

# **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Held at 8pm, 8th March 2010 at the Llandogger Trow, Bristol**

## **Committee Attendees:**

Richard Hiscoke, Richard Simms, Ali Hobbs, Liz Catchpole, Sarah Gay, Richard Silsby, Carrie Stone, Nick Walker, Roland Allen & Phil Taylor

15 other AOAC members also attended

## **Committee Apologies – Alex Gibbons**

### **1. Review of Minutes from last AGM**

The minutes of the last AGM held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2009 were agreed.

### **2. Reports from the current Committee**

#### **Chairman's Report**

Richard Hiscoke reported on another successful year in which members had the opportunity to take part in many activities from walks, mountain biking, weekends away, kayaking trips and several social events including the Pearl Anniversary Ball held in 2007 & the Barn Dance in 2008. In addition, the Committee focussed on providing training grants to members and reported that the average age of the club was 41 years old as opposed to 38 years old in 2008 & there was a drive to promote the club to younger people through flyers which had been designed & currently being distributed to companies in Bristol & Bath. On the whole, 2009 had been successful year.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Richard Simms explained that the accounts had been audited & signed off as ok. He advised that the recommendations from the audit were for members organising an event to firstly have an estimate of the income prior to booking an event. Richard stated that this was working well. Richard also stated that for each committee meeting he had provided interim accounts for discussion. Richard also stated that the Natwest account had finally been closed and monies transferred to Barclays (£300.00).

The accounts (until February 2010) showed that 2009/10 was a good year for the club with the club making a profit of £4,293.84, with only a couple of losses, namely the Scotland Walking Week. Richard thanked Carrie for all her organising of trips.

Richard advised that various equipment had been bought including a sea kayak & that the hiring of canoe equipment was doing well.

The figures show that the cash position of the club is approximately £16,000 which is enough for the club to run efficiently.

Tim Button asked about the Summer Tennis costs & was it ok to spend £00 - £400. Richard explained the tennis should be self funding.

### **Policy Officer's Report**

Nick Walker advised that the Health & Safety policy had been launched in October 2009 & would be "signed off as read" for all members when membership was renewed. Nick reported that there had not been as much First Aid training as in the previous year. He advised that Sarah Gay, Equipment Officer held the First Aid kits and would encourage members to talk to the committee & take up the First Aid Training.

Rob Giles asked what level the training was & whether it was a single day activity or longer to enable members to use the training outside the club giving transferable skills to them.

It was stated that First Aid at Work with outdoor pursuits would be very useful. It was also stated that a 2 day First Aid course would be more beneficial and recognised by professional bodies. Carrie said that other courses should be done on an individual basis. Mark Athay volunteered to run another course (BCU First Aid course) later in the year.

It was asked how the club stood legally for First Aid? Nick advised that it was not required to be covered by the Health & Safety Act but Nick would actively encourage First Aid training amongst volunteers.

### **Equipment Officer's Report**

Sarah Gay stated that £500 had been spent on caving equipment which would be re-couped over the next few years stating that the caving was well attended. Sarah also explained that there was a provision for equipment in place, i.e. First Aid.

### **Event Organiser's Report**

Carrie Stone reported that it had been a very good year for the club with lots of people organising a range of different activities including sailing and canoeing which now had a large following & also a successful Skiing & Sennen weekend trip with 80 – 100 members attending.

Carrie advised that a charity event had been organised for October 2010 which was a Bollywood theme.

Carrie also advised that a number of members had been given training grants to aid in the running of events. Members who undertake training subsidised by the club receive their money back incrementally when they organise trips, which was working well.

### **Communications Officer's Report**

Liz Catchpole highlighted a successful year for communications and thanked everyone who had contributed.

### **3. Changes to the Constitution**

It was proposed that the constitution be updated to substitute a requirement for certain information to be posted on the notice board, by a requirement for that information to be notified to the members in the form set out in the revised draft constitution.

Proposal was approved.

#### 4. Membership Fees for next year

The Committee proposed that membership fees remain the same as the previous year, which was agreed.

Single person	£25.00
Joint (Couple at same address	£40.00
Unwaged/distant/student	£12.50

#### 5. Debate & straw poll

Should we stay at the Llandogger Trow (LDT) or move to the Pump House or elsewhere?

Richard Hiscoke advised that the LDT was asking for £40 per week for hiring the room, which was not acceptable. Richard also asked if the Wednesday night meet should be once a month due to low numbers attending. 3 questions were asked

##### How people travelled to the AGM/club nights:

Walked	8
Cycled	4
Drove	16

##### Meeting regularity

Once a month on the first Wednesday of the month	75%
Twice monthly on the first & third Wednesday of the month	25%
Meeting every week	0%

##### Location

City Centre location	19 members
Pump House/Lansdowne	13 members

It was agreed that the new Committee would make the decision on the next venue & its regularity. The decision to move to another venue in the city centre was unanimous.

#### 6. Election of new Committee Members

New committee members were nominated and seconded following members asking what nominated members aspirations & key objectives were for the roles they were being elected for:

Chair – Richard Simms

Secretary – Richard Simms

Treasurer – Mel Bates

Membership Secretaries – Roland Allen & Rob Giles

Activity Co-ordinators – Aj Vesudevan & Maurice Houkes

Equipment Officers – Sarah Gay, Richard Silsby

Development Officer – Jon Maddicott

Policy Officer – Nick Walker

Communication Officers – Gavin Spittlehouse