



DCRETIREES.ORG.UK

## Q2 MINUTES

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JUNE 05 2017

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Welcome to our meeting today.

**APOLOGIES:** Jon Mead, Gail Stephenson, Bert & Brenda Dowdell, Mike Bullows, Graham Pugh, Cliff Gray, Richard Taylor, Robin Pitcher, Tom & Doreen Williams, Annie Eskins, Mavis Crockett, Pat Rees.

### Attendees: 24

Sadly I report the passing of Joyce Riddick, wife of Eric Riddick (service was held on May 4th.) Both Eric and Joyce were active members several years ago and regularly participated with the day trips and short breaks.

My thanks to Robin Pitcher who's sterling work of emailing our members keeping everyone well informed of sad passing's and the service arrangements.

I also read in the newspaper recently of the sad death of Pat Stewart (the author of the book 'The girl in the spotted dress'). Pat gave us a very interesting talk last December on her life in show business. She was very vibrant and amusing. I am aware that some of our members have since read her amusing book and two of our regular members Nordic walked with Pat most Wednesday's.

Annie Eskins has sent an apology for this and all forthcoming meetings. Annie's health means she can no longer drive and get about as she did before. Annie said she still looks forward to receiving her copy of the minutes. Annie was for several years secretary to the group.

Don, Rob and I recently met with Ryan Howell and Lisa Bohun (our site representatives) the purpose of the meeting was to ask if Dow who now wholly own DC are willing to continue their support of our association since the closure of the site shop. Notes from the meeting held on 8th May are shown in the secretary's report below.

Ryan and Lisa will attend the meeting today to give you their feedback.

Best Wishes..... Trevor Rees.

### SECRETARY'S REPORT:

I shall be stepping aside as the association secretary as mentioned during last years AGM. Effective at the close of the next quarterly meeting (AGM). I am glad that I could be a small part of the success of DCRA. However, I can no longer meet the increased time commitments required to move the association to the next level.

Thank you for allowing me to be part of this association.

Ryan Howell addressed the committee on May 08 to explain why the shop closed. It is because Dow corporation does not have similar facilities globally and does not support shops. A huge amount of the takings from the shop over the last 35 years was paid back to the association's account and used to subsidise the annual dinner / lunch, it also kept the costs of all trips down, a percentage was annually donated to the walking group for their occasional refreshments, also included was the refreshments at skittles matches. It paid for liability insurance a requirement for day trips, holidays, walkers and the skittles team plus the occasional Christmas vouchers etc. Therefore the shop closure is a great financial

loss to the association. Ryan continued to explain how the Dow corporation deals with requests for sponsorship from charities etc. Previously each Dow Corning facility had their own budget handling local sponsorship which included money paid to the association, this has now disappeared. Dow corporation use one global office employing a team handling requests being made to Dow facilities for sponsorship. Dow are one of the major sponsors of the Olympic games.

Ryan said all invoices presented by Richard to Dow Corning on behalf of the retiree association covering the first quarter of this year have been passed for approval but the most recent invoice requesting payment for matching the fees of membership subs cannot now be approved by site and will not be paid in future.

Ryan and Lisa have discussed with the USA a one off payment for the retiree association this to be from the final Barry site budget that used to cover sponsorship requests.

There will be a one off generous final £3000:00 payment made to the association to help with the associations budget this year. The future will not be very favourable for the association, the committee namely the treasurer will need to prepare a spreadsheet itemising the associations expenses this to be passed onto our site representative when requesting sponsorship no later than September. It would then be sent to the US global team by January for consideration. Ryan and Lisa explained that (1) there is no guarantee our request or requests would be favourably approved, and (2) we must realise that Dow do not have other retiree associations such as ours requesting sponsorship.

The committee to be appointed during the September meeting will need to be very creative, Lisa and Ryan could possibly help with the preparation to ensure it meets the Dow critique.

