

Sherburn Boghoppers & Hiking Club AGM

Monday 4th March 2024

This is a summary of the discussion and decisions made at today's AGM plus financial and other reports.

Election of Officers

The following appointments were approved by the meeting

Chairman	John Penrose
Treasurer	Barbara Beeton
Secretary	Jean Mooney
Committee Members -	D Dixon P Shackleton
Web Editor	Mike Arnold
Examiner of accounts	B Wilson

Proposal 1- Revision of subscriptions and/or coach fares.

For the past 2 years we have not charged high enough coach fares to cover the coach hire costs which are continuing to rise. Several options regarding subscriptions and coach fares for the coming year were discussed.

The meeting decided to increase subscriptions to £12 and increase coach fares to £15 (£17 for guests).

(had this price structure been adopted for the last year we would have just broken even instead of making a loss of over £700)

Walks Programme- Dates so far

17 th March	Ripon	coach pickups	Micklefield, Aberford, Wetherby	A walk- Mick Craven	B walk-?
7 th April	Ilkley	coach pickups	Micklefield, Aberford, Wetherby	A walk- Alan Yeaman	B walk-?
28 th April	Malham	coach pickups	Micklefield, Aberford, Wetherby	A walk- John Penrose	B walk-Eric Mitchell
19 th May	?				
9 th June	Settle	coach pickups	Micklefield, Aberford, Wetherby	A walk- Michelle Duff	B walk-?
28 th to 30 th June	Lakes weekend			A walks- John Penrose	B walks-?
21 st July	?				

Proposal 2 – Reduce the frequency of club walks

The proposal that the club only had monthly walks (instead of every 3 weeks) from Autumn 2024 was discussed.

The proposal was not adopted.

Proposal 3- Using cars and/or public transport for walks from locations within easier reach.

The proposal that the club used cars and/or public transport for walks from locations within easier reach such as the trip planned to Ilkley on the 7th April instead of a coach was discussed.

The proposal was not adopted.

The meeting also decided to renew the 5 year subscription for the club Website when it becomes due in January 2025, cost £100.

REPORTS:

Walks February 2023 to January 2024

The club held walks on 13 occasions during the year. In addition to the 10 trips using coaches (when on each trip there were A, B and C walks) we had that used cars or public transport

August 2023	AB walk at Knaresborough (cars)	C walk Aberford
December 2023	AB walk Keighley to Saltaire [train]	
January 2024	AB walk Hebden Bridge [train]	C walk Spofforth

In July we held our Lakes weekend at the Derwentwater Hotel in Portinscale. This was attended by about 17 members and provided two further days of walks with A, B and C walks.

Coaches February 2023 to November 2023

Trip	Walkers	Fares	Hire	Loss
Castle Howard 26-2-23	29	£324	£420	£96
Swainby 19-3-23	22	£240	£440	£200
Leyburn 16-4-23	31	£350	£440	£90
Ripon 21-5-23	34	£386	£420	£34
Pateley Bridge 11-6-23	24	£280	£430	£150
Filey 16-7-23	28	£344	£459	£115
Goathland 17-9-23	24	£280	£450	£170
Grassington 8-10-23	35	£410	£440	£30
Gargrave 29-10-23	26	£298	£440	£142
Helmsley 19-11-23	20	£228	£440	£212
Totals	273	£3,140	£4,379	£1,239
Average attendance: 27			Loss after annual subs: £739	

Income and Expenditure Accounts 1 February 2023 to 31 January 2024

	INCOME (£)		EXPENDITURE (£)
Coach fares	£3,140.00	Coach Hire	£4,379.00
Subs	£500.00	Secretary's expenses	£35.00
Lakes (2023)	£2,780.00	Lakes (2023)	£2,780.00
RWH Travel Donation	£120.00	Church Hall	£36.00
Donation	£24.00	Sundries	£4.35
		Postage Stamps	£8.25
Total Income	£6,564.00	Total Expenditure	£7,242.60
Loss	£678.60		
		Current Account	£1,268.36
		Cash in Hand	£19.28
		Total funds	£1,287.64

Note: Deposits for Lakes are held in the current account but are not shown on these accounts.

Chairmans Report 2024

During this last year (February to January) the club has provided walks on 15 days with a choice of at least 2 grades of walk on each occasion and we have continued to use a coach for 10 of our trips. We also held our annual weekend in the Lake District but used a new venue, the Derwentwater Hotel at Portinscale. This new location gave us the opportunity to return to walks in the Keswick area and I think that everyone at the weekend enjoyed the walks and the new hotel.

We have managed to provide a full programme during the past year although it is disappointing to find some low attendances, it would have been nice to have sustained an average attendance of at least 30 for our coach supported outings. We have held some car only local walks at slack times of the year, to which we have added some train supported walks.

While we still have a good balance of funds, we could not rely on our funds to sustain much more than another year or so of such losses. We will need to review our subscription/coach fare structure and some options are laid out in the motion put to the AGM.

Unfortunately, the finances are not our only problem. It is proving difficult to recruit walk leaders for our walks and it is increasingly being left to a small number of people to provide A walks and it seems virtually impossible to obtain volunteers to lead B walks. We should also acknowledge that those of us that occupy roles involved in running the club are not getting any younger and we will eventually face gaps in the club leadership.

It would be realistic to question whether the club will still be viable in its current form within 2 to 3 years and this might also be worth taking into consideration when we debate our fee and fare structure since it might not be desirable to wind up the club at some point in the future with a significant balance at the bank.

On a positive note, our entry into social media has increased the awareness of our Club in the local community of Sherburn and has produced several expressions of interest and some new members. There has also been some nice positive feedback from some of our new guests and members.

Finally, a note of thanks to all of those that have supported and helped to run and sustain the club. Thanks to Jean and Barbara for the administration of finance and bookings; to Michael Arnold for maintenance of the Club website; to all our trusty walk leaders.

John Penrose

4th March 2024