

Oxford University Walking Club

MINUTES OF THE TERMLY GENERAL MEETING OF HILARY TERM 2006

Held in Oriel College on Wednesday 8th March (8th week). Meeting declared open at 8:15 pm.

1. Apologies for Absence

James Robinson, Emma Henderson, Quentin Croft, Simon Welch (may be here later), Sam Rice

11 OUWC members in attendance.

2. The reading of previous minutes

The minutes of the Michaelmas 2005 TGM were read out, during which a ladybird walked across Sarah K's Laptop. James W commented that it wasn't a very pretty ladybird and could be poisonous, but Sarah saved it anyway.

3. Objections to the previous minutes

- Chris W objected to being referred to as Agatha as he is clearly not Agatha.
- Sarah K objected to the reference to web problems and "fixing evil glare" as she has no memory of this. James W agreed. The "evil glare" may have been due to talking over the social secretary, probably about Barney's biscuit activities.
- Richard M objected to the Treasurer's report: the T-shirts actual cost was £282.00, the rest was general admin expenses from Rich.
- Marion objects to how the Secretary wrote "10 votes to one" as 10:1 in the EGM minutes. This time an evil glare is fixed.
- Andrew objects to the voting by show of hands and suggests the Club may not have had a Treasurer all term...

4. Matters arising from the previous minutes

James W could only see one, which was stores.

The Quartermaster said that we have stores, which is very exciting. It was still waterproof (as of the TGM) and rat-proof, with rat-proof boxes.

5. Officers' Reports

President – They were 4 weekend trips, one to come and 3 minibus day trips this term. All were successful. We have also had 14 local walks, with 2 to come and 7 socials with 2 to come.

The Hike for Humanity was also a success, with 29 sponsored walkers raising £277. We also gained three new members. We have a walk planned with Oxford Association for the Blind which will hopefully go well.

Membership is at record levels with 350 members which is fantastic. The weekend and mini bus day trips just about met the demand, with most trips full or over-subscribed, but none too badly. Local walks were well-attended at the start of term but proved less popular towards the end of term, which was in part attributed to the weather. Continuing a recent and worrying trend, socials were badly attended, and it may be worth reducing the number to try to encourage more people to come to fewer events. Annual dinner to hopefully be Friday 2nd week of next term.

Considering the record number of members, the enthusiasm for committee, driving and leading is not as good as it could be, which will need to be considered next term.

Finally, I should like to thank everybody who has served on committee this term. I have really enjoyed working with you all and I look forward to being on committee next term.

Secretary - This has been a good term for the Walking Club, with four weekend trips and three mini-bus trips so far, in addition to a full and varied local walks schedule. All of the trips were well-attended, with many being oversubscribed, although local walks have been poorly attended. Membership is at its highest for a while, no doubt due to a successful freshers' fair stand last term and the membership drive at the start of this term. The club has also become involved in Outreach activities, with the Hike for Humanity a couple of weeks ago and a walk with Oxford Association for the Blind planned.

The driver situation is good, with three new drivers, all of whom offered to drive on trips this term. No trips had to be cancelled owing to lack of drivers, although James did have to step in on more than one occasion. As ever, the club remains aware of the need to constantly recruit new drivers and there has been a good level of interest for next term. Booking the buses directly with Hotsons via e-mail is working well, and there have been no issues with bus bookings this term. All of the buses for next term have been provisionally booked successfully.

A planned ML course at Easter and First Aid course next term should help to alleviate some of the worries of last term concerning leaders, although we envisage this will continue to be a problem as demand for trips increases. However, the funding situation from the university is now looking better which will hopefully help leader training course subsidies.

The standard of buses provided by Hotsons has been good recently, with buses generally being newer and in better condition than in previous terms. We have had no minibus accidents or scrapes, and to date we have received no penalty notifications and none are expected. The AA, with prior permission from Hotsons, had to be called

out on one occasion to fix a faulty rear door, and we have received no communication from Hotsons on this matter since so hopefully the matter is settled.

We are very fortunate this TGM to be able to hold elections for all Exec positions giving the difficulties over the past year, thank you to everyone who is standing. It is a pity the club has not received nominations for all committee positions but hopefully candidates will stand from the floor.

