

Cymdeithas Waliau Cerrig Sychion

Cangen Gogledd Cymru



Dry Stone Walling Association

North Wales Branch

Hon. Secretary: Sean Adcock
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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
FOELAS ARMS PENTREFOELAS
WEDNESDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2013.
8.00PM

The meeting commenced at 8pm

Present Sean Adcock, Colin Brown, Craig Evans, Alan Jones, Alaw Jones, Paul Smyth
In attendance David Beasley

In the absence of a chair and vice chair it was suggested that Sean took the meeting, there being no objections he duly did so

Sean suggested that as had been the norm in recent years election of officers should take place after agenda business was conducted

1. APOLOGIES

Sean reported that none had been received

2 Minutes of 2012 AGM

Acceptance of the minutes of the 2012 meeting

Proposed: Craig Evans Seconded: Colin Brown
There being no objections the minutes were accepted as presented

2. SECRETARIES REPORT

Sean's report had been circulated with the AGM papers he updated this reporting that the Membership was 1 less. He went on to précis the report noting that it had been a successful year for training, but otherwise in most respects attendance at events/meetings had been very disappointing, most notably the meetings held at Pensychnant. Copies of the Clawdd leaflet, and the welsh language CCS were handed around

3. TREASURERS REPORT

This had been circulated with minutes. Colin noted that 1 Creditor was missing and a revised version would follow. He summarised the year noting good training and sales revenue.
Current 2910.74 in bank with a cash float of 220.68

There was a query re subscriptions and supporters amounts. It was thought these figures were affected by late renewals.

It was also noted that in future the report should include stock figures and branch assets

There was a query over payment to DSWA Sean explained that this was insurance for events and training courses

7. DSWA of GB FINANCIAL SITUATION

Sean explained the current shortfall in funding within the DSWA and the measures being implemented to address this (increased subscriptions, training levy etc. Whilst there were some concerns expressed that the extra burden being placed on professionals would lead to a drop in membership it was generally thought to be fair and not that bad given that it was tax deductible and still relatively small to other professional fees . However it was felt the benefits and need would require careful explanation and that the DSWA would need to do more, and should do much more to ensure standards were implemented and kept to.

Sean proposed that given the Branch had a reasonable bank balance and no immediate plans for large scale expenditure that we make a donation to DSWA centrally. There was some discussion of amounts and usage and it was unanimously agreed that the branch would contribute £1000 with half of this specifically earmarked for the Pinnacle award. Hope was expressed that this would act as a catalyst for other Branches to follow.

8. STONECHAT AND MEMBERSHIP FEES

Sean suggested that given the dwindling support for Stonechat and particularly the reluctance of other branches to support the magazine, it was stagnating with little scope for development and as such he was not willing at present to prolong the current run. It was noted that current members and supporters were effectively owed 2 issues, and whilst there was no actual commitment to provide these Sean hoped to produce 2 during 2014 for these members/supporters. There would be no new subscriptions involving Stonechat.

There was a general discussion on the Branch and its activities, and the lack of membership and limited support of events from the members. There was some discussion on the future of the Branch it was generally felt that it played a valuable role with training and was meeting a demand at present and should in the very least endeavour to meet this for the foreseeable future.

A discussion followed on membership fees in light of the increase in national membership. Sean proposed that Branch subscriptions be reduced by £6 to match the national increase, leaving overall open membership at £40. That this be for renewals only with a 2 month grace period (ending 31st May) with subsequent renewals being treated as new members and paying £16 for membership.

Proposed: Sean Seconded: Colin
There being no objections the motion was carried

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS as may be properly accepted at an AGM

Alaw noted that it would be the 30th Anniversary of the Branch in September 2014. It was generally felt thsat something should be done to mark this

10. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman

There was a marked lack of enthusiasm to stand for the post. Sean agreed to stand in order that the post be filled

Sean Adcock was nominated by Colin brown and Seconded by Alan Jones
There being no other nominations Sean Adcock was duly elected.

Vice Chairman

Once again there was a marked lack of enthusiasm to stand for the post. Paul agreed to stand in order that the post be filled, but he would not be acting as Chair at any point.

Paul Smyth was nominated by Sean Adcock and seconded by Alaw Jones.
There being no other nominations Paul Smyth was duly elected.

Treasurer

Colin Brown was nominated by Craig Evans and seconded by Sean Adcock.
There being no other nominations Colin Brown was duly elected.

Secretary

Sean Adcock was proposed by Colin Brown and Seconded by Paul Smyth.
Sean expressed his reluctance to take on two roles, but would do so although he did not expect to take an active role in Branch activities beyond dealing with the website and general secretarial duties, which he would undertake just to keep the Branch ticking over.

There being no other nominations Sean Adcock was reluctantly duly elected

Other Officers

Craig Evans was standing down from the committee to spend more time with his family and his new job. Sean Adcock thanked him on behalf of the Branch for his years of dedicated service. There being no-one else interested in standing for the committee no other posts were filled. Paul Smyth would continue acting as Training officer whist Vice chair.

APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT INSPECTOR/AUDITOR FOR THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

This had once again been neglected and Colin agreed to chase Craig in order to sort this out

There being no other business the meeting concluded at 9.27pm