Until now, we have been very fortunate to use the fitness centre (GYM) as retirees. Regretfully Dow who now wholly own Dow Corning have withdrawn this offer because it is not within its global policies (Health / Security). Sometime in **August** association members will no longer be allowed to enter the car park using a car pass or use of the gym with a key fob. Please return your gym fob and car park pass to reception between now (if not in regular use) or **no later** than August. Insurance cover from the company or through our the annual insurance will be void after this date. No doubt members who have used the gym will be disappointed. We can until we are told differently continue to use the training centre for our quarterly meetings.

Regards - Rob

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

### 1. Financial status year to-date:

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Current account balance:                                | 4356.36          |
| Unpresented Cheques:                                    |                  |
| Welfare.  | -40.00           |
| Annual Lunch (returns).                                 | -36.00           |
| DC Shop Takings (2 cheques).                            | -580.00          |
| Tesco Vouchers (cheques in lieu of vouchers from 2016). | -25.00           |
| Savings account balance.                                | 1663.35          |
| Float totals.   | -3.91            |
|   | =====            |
| <b>Net Assets YTD =</b>                                 | <b>£ 5334.80</b> |

See additional sheet (Income and Expenditure Account for 2017) for a summary of 2017 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 2016:

The 2016 account files have been submitted to the auditor (Dave Edwards). I fully expect to have the audited accounts ready for approval at the AGM.

See additional sheet (Income and Expenditure Account for 2016) for a summary of 2016 accounts.

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

Please note I will not be standing as treasurer in September, if the post is not filled, I will be prepared to continue to maintain the accounts until a new treasurer is found, but no other duties.

Richard Thomas (DCRA Treasurer)

| Dow Corning Retirees Association        |              |         |                            |               |          |
|---|--------------|---------|----------------------------|---------------|----------|
| Income and Expenditure Account for 2017 |              |         |                            |               |          |
| 2017 Income                             |              |         | 2017 Expenditure           |               |          |
| Welfare                                 |              | 0.00    | Welfare                    |               | 80.00    |
| Members Subscriptions                   |              | 572.00  | Xmas cards/gifts           |               | 0.00     |
| Dow Corning Part Matched Subscriptions  |              | 0.00    | Tesco Vouchers             |               | 0.00     |
| Manning DC Shop (Paid by Dow Corning)   |              | 2160.28 | Manning DC Shop            |               | 76.28    |
| DC Shop Takings                         |              | 1870.00 | DC Shop Takings            |               | 1870.00  |
| Admin                                   |              | 300.00  | Admin                      |               | 113.43   |
| Coach Trips                             |              | 0.00    | Coach Trips                |               | 450.00   |
| Annual Dinner/Lunch                     |              | 0.00    | Annual Dinner              |               | 0.00     |
| Friendship Group                        |              | 0.00    | Friendship Group           |               | 0.00     |
| Interest earned (end July 2014).        |              | 0.27    | Nordic Walking Group       |               | 0.00     |
|   |              |         | Skittles Group Expenses    |               | 0.00     |
|   |              |         | Walking Group Expenses     |               | 44.20    |
|   |              |         | Secretary's Expenses       |               | 0.00     |
|   |              |         | Treasurers Expenses        |               | 0.00     |
|   |              |         | Subs                       |               | 3.00     |
|   |              |         | DC Shop Expenses           |               | 300.00   |
|   | Total Income | 4902.55 |                            | Total Expense | 2936.91  |
| Surplus for 2017                        |              |         |                            |               | 1965.64  |
| Balances -End of Dec. 2016              |              |         | Balances - June 5th 2017   |               |          |
| Current Account                         |              | 2039.35 | Current Account            |               | 4356.36  |
| Unpresented Cheques at the end of 2016  |              | -673.56 | Unpresented Cheques        |               | -681.00  |
| Savings Account                         |              | 1663.08 | Savings Account            |               | 1663.35  |
| 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                     |              | 36.11   | Walking Group Float        |               | -8.09    |
| Coach Trips Float                       |              | 0.00    | Coach Trips Float          |               | 0.00     |
| DC Shop Float                           |              | 300.00  | DC Shop Float              |               | 0.00     |
|   |              |         | Net Assets year to-date    |               | 5334.80  |
|   |              |         | Minus surplus year to-date |               | -1965.64 |
|   |              | 3369.16 |                            |               | 3369.16  |



## FRIENDSHIP GROUP REPORT:

### Volunteer activity:

No activity since the last meeting. I will continue to coordinate any requests for the time being, but when no volunteers are available, I will recommend that the member in-need contact “Greenlinks” a Vale of Glamorgan Council Community Transport service (Tel: 0800 294 1113). Details can be found on the VOG Council website.

