

Oxford University Walking Club

MINUTES OF THE TERMLY GENERAL MEETING OF HILARY TERM 2008

Held in the Fraenkel Room, Corpus Christi College on Wednesday 5th March (8th week).
Meeting declared open at 19:38.
10 OUWC members in attendance.

1. Apologies for Absence

Michelle Barton, Nicolas Delerue, Helen Jenks, David Keiller, Chelsea Purvis

2. Reading of previous minutes

Jonathan Leithead duly obliged.

3. Objections to the previous minutes

Cambridge's walking club is called the Cambridge University Hillwalking Club and Rambling Club.

Clarification: Committee has power to set membership fees.

In Secretary's Report, should read "*drivers without DI on their licence* are not allowed to drive a minibus with a Maximum Authorised Mass (MAM) of greater than 3.5 tonnes".

4. Matters arising from the previous minutes

Trip leading issue has made progress. There are a couple of motions for today. We suggested changes that we would like to make, such as making training courses in house. David has sent proposals to insurance department and Richard Dodsworth and they are both happy with the proposals.

No mountain first aid course this term because of lack of interest but there looks to be enough interest for next term.

Following minibus issue, we are now using 15 seater minibuses or 15 seater with luggage space.

Decreased number of people who can go on minibus day trips lead to raising fees for minibus day trips. This was also due to rising fuel costs.

We continued to not give subsidies for local walks and it seems successful.

The forum on the website has been getting lots of hits (18).

We were able to co-opt two lovely social reps who have done a bang up job. (Listening to Chloe's manly screams have been entertaining.)

Purple book has not been used on minibus day trips probably because people do not know about it.

Memory maps licence: cannot be installed on thumb drive only so "normal" people, ie regular members, won't be able to borrow installer CD.

5. Officers' Reports

President – Jonathan Leithead

It's been another successful term. There were three weekend trips to Lake District, Snowdonia and Peak District, all paid in full. We had to cancel plan for Cambrian mountains because we couldn't get leaders. There will be a trip to the Cambrian mountains next term.

There were two minibus day trips this term. Sussex coast trip had two people pull out at last minute. Dorset coast trip is a big trip with two minibuses.

(Jonathan notes that he hasn't started his essay, which is due in five minutes.)

There have been local walks every Saturday and Sunday and they look to be successful. There was an Easter Egg hunt and only one crème egg has not been found.

Socials this term have been fairly well tended. The meeting at the Turf after Free Tea was particularly well tended. At wine tasting, the best man won. We had pub socials every other week apart from Bowling in 5th week. Seven people came for bowling. Pub socials seem to be well attended with 7 - 9 people every week. We had the Annual Dinner, attended by 29 people with 6 alumni. Very enjoyable evening.

Jonathan would like to thank Christopher for all the hard work everyone put in and he does mean that despite his apathetic voice.

Secretary – Chelsea Purvis

The club has one new driver this term, Helen!

We have not had any significant problems this term since we began abiding by the rules for minibus weight limits that we (ok, Christopher) discovered last term.

The club has discovered a potential problem with the maximum speed of minibuses. It appears that although the speed limit for minibuses remains 70mph, minibuses are now mechanically disabled from going faster than 62mph.

(Christopher: leaflet from government source on the web published a few years ago said that after these laws come into effect, it would be likely that changes to minibus speed limit would be made.)

There was one incident this term, on the Peak District trip, when a minibus was possibly scratched. I say "possibly" because the minibus was already scratched where it made contact with another object, according to the vehicle's damage report. The driver informed Hotsons; they have not contacted us further about this incident.

That's about it, folks. Thanks for a great term, and learn to love American spelling.

Treasurer – Helen Jenks

See accounts summary.

Christopher: Under equipment, there was GBP 40 in from the Sports department. The 40 pounds was paid to Melissa but it was not recorded.

Similarly GBP 60 for ML subsidy came in but there was no record of it going out.

100 GBP was spent on subsidies.

Estimated 50 GBP loss for Annual Dinner.

Trip and Safety Coordinator – David Keiller

This term saw three weekend trips go ahead, one each to the Lake District, Snowdonia and The Peak District. There had also been plans for a trip to the Cambrian Mountains but this was cancelled due to a lack of leaders.

There have so far been two minibus day trips: one to the Brecon Beacons and one to the Sussex Coast with a further trip planned for Saturday 8th March.

A first aid course had to be cancelled due to lack of interest, but we have plans to run a course next term and 9 people have already confirmed that they would like to do the course. We also had one member express interest in doing an ML training course, so look forward to the addition of another member to the list of level 4 leaders. One member who had previously completed a Mountain Leader Training Course has now completed a first aid course and so is now a level 4 leader. We also have one member who has booked to do a Mountain Leader Training course during the Easter vacation.

The committee have continued to discuss issues relating to leadership on club trips. To this end, a motion to amend the TLSD has been written to be debated at this meeting. We hope to enact these changes at the beginning of Michaelmas term, pending approval from the Area Safety Officer for Sport.