I should like to thank everyone on committee this term for working together so efficiently and all of the drivers for getting their mini-bus information to me promptly.

Treasurer – Report attached to the end of the minutes.

Trip and Safety – Report attached to the end of the minutes.

There were no other committee reports.

6. Specific Important Business

There were a number of motions to ratify, all of which were passed at the last TGM and are in the attached motion pack.

Motion 1: Motion to introduce the post of Alumni Secretary

This motion was passed at the Michaelmas 2005 TGM and is presented here for ratification.

James explained what Bruno (co-opted) has done, and that committee would like to keep the position permanent until the alumni scheme is up and running. At present, there is no plan to obtain large amounts of funding from the scheme and we are relatively self-sufficient without Sports Fed funding.

Secret Ballot for motion 1.

For:	11
Against:	0
Spoilt:	0

Motion passed unanimously with 11 votes.

Motion 2: Motion to allow Trip Leaders who have PTL-ed a trip to stand for executive committee

This motion was passed at the Michaelmas 2005 TGM and is presented here for ratification.

Secret Ballot for Motion 2.

For:	10
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Against: 1
Spoilt: 0

Motion passed 10 votes to one.

Motion 3: Motion to change the order of election of the non-exec committee

Much origami during voting.

Secret ballot for motion three.

For: 8
Against: 1
Spoilt: 2

7. Elections to Committee

Candidates

Senior member

Dr. Kevin Hilliard

For: 10
Against: 0
Spoilt: 1

President

Richard Morris

I have been on committee for two terms, and everyone knows me except.. you (Tom Jordan)... who I don't know. I have enjoyed it and would like the chance to give it a go next term.

For: 10
Against: 0
Spoilt: 1

Richard was elected with 10 votes.

Secretary

Christopher Thomas

I have been on committee for a term. I am relatively organised and have kept website up to date. I have also been secretary of a society in Cam and Sec of OUFAU.

Questions:

Richard M – which position would you prefer?

A – Don't really mind. Disadvantages to both. Disadvantage to being Sec is Hotsons.

James W – can you explain magnetism because Marion can't?

There was no answer.

Tom Jordan - Why did you propose Marion?

A – Because she wanted me to.

Marion Crawford

Does not especially want to hust. Will do something to stay on committee but does have exams next term. Knows by some bizarre tradition she has to be President one day, but not all that keen to fast track.

Rich – any job you prefer? Exec or not?

A - Don't mind, really don't care.

Andrew T – Do you want to be President?

A - At some point, I'm around for another year.

Chris T also pointed out that he is around for at least another year.

[Dubious editing of her vote by Sarah K... (Marion's words)]

Christopher 6

Marion 3

Spoilt 2

Christopher was elected Secretary.

Treasurer

Simon W was the only candidate and had sent his apologies.

Simon 10

Spoilt 1

Simon was elected Treasurer.

Trip and Safety

Chris can no longer stand as he has been elected to committee..

Sarah Shepherd

I have really enjoyed committee, particularly the organisational side of things.

AT- Do you want to be President?

A - Don't know at this stage but here for another year.

SK – DO you think you would feel confident to go speak to Richard Dodsworth?

A - Yes

Ian – Would you stand for non-exec if you lost this?

A – I would have stood for archivist but that will filled so not sure.

Marion Crawford

as before

Marion 5 X

Sarah 4 X

RON 2

RON eliminated

Marion was elected with 5 votes to 4.

Marion now withdraw her nomination for Membership.

Quartermaster

Zing

I live opposite stores

Zing 11

RON 0

Spoilt 0

Zing was elected unanimously

Archivist

Emma Henderson

Absent and has sent apologies and a statement to be read on her behalf.

“Hi, I’m Emma, and I’m a 2nd year medic at Magdalen. I’m really sorry I couldn’t be at the meeting, but my exams start in a few days time.

