



Northern Ireland Groups 24 & 42 Minutes of Member's Meeting 12th October 2019

The Chairman welcomed everyone back to the second meeting of the day at 11.45am.

Previous Minutes

Minutes of the Member's Meeting held on 3rd May 2019, distributed with the Welcome Pack were approved on a proposal from Victor McFadden which was seconded by John Anketell and agreed by all.

The Chairman said that the 3 items arising from the meeting were discussed by committee on 3rd August. He read from the minutes which are also available 'online' as follows:

Two of the items had not received any support and committee accepted the opinion expressed by the Members. The 3rd issue relating to a talk by a Fire Safety expert was well supported and Committee agreed this should be planned for a potentially well attended rally.

Margaret Davidson Memorial Cup

The cup which is awarded for best attendance at rallies was won by Anthony & Geraldine Brown. Runners-up were Andy & Julie Irwin with Ben & Ellie Robinson in third place.

Open Forum

The Chairman said this was the main purpose of the meeting. It gave Members an opportunity to contribute to the running of the Club by asking questions or making suggestions.

He said that decisions taken at the meeting were not binding on Committee, but he assured them that all points raised would be given due consideration.

He then stated that he had already served as Chairman for five years and would not be accepting a nomination for the post next year.

He then detailed changes to the Rally Programme as follows:-

15 to 17 November – venue to be advised.

29 November to 1 December – Lisanally Special School, Armagh – Georgian Day

13 to 15 December – Cookstown Primary School – Mistletoe & Wine

Members will be advised via the website and text when all the changes are confirmed.

The New Year Party is booked for Ballymena Rugby Club. This venue holds 50 vans. Supper will be provided. The Dinner Dance will be at La Mon House Hotel on 18 January 2020. More details of both these events will be provided later.

The Chairman then invited questions from the members.

Irene Hewitt asked if anyone knew what happened to Rhonda Smith. No one knew. The Chairman stated that as she had not attended the AGM and had not offered an apology or an explanation her nomination for committee should be disregarded.

Betty Stewart said members need to know in advance who is standing down from committee so that members can nominate suitable replacements. The Chairman explained that Kathleen McFetridge had already raised this with David and it had been agreed this would be discussed at the next committee

meeting. The Chairman went on to say that only nine members had been elected to committee today so up to three new members could be co-opted in future. This would be done in accordance with the rules for co-opting new members.

Robert Grant asked if the group had a policy in relation to charities. The Chairman said the committee decided which charities to support. Dessie Ross said this issue had been raised a number of years ago and had caused dissention in the group so it was decided to only support regional i.e. Northern Ireland wide charities but not local ones. The Chairman said he agreed with this line and anyone that wished to raise money for charity at a group event would need prior approval from the committee. The Chairman said we as a group had raised a good sum for the NI Air Ambulance in 2017. Suzanne Warwick said the NI Air Ambulance was a very worthy cause.

Plug for the Raffle

Joe finished off the meeting with a plug for the raffle to be held at the dance later in the evening.

In addition to the usual vouchers there would be a special prize related to the forthcoming Dinner Dance at La Mon House Hotel. One double / twin room for 2 nights bed and breakfast.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 12.15pm

David Gilmore

Secretary

15 October 2019