

WESTMORLAND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 21st Sept 2017 At Castle Street Centre, Kendal

Present:	Christine Anderson	Chairman
	Audrey Brown	Vice President
	Brian Kettle	Secretary
	John Fairhurst	Treasurer
	Michael Coates	Field Secretary
	Ray Wilson	Winter Lectures Secretary
	Vic Parsons	Editor
	Bob Entwistle	Committee Member
	Gwyneth Lindley-Jones	Committee member

1. APOLOGIES AND INTRODUCTION: Apologies received from Kath Alty.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th May 2017 were approved as a correct record.

11a. There had been no approach from Peter Standing regarding his latest booklet.

11b. The Murray Mitchell Trail on the building stones of Kendal had been delayed.

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chairman reported that Dr Graham Leslie of the BGS Edinburgh had accepted an invitation to become President of the Society. He had given a lecture to the Society recently and led the field trip to Spireslack a few months previously. The Committee agreed that he was an excellent choice.

The Chairman pointed out that there would be other vacancies at the next AGM. The Secretary who had been in poor health had given notice of his intention to retire, the Field Secretary would come to the end of his term of office as would Kath Alty who was an ordinary committee member. The Treasurer gave notice that he intended to retire at the 2019 AGM. Several possible replacements were discussed. It was agreed to post the list of committee members and their dates of appointment on the website. **ACTION CA**

The Chairman had tabled an analysis of attendance at lectures and field trips. This showed that about 30 members had attended lectures in each of the 6 years for which figures were available. The lowest attendance was the Members' Evening in December, which may be less attractive to members, or people may just be busier at that time of year. Attendance at field trips had also been consistent at around 14, although the number of members who attended at least one trip during the season was much higher (29 in 2017 and 41 in 2016).

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary reported that Bob Entwistle had attended a recent meeting at Abbot Hall SC in his stead. At this meeting it had been agreed to increase the charge to £15 per session. Work on the extension was expected to be completed before the end of October.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, JF, reported that he now had on-line access to the Society's HSBC account and could pay expenses etc. using this facility.

JF also reminded the Committee that the Society's constitution stated that the Chairman, the Treasurer and the Secretary should be authorised to sign cheques on the Society's behalf. It was agreed therefore that the Treasurer should make the appropriate arrangements for Dr Chris Anderson, the current Chairman, to replace the previous chairman (Mr J M Balderstone) as a cheque signatory. **ACTION JF & CA**

6. FIELD SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Field Secretary reported that some trips this year had been on a Saturday and one on a Friday evening and that these trips had been as well attended as the traditional Sunday trips. Car sharing had been successful in the early part of the season but had dropped off towards the end. It was agreed to alter the sign-in sheets so that people printed & signed their name, and provided emergency contact details. **ACTION CA & MC**

MC also reported that he had discussed arranging a weekend trip next year with VP and that Mull was currently the most likely destination although other locations were also being considered. **ACTION MC & CA**

7. WINTER LECTURE SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Lectures Secretary reported that he had confirmed arrangements with the speaker for the October lecture and that he was beginning to plan the 2018/9 programme.

Write-ups for the first part of the season were agreed as follows

October – Chris Anderson

November - Gwynneth Lindley-Jones

December – Vic Parsons

January - Harry Pinkerton (RW to confirm)

It was also agreed to make the December an Open Evening to ensure that visitors were not excluded and that the pre-meeting meal in October should be at the Moon. **ACTION CA**

8. PROCEEDINGS

The Editor reported that he had received seven contributions to date, three were outstanding and three events still to come. Peter Standing had requested authority to purchase an external hard drive for storing the Proceedings and this was agreed. **NOTE**

9. PUBLICITY

The Chairman reported that her recent involvement with another local group had suggested several ways to improve WGS publicity (e.g. greater use of local free press & radio stations). CA also felt that more use could be made of the website and AB was thanked for her work on Facebook. A revised flyer/application form was considered which included the programme for the remainder of the year, which was approved provided it could be printed at a reasonable rate. **ACTION CA**

10. TUTORIALS

A suggestion that the Society should offer a series of tutorials in basic geology (covering subjects such as plate tectonics, geological maps, rock types, minerals), was discussed. It was agreed to enquire about hiring a room and that a small charge (£2-3) should be made to cover costs. AB volunteered to run one on igneous rocks. **ACTION CA & AB**

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS: There was no other business

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Thursday January 11th 2018