

HMC Annual General Meeting

Meeting	HMC AGM	
Date	4 April 2017	
Venue	Cotswold – St Albans – 7:30	
Committee	Chris Smith (CS)	Chairman(elected position)
Attendees	Dave Williams (DW)	Treasurer (elected position)
	Stephen Deaville (SD)	Secretary (elected position)
	Rebecca Smith (RS)	Outdoor Rep (elected position)
	David Ball (DB)	Committee Rep (unelected)
HMC Attendees	Albert Silwood (AS)	Dave Goodey (DG)
	Tony Richardson (TR)	Dave Nicholson (DN)
	Wendy Cobb (WC)	Eddie Cornell (EC)
	Jenny Forster-Davidson (JFD)	Robert Vale (RV)
	Unknown attendee	

1	Apologies	
1.1	CS welcomed all to the AGM and read out apologies received from Jane Eyre, Paul Hearn and Jackie Deakin	
1.2	CS circulated minutes of the 2016 AGM and asked the attendees to approve. The 2016 AGM minutes were approved by acclamation.	
2	Chairman's Report	
2.1	CS summarised the activities of the HMC over the last 12 months including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eddies 80th birthday celebration • Excellent trips to Cornwall and Scotland • Thanks to DW for setting up online transactions for committee members to make payment of 	

	venues easier.	
2.2	CS set out the challenges the HMC faces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership numbers • Encouraging more members to arrange trips • Using social media (facebook) to arrange meets 	
2.3	CS announced the Member of the Year is Dave Williams	
2.4	Upcoming milestones – the HMC’s 60 th birthday in 2018.	
3	Treasurer’s Report	
3.1	DW went through the accounts for last 12 months. Interestingly the number of cheques issued has dropped as transactions have moved to online authorisation. Number of cheques written in 2015 = 50 Number of cheques written in 2016 = 15 Number of cheques written in 2017 = 2	
3.2	The commitment for a £100 donation to the Mend Our Mountains campaign was not done in time in 2016. The campaign re-launches this year so the payment will be made then.	
3.3	JP asked why there was a loss on the Edale trip in 2016? DW replied that the event was booked for 12 but only 3 people attended.	
3.4	DW also highlighted loss at Hartington Hall but was only the equivalent of cost of 1 person (15 people attended for 16 places).	
3.5	JFD asked if the accounts had been audited? DW replied that Jon Moulding had been through the accounts and advised that the HMC accounts have not been audited often. DB offered to review the accounts	DB
3.6	DW asked for the accounts to be approved. The attendees approved the accounts	
4	Secretary’s Report	
4.1	SD stated that HMC membership stands at 52. Previous year’s membership figures by comparison are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of 2012 – 95 members • End of 2013 – 117 members 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of 2014 –103 members • end of 2015 - 74 members • end of 2016 – 55 members • currently - 52 members 	
4.2	<p>SD gave a breakdown of current membership</p> <p>41 members have renewed from last year</p> <p>6 brand new members have joined</p> <p>5 previous HMC members have re-joined who were not members last year</p> <p>15 members have not renewed since last year</p>	
4.3	<p>JP asked if we knew why last year’s members have not re-joined?</p> <p>SD replied that a survey was issued to those that did not rejoin last year. Only 3 responses were received from approx. 24 and the responses indicated that a change in circumstances has led to not renewing their membership.</p>	
4.4	<p>Overall the trend has been downward over recent years and Paul Hearn speculated on the reasons at the last AGM. The BMC has noted a downward trend nationally and this could be down to the development of online platforms like Meet Up.</p>	
4.5	<p>SD updated the attendees on a new online membership system provided by the BMC. Membership details can now be updated directly through the new online portal.</p>	
4.6	<p>DN asked if members can now get automatic cover from the BMC. SD replied that yes that is the case but members were also covered under the old system by a three month grace period from the BMC.</p>	
4.7	<p>SD explained that the HMC’s online presence (website www.thehmc.co.uk) is now being updated regularly to attract new members. Photographic and video content from members is encouraged to help show off the fun we have on a meet.</p>	
4.8	<p>AS commented that it was not easy to find committee contact details on the website. SD explained that there is a Contact link under the Join Tab on the main page. This takes views to the committee contact page.</p>	
4.9	<p>SD advised that the committee is trying to promote the club through the use of the website, Facebook and</p>	

	twitter but any ideas are welcome	
4.10	WC asked if there was a poster? SD replied that there is no poster at the moment and would welcome volunteers to design one.	
4.11	AS advised that there is an old poster up in Cotswold. Could a new poster be designed up for use in libraries, local outdoor shops and climbing walls? Albert advised that this was done in the past. Also could any online advertising be done?	HMC committee
4.12	JP asked how much would Meet Up cost?	
4.13	SD replied that Gary Bebb asked the AGM two years ago to vote on using Meet Up to attract new member and the attendees voted against it.	
4.14	JFD added that there were concerns about Meet Up attracting people who were inexperienced and would expect to be led on walks.	
4.15	SD added that HMC could investigate attending relevant/appropriate events being held in Hertfordshire such and have a table promoting the club but would need support from club members.	HMC to review attendance at events
5	Outdoor Meets Report	
5.1	RS advised the attendees that the last season bookings was based on realistic uptake and so aim to ensure that the club breaks even on meets. Huts are being favoured due to good value and summer camping meets help to keep costs low.	
5.2	Meets Coming Up include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easter - 2 places left • 28 April – Pembroke • 26 May – George Starky hut (Patterdale) • 9 June – Swannage • 28 July – Cadir Idris • 26 August - Gower • 5 Sept – Exmore • 6 Oct – Robertson Lamb 	
5.3	JP advised that there is another hut in Patterdale which could be looked at.	
5.4	Group (communal) meals seem to be working well and will try to keep that going.	HMC members

		feedback
5.5	RS - X-mas meal – RS asked for suggested locations. Peak District perhaps or New Forest? Suggestions welcome.	
5.6	AS asked if the Alps trip was still on. SD advised that there was a proposed plan for either Gran Paradiso or the Dolomites but would only run if there was interest. As we are close to June/July, we may need to think about September. SD advised that he would investigate chalet options in the Dolomites and if anyone was interested to contact him.	
5.7	RS asked if the HMC was interested in returning to the Snowdonia hut – there have been some problems in the last couple of years, hut price is higher than others. Feedback to the committee welcome.	All HMC members feedback
5.8	JP thanked the committee for their work to organise the last year of events.	
5.9	AS asked about the location of social events and suggested that social events could be held around the county. CS advised that the majority of current members reside around St Albans area and that the end of the month socials are likely to continue to support the greatest concentration of members.	
6	Elections	
6.1	CS advised that the position of Outdoor Meets Rep (OMR) was up for nominations. RS was happy to continue as OMR. JFD proposed. JP seconded. RS was appointed OMR by acclamation	
6.2	Chair, Secretary and Treasurer would be up for election at the 2018 AGM.	
7	AOB	
7.1	The topic of the HMC 60 th Anniversary was discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal wear • Local Hertfordshire venue • Partners invited • Invitation extended to ex members • Price guide of £35 to £40 • April time on a Saturday 	

7.2	AS offered to help organise the event.	
7.3	Meeting closed at 9pm.	