



Walk East Norfolk

Walking for fun and fitness

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I have now been Chairman of the Group for one year and many things have occurred as a result of the suggestions put forward by committee members and you the walkers within Walk East Norfolk. I had hoped to present my first Annual Report in person at the AGM which was due to be held 11th June but, as with many things, Covid-19 prevents us from doing so. We are adopting the suggestions of the Charity Commissioners (albeit we are not a registered charity) that Annual General Meetings be cancelled for this year. It also means the accounts which are presented to you cannot be audited at this stage but will be undertaken as soon as it is practical to do so. It was also advised present Officers and Committee members continue in their roles for the next year. I am able to confirm all Officers and committee members are happy to do this on your behalf.

The Committee met on three possible occasions and it is good to see how members all participate and put forward their views before decisions are reached. This is good as too many organisations have people who do not always play an active role. Our Officers and Committee members are excellent at discussing issues, making recommendations and fully participating in the business at hand. You will also note minutes of meetings are posted on the website and now include 'Draft Minutes'. These enable members to see the matters under discussion at a reasonable period after the meeting took place and prior to the minutes actually being confirmed. We hope you are taking the opportunity to peruse these items.

During the year a new walk was introduced at Ormesby which was well attended and was appreciated by the many members present. At our last AGM it was agreed that raffle income should be donated to the East Anglian Air Ambulance Trust (EAAAT). Your Committee agreed the new walk would be an opportune time to use it as a sponsored walk for the EAAAT. It raised a lot of money by a small group such as ours and the total sum raised from raffles and sponsorship was £700.00. In addition to this, where Gift Aid Tax was possible, a further sum can be claimed by the charity from HM Government. Everyone should be very pleased with the outcome. It is hoped, when the Covid-19 has gone, we will be able to have a publicity photograph with the EAAAT.

Following last years AGM the Committee agreed that Honorary Membership should be offered to Jerry Walker, Melita Walker and to John Ling. I am pleased to report all three were very pleased at being asked and agreed to accept the honorary appointments.

The membership is still very good and during the year as well as losing a few we have gained a number of new members who are very active and seem to enjoy the exercise and the company. We welcome them to our group.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to look at our new and refreshed website please do so and forward any comments you may have via the link on the 'Contact Us' page. Regrettably, the full functions of the site cannot be active until we get the walks and activities up and running.

In addition to the picnic walks where members bring and share food we had our Christmas Lunch once again at the East Coast Restaurant. All seats were sold and there is no doubt the owners and staff did us proud with the menu provided and the quality of the food and the service given. A booking has already been placed for this Christmas on Friday 18th December, 2020!

I had looked forward to the opportunity to present my report in person but circumstances have prevented me from doing so. Although there is no time specified for us to be able to return to our activity we hope to be able to do so when, once again we can meet, enjoy the walks and the good company around us. In the meantime please take heed of the advice given and stay safe.

Best Wishes.

David Gibson-Brown
Chairman.