I will not be continuing in the role as Friendship Group Coordinator/ Secretary following the September AGM and if on-one comes forward to take on the role, I will be recommending that we disband the group.

Richard Thomas (Friendship Group Coordinator / Secretary).

## WALKING GROUP REPORT:

April's walk was proposed and kindly led by Robin Pitcher. It was a new 9 mile moderate walk based on the Holy mountain of Skirrid to the north east of Abergavenny. After parking at the new National Trust car park the intrepid walkers trekked up Skirrid to the ruins before descending down to the plains below and made their made across to the village of Llangattock Lingoed. Robin knows how to spoil his walkers, so they stopped for lunch at the local hostelry. On the way back there was a couple of 'hang back moments' whilst the elusive stile/s was located. The 9 walkers returned across the fields back to the cars having appreciated a very good walk. Thank you Robin. Mike Dams arranged the sunny weather.

Strangely enough the May walk also had a religious connection - we completed a second easy section on St Illtyd's Way. As it was a 6 mile linear walk we met at Afan Argoed Country Park and shuffled a couple of cars over to the destination, the village of Bryn. The walk took us gently up the hillside and out onto open land with extensive views to be savoured. A leisurely lunch was taken at a picnic bench with another breathtaking vista of hillsides, valleys and Swansea Bay. The trail was clearly waymarked except at one point, where the leader was challenged, but he chose wisely and we gradually approached Bryn and the waiting cars for the short road journey back to Afan Argoed. The walk and the fine weather was enjoyed by the 8 walkers.

In June, 11 members of the walking group will be travelling to Gozo for a seven day walking holiday on this little gem of an island.

### Upcoming walks are;

|               |  |            |            |
|---------------|--|------------|------------|
| <b>7 June</b> | <b>Llanthony Priory, Bal Bach, Queens Head, Hatterrall Hill</b><br>Meet 1030 Llanthony Priory (SO 288 279) Sat Nav: NP7 7NN. Turn off A465 Abergavenny to Hereford road at Llanvihangle Crucorney. | <b>12</b>  | <b>C</b>   |
| <b>5 July</b> | <b>Carmarthen Fans (Bannau Sir Gaer, Picws Du, Fan Brycheiniog)</b><br>Meet 1030 at Llanddeusant off A4069 from Brynamman to Llandovery road (SN 798 238)  | <b>9.5</b> | <b>C</b>   |
| <b>2 Aug</b>  | <b>Penygenffordd, Y Grib, Rhos Dirion, Waun Fach, Pen Trumau</b><br>Meet 1030 at Castle Inn car park Pengefnford (SO 174 295) on A479 Crickhowell to Talgarth road, Sat Nav: LD3 0EP               | <b>8</b>   | <b>M/C</b> |

To join or need more information, 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

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#### NORDIC WALKING GROUP:

Members from the association who participate remain stable and continue to meet weekly.

#### DAY TRIPS / SHORT BREAKS:

There are no current plans for either.

Regards Ken

#### MEMBERSHIP:

Members who have renewed their membership in 2017, 337 (103 singles 117 doubles).

Regards Val

#### ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS:

Margaret McMillan has expressed an interest in looking over the duties as treasurer. Richard will send an email with an outline of his current duties as treasurer to Margaret.

**We need to now fill the duties of secretary having a name in place before the AGM in September. The association cannot function properly without a secretary in place.**

Because visitor car parking spaces fill up quickly with visitors and retirees on meeting days could our meetings be moved to the Education Centre where there is more than enough car parking spaces to cope with association members. Maybe management could review the request. We need to be aware that Catherine Lewis is normally employed on a Monday.

The committee thank Ryan and Lisa for their attendance at the meeting today.

Meeting closed 1545 hours.

DONM our AGM please try and be there on **Monday September 04, 14:00 hours**