I’ve been a member of the walking club since the start of my course and I’ve been on several day trips, but now I’d like to become more involved in the club and being on the committee seems a good place to start. I hope you’ll consider me for the job of Archivist because I feel I could do it well – I’m an organised person, and very thorough and neat and tidy, so I’m sure I’d keep the maps in good order and send the right ones to the right people on time. Next term I have substantially less work than I’ve had so far in my course, so it is the ideal time for me to do this job, and I am confident that I will be able to put in the time to do it well. Thank you.”

Emma 11

RON 0

Spoilt 0

Emma was elected unanimously

As there were no nominations for the other positions, nomination from the floor were invited in alphabetical order.

Alumni

Sarah Kostiuk stood from the floor.

I think I’d be great!

Sarah 11

RON 0

Spoilt 0

Sarah was elected unanimously.

Membership

Sarah Shepherd stood from the floor.

Sarah 11

RON 0

Spoilt 0

Sarah was elected unanimously.

Social Rep

No one stood from the floor. We are not required to have an EGM for this position, and could probably do without a social secretary by reducing the number of socials, and choosing easier socials such as evening walks.

Webmaster

No one stood from the floor.

Maybe the best solution is to try to find someone to co-opt. Andrew may be persuaded. Task for out-going committee is to find a fool to do it.

One final thing – James will stand as Ex-officio ex-President.

AOB

None.

Meeting closed: 22:24

OUWC Treasurer's Summary HT '06 (including Winter break)

Treasurer: James Robinson

Overall Summary

Income

Trips - £3595
Membership - £723
Other - £391
Grants - £550
Total - £5253

Expenditure

Trips - £3996.35
Social - £40.88
Purchases - £463.13
Admin - £336
Courses - £255
Total - £5098.86

Overall Balance Change - +£161.14

Detailed Accounts

Trips

Trip	Income, £	Expenditure, £
Past trips	259.50	337.35
Scotland	960	0
Roaches	127.50	82.50
North York Moors	436	317.40
Virginia Water	150	28.50
New Forest	82.50	95
Snowdonia	455	433.44
Gower Peninsula	630.50	672.71
Peak District	494	317.95
Local Walks	0	40
Minibus Hire	0	1671.50
TOTAL	3595	3996.35

Income is from members (and non-members) paying for places on the trips).

Expenditure is from funding the cost of the trip and subsidies to local walks and

refunding those who didn't get a place. There was a lot of expenditure for minibus hire from past trips, some of which happened more than a year ago.

So an overall loss of £401.35, largely due to Hotson's payments.

Membership

Course Membership (at £25) - £325

Year Membership (at £12) - £204

Term Membership (at £6) - £144

Other - £50

Overall income of £723

Social

Very few social costs or incomes due to the annual dinner being saved till next term. What costs there were, were for gifts for the ex-committee last TGM and free tea supplies.

Club Purchases and Admin

Term cards - -£271

Maps - -£30.96

T-Shirts - £66

Fleeces - -£50 (300 in and 350 out)

Admin - -£65 (kit checking with Neil Champion)

First Aid supplies - -£6.56

Refund on broken tent - £25

So, costs of £342.52

Courses

Minibus driving course - -£10

First Aid refunds - £245

Overall costs of £255

Grant

We received a grant this term for £550, to be spent on subsidising courses such as first aid or mountain leader training.

Trip and Safety Report: Hilary Term 2006-03-07

- Five weekend trips and Three minibus-day trips held this term. The Scotland trip takes place at the end of ninth week, and due to predicted bad weather, may travel to The Lakes instead. All trips so far have been successful, with none making excessive losses, and some even turning a small profit.
- Ten trips provisionally organised for next term, six weekend and four minibus-day, which should be sufficient to cope with the high demand we have had in previous Trinity terms.
- Eleven leaders' first aid certificates expired in January. None have any plans to renew, as they have all left Oxford.
- A ML course has been organised for this Easter, with 4 participants from the club. The course will take place in North Wales, and will last for 6 days from 1st-7th April.
- A first aid course has been organised for the end of first week TT. Tariq, from The OUFAU will run the course, for 12 participants. So far there are 8 members definitely attending. It is hoped the course will eventually be filled with club members.
- Some members have shown an interest in taking a WGL course during the summer. It is suggested to the incoming Trip and Safety Co-ordinator that this would be very worthwhile.