

WESTMORLAND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 11th January 2018 At the Abbot Hall Social Centre, Kendal

PRESENT: Christine Anderson, Chairman; Audrey Brown, Vice President; Brian Kettle, Secretary; John Fairhurst, Treasurer; Ray Wilson, Winter Lectures Secretary; Vic Parsons, Editor; Kath Alty, Committee Member; Bob Entwistle, Committee Member; Gwyneth Lindley-Jones, Committee member.

1. APOLOGIES AND INTRODUCTION: Apologies received from Mike Coates.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21st Sept 2017 were approved as a correct record.

2.11a. There had been no further developments regarding Peter Standing's latest booklet.

9. It was agreed to delay printing the new brochure/application form until after the AGM

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chairman reported that she had made arrangements with Graham Leslie regarding the following week's lecture.

No further progress had been made regarding filling committee vacancies.

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary said the new President would not be present at the AGM in February and it was agreed that the Chairman should chair the meeting in his stead. The AGM agenda would be sent out early in February.

The extension to the Abbot Hall SC was now complete and the rest of the building had been decorated. However, there was likely to be another increase in the hiring charge before long as loss of income from room hire during the work had affected the AHSC's finances.

The Secretary reported that Geoff Brambles' Murray Mitchell Trial was nearing completion.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer reported that the on-line banking facility had made it easier to produce the end of year accounts promptly. The accounts showed that the Society had experienced a modest deficit of expenditure over income (£136.82) in 2017. Room hire, leaders' expenses and the cost of printing the Proceedings had all risen. He had drawn up a budget for 2018 which showed a somewhat larger deficit but there was a wide margin of error due to the unpredictability of speakers' and leaders' expenses. It was agreed that there was no need to increase subscriptions at the moment.

The signatures for the Cumberland Building Society account had now been changed but not the HSBC current account. It was agreed to add Bob Entwistle as a signatory on the current account as he was now acting as Assistant Treasurer.

6. FIELD SECRETARY'S REPORT

In Mike Coates absence the Chairman presented the programme for 2018 which included trips every month from April until September plus the Jacobs Join. Only the date for the September outing was still to be finalised. Fifteen people had now booked for the 5-day trip to Mull leaving only five vacancies available. It was agreed to offer these to the Cumberland G S if they were not taken up shortly.

7. WINTER LECTURE SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Winter Lectures Secretary reported that he had lined up speakers for the 2018/9 season and that only the titles of two of the talks needed to be agreed.

8. PROCEEDINGS

a. Progress with Proceedings: The Editor reported that all the write-ups had now been received apart from Tim Tranter's where there were commercial confidentiality issues. Mel Thomson had been assisting with diagrams and the process of formatting the document for printing was about to get under way.

b. Data Protection: He then turned to the question of data protection. Because of his involvement with another group he had been made aware of the General Data Protection Regulations 2018 (GDPR) which would come into force on 25th May. This made it obligatory for all bodies which kept information on their members to obtain the express consent of their members to do so. He considered that the Society should take steps to put this process in motion and had drafted a letter which should be sent to every member informing them of this and asking them to sign a form giving the Society the appropriate permission to collect and retain their data. This information should be deleted when members leave the Society. Bob Entwistle agreed to print the letters when finalised and the Secretary would provide a set of labels. It was also agreed that these regulations precluded the distribution of the list of members which had previously been circulated with the Proceedings.

c. Write-ups: Write-ups for the first half of the year were agreed as follows: -

January – Chris Anderson

February – Audrey Brown

March – Ray Wilson

April – Mike Coates

May (Mull) – Vic Parsons

June (Jacob's Join) – tbd

June – Bernard Skillerne de Bristowe

9. TUTORIALS

The first tutorial had been arranged for Tue 23rd January at the Abbot Hall SC from 2.00 to 3.30 pm when Audrey Brown would be discussing igneous rocks. It was agreed to charge £3 to pay for the cost of room hire.

10. GEOWEEK 5-13th May

The Society had been approached by the Earth Sciences Educational Forum. This would involve organising a number of geological related events for the general public although it was targeted at younger people it would take place during term time and the forum had made it clear that there was no funding, no personnel and no publicity provided. There was no enthusiasm for participating in this event.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS: There was no other business.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: at the Abbot Hall SC on Wed 16th May 2018 at 7.30pm.