

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING at MYLCHREEST COURT, PEEL

Friday 5th April 2024

Those present: Alistair Lothian – AL, Angela Weston – AW, Peter Gunn – PG, David Leiserach – DL, Paul De Weerd – PdW, Lesley Parkington – LP.

1. **Apologies:** Geoff Clague, Paul Castle, Louise Whitelegg.
2. **Minutes of last meeting:** having been circulated beforehand were approved by the committee and signed by Alistair Lothian, Chairman.
3. **Matters Arising from previous meeting:** Alistair Lothian
 - LW and PG to draft an article for local press. PG advised that this is ongoing.
 - Future events: LP has reminded members that there are two places left on the MFCG holiday with walking.im.
 - Walks on private land at Narradale. The Wednesday Sunday walks will be short but packed with information provided by the landowners.
 - PdW to provide details of Gaiety Tour and/or Supper on train.
 - AL has arranged two Apiary Tours at Glen Truan.
 - LP has planned a route for a 'Barrule to Barrule' walk to take place on three separate Saturdays during the summer. AW will check the route and reccy with AL.
 - Annual walk: LP asked for a leader for the short walk – DL volunteered.
 - Happy Hikers: GC has renewed the plaques and AL & AW will return them to the carvings.
 - Summer schedule: Sigal Blonder has it all in place except for Sunday which she will now be able to finalise.
 - Independent Financial Review: George Sharpe had indicated that he would like to step down from this role. The committee agreed to give George a 'Thank you' gift of wine for his contribution to the club. David Grimshaw had volunteered to take the role but does not have the financial background. George Sharpe will continue with the Independent Financial Review.

ACTION: AL to advise DG of committee decision.

ACTION: AL to give wine to GS
4. **Correspondence:** Lesley Parkington
 - LP read out a letter of thanks from Vanda Murray for the gift voucher and flowers in recognition of her contribution to the club over many years.
 - LP received an email from Mountain Warehouse suggesting that MFCG can receive 15% discount on production of a membership card. The committee felt that the cost of posting cards to all members was prohibitive and therefore will there look into sending them to members online.

ACTION: LP to check with Millets, Mountain Warehouse and Regatta as to their requirements.

- Ffinlo Williams from Dol has written regarding funding by MFCG for footpath projects. It was agreed that MFCG will not contribute towards maintenance. Any monetary contributions made by MFCG will not necessarily go to footpath maintenance. LP suggested 'finger' way marker posts bearing the MFCG logo and if acceptable, apply for a Ramblers grant. PG suggested that we would need to speak to MHK's also.

ACTION: AL to arrange a meeting with Mr. Williams

5. Treasurer's Report – April 2024

Bank Update

The Bank Balances are as follows:

Lloyds Current - £4,404.69

Lloyds Savings - £17,513.71

IOM - nil

IOM - nil

A decision will need to be made with regards the closures of the IOM accounts

Update on accounts is as follows

	Opening Bal Dec 2023	Closing Bal March 2024	Mvt
Current Lloyds	£ 585	£ 4,385	£ 3,800
Savings Lloyds	£ 0	£17,514	£17,514
Current IOM	£ 5,309	£ 0	£-5,309
Savings IOM	£14,772	£ 0	£-14,772
Total	£20,666	£21,899	£ 1,233
Income	£2,010	(To be reconciled)	
Lily	£ 69		

Main Expenditure

Expenses	£ 234
AGM	£ 219
Insurance	£ 303
Donations - Talks	£ 90
Total Expenditure	£846

AW advised the committee that we have now moved all of our funds from the Isle of Man Bank to Lloyds Bank and transferred more funds into Savings account leaving £4405 in the Lloyds current account and £17514 in the Lloyds savings account. The committee need to decide to close the Isle of Man accounts. The membership secretary can write to those who have paid their subs into the IoM bank reminding them to change their payments to Lloyds. For the first three months of 2024 we received £2000 of income including £69 from Lily Publication for walking book royalties.

6. **Membership Secretary's Report:** as per 31.01.24
7. **Data Protection Report:** There have been no breaches of data protection.
8. **Footpaths Officer's Report:** Paul Castle
Defect reports are up to date.

9. Safety Officer's Report: Paul de Weerd

There is one Incident Report which will be forward to our insurers. On Saturday 30th March a member slipped and broke her ankle during a walk.

10. Walks Schedules: The new coordinator is up to date with the schedules and once she has received the Sunday list she will finalise and add them to the website.

11. Heritage Open Days: The committee decided not to participate in the future.

12. Matters Arising from AGM 21.03.24:

The committee gave a vote of thanks to Louise Whitelegg for taking the minutes of the meeting at short notice.

DL put forward a resolution to approach landowners to have routes crossing their land made official Permissive paths or PRoW's. The resolution was supported by the majority of members. DL asked if he should proceed with this action. LP stated that she is firmly opposed to this action as she feels that this will cause friction between walkers and landowners and could end with farmers closing off paths that we have previously used freely. LP also stated that she does not feel that the name of the club should be used for this purpose.

The committee agreed not to pursue this.

- PG suggested asking DoI to improve the accessibility of the definitive IoM maps.
- PdW suggested putting a link on the MFCG website to PRoW's.

13. Any Other Business:

- AL stated that visually impaired group, Milton Mountaineers will be on the Island from 22nd to 29th April. All members are welcome to join them for walks.

ACTION: LP to email members with details.

- LP suggested that the final Wednesday evening walk should now be the last Wednesday in August as the Manx Grand Prix ends earlier than previously. The committee agreed.

- LP said that one of our members has volunteered to give a talk on how to recognise scams and Phishing emails. The committee agreed that this is a good idea and should be classed as a winter talk.

ACTION: LP to arrange a meeting.

- DL referred to a list previously circulated to the committee regarding serious PRoW defects which have not been addressed by DoI or DEFA.

ACTION: AL to raise the issue when meeting with Mr. Williams of DoI.

- LP suggested creating a certificate for future Life Members. AW stated that names being put forward for Life Membership should be brought to the committee for discussion.

14. Date & Time of next meeting: 2pm Monday 13th May 2024

15. Meeting Closed: 4pm

ALISTAIR LOTHIAN

CHAIRMAN