We have plans for a joint trip with Cambridge University Hillwalking Club to the Yorkshire Dales next term, and some of our number may well join Cambridge University Rambling Club's "Varsity March" from Oxford to Cambridge.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have led, driven on or organised trips and local walks this term, their dedication and hard work make the club what it is, and without them we could not run.

(As candidate for Trip and Safety Coordinator for next term, Dave can confirm that he is a BMC member.)

Membership Secretary – Michelle Barton

See attached membership report.

Alumni – Laura Bernstone

We had six alumni at the Annual Dinner and we had no more donations.

Archivist – Evelyn Davies

Almost all the local walks went ahead. Average has been about 4 people per walk. Suggests more half day trips because Michelle's half day trip was extraordinarily popular. Probably will have four next term.

Quartermaster – Melissa Ch'ng

First aid kit expired items will be replaced by Week 9 and if anyone wants to order stash, get in touch with quartermaster.

Social reps – Xue (Chloe) Jiang and Debra Quek

The same people tend to appear at social gatherings.

Webmaster – Nicolas Delerue

The website is doing fine, the transfer of provider is now over and everything seems to work well. The main change on the website during the past term is that the online maps are now working.

The forum is also up and running although there are very few posts from non-committee members.

Thanks to all those who have uploaded pictures during the past term.

(Melissa attempts to read report in French accent.)

6. Specific Important Business

- (i) Amendment to the Constitution which was passed at the previous TGM and needs to be ratified at this TGM
Proposed: Christopher Thomas Seconded: David Keiller, Chelsea Purvis
- (ii) Amend the Trip Leader Safety Document to change the requirements to lead on trips
Proposed: David Keiller Seconded: Chelsea Purvis, Melissa Ch'ng
- (iii) Amend the Trip Leader Safety Document to change the requirements to lead on trips
Proposed: David Keiller Seconded: Chelsea Purvis, Melissa Ch'ng

Christopher flags the point that Howard Jeffs will not give evidence for competence but we knew of this before and we hope that we can use records of candidates' previous walks as evidence.

(Christopher and Jonathan annoy everyone.)

(Christopher cannot count. Neither can Chloe.)

Motion: 1

For: 10

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion: 2

For: 9

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

Motion: 3

For: 8

Against: 1

Absentions: 1

Motion 1, 2, 3 were carried. Motion 3 will be rejected offhand once Richard Dodsworth gives his approval for Motion 2.

7. Elections to Committee

Senior Member

When asked if he would like to continue as the club's Senior Member, Kevin said, "As always, I will be delighted and honoured to serve!"

Kevin Hilliard: 10

RON: 0

Kevin Hilliard is unanimously elected Senior Member.

President

Helen Jenks: 10

RON: 0

Helen Jenks is unanimously selected Presidents

Secretary

Melissa says what is American spelling? Melissa says does Canadian spelling exist?

Melissa Ch'ng: 10

RON: 0

Treasurer

Christopher says he hasn't been treasurer before so he would like to be.

Christopher spells ACCOMODATION.

Christopher fudges his answer and says committee decides whether to buy Melissa a helicopter.

Christopher says that anyone who does not like hills and mountain cannot buy a bazooka and should be ejected from the club.

Christopher Thomas: 10

RON: 0

Trip and Safety Coordinator

Dave is a member of the BMC.

Christopher: How many trip reminders is he going to send out next term?

David Keiller: 10

RON: 0

Alumni Secretary

Chelsea Purvis: 9

RON: 0

Spoiled ballot: 1

Archivist

Evelyn would find listing maps fascinating.

Evelyn says she probably does not have navigation skills to find her way to meetings.

Evelyn Davies: 10

RON: 0

Membership Secretary

Laura says she would like to finally do something different.

Laura says she cannot ensure that equal number of males and females join the club each time.

Laura says she will try to ensure that totals will add up.

Laura Bernstone: 9

RON: 0

Spoiled ballot: 1

Quartermaster

Sara says she is wondering what she is getting herself into.

Sara says that she will not do the Varsity March wearing a ball gown.

Sara Cleto: 10

RON: 0

Social Representative

Chloe forgets identity for a few minutes.

Chloe promises Punt Parties.

Chloe will not accept all last minute changes to Social Rep Terms of Reference.

Chloe says that she loved being on committee last term.

Chloe Jiang: 10

RON: 0

Webmaster

Nicolas Delerue: 10

RON: 0

8. Any Other Business

Christopher proposes a vote of thanks for Jonathan. Jonathan thanks committee and Christopher.

9. Transfer of Power

Meeting closed: 21:09

Appendices:

- (i) Membership Secretary's Report
- (ii) Treasurer's Report

Membership Report: Hilary Term 2008

	End MT07	Week 2	Week 4	Week 6	Week 8
Total Membership	219	218	226	227	227
Female Members		118	104	105	105
Male Members		100	122	122	122
Course Members		103	103	103	103
Year Members		98	106	107	107
External		17 (<8%)	17 (<8%)	17 (<8%)	17 (<8%)

At the end of TT07 there were 242 members, suggesting that the new membership system has not significantly changed the number of members. This may change once course memberships begin to expire.

Two members have already paid for £6 membership; these have not been included in the figures above.