay Bluff, along part of Offas Dyke path towards Black Hill, then descending a delightful grass covered ridge into the Monnow Valley, where we turned north and walked across pastureland and part of the Three Rivers Ride to return to the cars. The weather was kind to the 6 walkers who enjoyed lunch in sunshine looking over the Monnow Valley and the village of Craswall below (pub now closed!)

Owing to a high number of walkers being away on holiday, the August walk was repositioned to one nearer home. Mike Dams was the walk leader, the walk being on home territory in the Newport area, namely Castleton. Mike commented 'Thanks for all who joined us and hope that you enjoyed the walk. Good turn-out of 7 as quite a few were away or had other commitments. The weather just about held with some sun at times, especially when we stopped for lunch. It was certainly different at times - we had horses, goats, cows, bees, orchards etc., a couple of walks through corn fields and some crossings of A48 and M4 plus an obstacle course fence with barbed wire. Finished off with a nice drink in the Coach & Horses. I recorded 7 1/4 miles'.

Upcoming walks are;

7 Sept	Skenfrith Castle, Grosmont, Edmunds Tump, Blackbrook Valley	12.5	M
	Meet 1030 at Skenfrith Castle car park (NP7 8UH) off A466 Monmouth to Hereford		
5 Oct	Llanthony Priory, Offa's Dyke Path and Hatterrall Hill	8	C
	Meet 1030 Llanthony Priory (SO 288 279) turn off A465 Abergavenny to Hereford road at Llanvihangle Crucorney.	12	C
2 Nov	Penmaen, Cefn Bryn, Penrice, Reynoldston, Penmaen (Gower)	8	M
	Meet 1030 at National Trust car park about 90 metres off A4118 along lane by Penmaen Church. (SS 533 887)		
7 Dec	Ogmore Stroll: Pelican in Her Piety for Christmas lunch	5	E
	Meet 1030 at Pelican car park (CF32 0QP)		

Membership stands at 40 persons, with circa 20 active walkers.

Anyone wishing to join, 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.

[Regards - Stuart McMillan](#)

NORDIC WALKING GROUP:

Both the Monday and Wednesday walking group have gained new members, sadly none of the newer members are from the retiree association.

Members from the association who participate remain stable.

DAY TRIPS/SHORT BREAKS:

We have booked a 57 seater coach for the annual lunch being held this year at the Bear Hotel Crickhowell (Crug Hywel). 55 members and guests will be participating with four people in reserve. We have already passed the intended list of meal choices to the Bear Hotel.

Payment for the coach to Crickhowell will be within the next two weeks.

The Bournemouth trip for March has already been booked with Edwards Coaches. Final payment is due in January.

[Regards Ken & Rob](#)

GUEST SPEAKER - Ryan Howell HR Manager

Don welcomed on behalf of the retirees Ryan Howell.

Ryan explained that the first stage had been completed which included the several redundant personnel on site. They would continue to find alternative work for some needing assistance.

Dow Chemical are in the process of harmonising the changes needed in manufacturing, engineering and pension schemes.

This will take some time over the next two years and will see some changes to the general management of the site.

Ryan stated that the company will be reviewing the situation with regards to pensions and support for the Retirees Association and the site shop.

Ryan thanked the meeting for allowing him to keep us informed and is willing to update us on the latest news at further meetings.

The meeting thanked Ryan for his attendance at this meeting.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS:

HONORARIUM POSITION. Proposed Don Surridge Seconded Val Caple.

Unanimously accepted by the attendees together with seven additional votes cast by email.

HONORARIUM for June Brown Proposed Don Surridge Seconded Robert Wardle.

Don addressed the meeting and stressed that June was a founder member of the association, had set out the first constitution and started and managed the Site shop for many years.

Now unable to come to meetings and presently in a convalescent home it is time that June deserves this recognition.

Agreed and passed by the meeting.

Catherine Lewis, Education officer at Dow Corning is hoping to be able to arrange a Christmas event again, just waiting for sign off of the Christmas budget.

Catherine provided the actual numbers for this years pond dipping events:

28th July - 3 families (7 adults & 3 children)

16th August – 3 families (7 adults & 4 children)



The committee welcomes Jim McCulloch who joined the association after the June members meeting. Welcome aboard Jim.

**DONM
Dec 05**