

Red Rope		
Draft Minutes of NC Meeting		
10 th March 2018		
Polish Expats Association, Centrala Centre, Birmingham		
Present: John Marsden, Janet Saunders, David Symonds, Steve Wright, Humphrey Southall, Sherry McLiver, Barbara Segal, Adrian Jones, Dave Doody.		
Item No	Minutes	Action
1	Welcome, Introductions, Minute Taker Chair –Steve W, Minutes - Adrian	
2	Apologies for Absence Rebekah Bates, Linda Goss	
3	Minutes of NC Meeting November 2017 Liverpool Agreed correct; available on the website	
4	Matters/Actions arising from previous meeting being carried forward No 7 An accessible Trip – no action from Becky as yet No 8 – Publicity - regions to leaflet suitable places/events – Janet still drafting a new leaflet No 10 – New National Treasurer Humphrey – contact bank account signatories – done No 11 –Merseyside have now submitted their 2016/17 accounts to National Treasurer (Humphrey) re £200 subsidy. Subsidy is agreed No 14 – Inform members and regions of new trip rates – done; new rates are on the website trips page. Steve to email all regions with a reminder that the new rates are on the website No 18 – Linda/Humphrey. Contact LMC re a donation of a few hundred pounds to one of the huts (agreed last NC). Action with Linda/Humphrey No 19 – Monitor accounts for membership average band. On going. Action with Barbara No 21 – MIS transfer from Mark to Jon. Complete No 22 – Dave S to ask Merseyside again for interest in the NC Training Officer post. One Merseyside member has shown a mild interest, Dave S to chase.	Janet Steve Linda/Humphrey Barbara Dave S
5	Reports from Officers	
5a	National Treasurer Sherry Accounts to year March 2018. Total income £1435; total expenditure £5995. Refunds on part year membership resulting from the move to a web based January to December membership year will be shown in the next accounts. Finances broadly ok. Web payment of membership fees working well. AGM 2018 deposit £160 paid. Handover National Treasurer post from Sherry to Humphrey Process underway; forms from the Co-op Bank, which needed various signatures on them, have been posted back to the Co op bank; waiting a response from them. Once sorted, Humphrey will at that point be able take over formally the role as the Constitutional Treasurer and will take the paperwork from Sherry. Sherry still signing cheques for the time being. Mersey side funding request Merseyside have submitted their accounts to the designate National Treasurer (Humphrey) for the most recent complete financial year, and a copy of an up-to-date bank statement - to support a £200 funding request. The request has been agreed by the NC	Humphrey/Sherry Humphrey/Sherry – cheque to Merseyside

5b	<p>National Trips Secretary Becky Bates</p> <p>The New Year and February 2018 trips were both full. Skill sharing offered at the start of the week followed by small groups planning less ambitious routes each evening and checking that they had a group shelter etc</p> <p>Bookings for February had been down on previous years. From asking winter trip regulars why, the reasons given were to do with bad weather, rain and wind instead of snow; so for next year moving the Scottish week to March and going to the Lakes in February. February trip was charged at new rates - no complaints.</p> <p>There were some transport issues in February. Four members travelled independently so there were only two 'official' cars for main journeys. Pick ups were complicated with Sunday service trains and snow made for slow progress.</p> <p>There can be good reasons for choosing to travel independently - up there already, leaving early, visiting family. But as offering transport on the actual trip dates is necessary this is not possible for all. We do need to be flexible to individual needs/preferences but could be at risk of driver shortage. Will review this for AGM.</p> <p>Trip dates in MIS/Website There has been confusion over actual trip nights booked in the past so would it be an idea to add a sentence to MIS front sheet stating that dates shown are for arrival/departure.</p> <p>New bookings December 29th to Jan 3rd 2019, 5 nights, Swarthbeck House, Ullswater, 16 places, 20% multiplier for double/single beds, Standard charge for bunks/Z beds</p> <p>February 11th to 18th 2019, 7 nights, Fylde MC hut: Stair Cottage, near Keswick 12 places</p> <p>March 16th to 23rd 2019, 7 nights, Winter Mountaineering trip to the Alex Mac, Glencoe, 12 places</p> <p>April date tbc , 7 nights, The Cairngorms Club hut - Muir Cottage (Muir of Inverey), 12 places</p> <p>The NC discussed the use of public transport on trips, confirming the rules are clearly set out in the organisers information and need no clarification. Problems may arise in the future as driver numbers reduce, and will need to be dealt with on a rip by trip basis.</p>	MIS Jon Website – DD
5c	<p>National Trips Treasurer Sherry</p> <p>2 trips since last NC meeting; the new year trip, which although the accounts were not well presented, seemed to make a £200 surplus; the February trip made a £260 surplus (using new rates)</p>	
5d	<p>Membership Secretary Linda Goss</p> <p>Copied over 322 people from the Access system which was all people who's renewals were current or ended after July last year, as they were the ones who had fallen out of the standard renewal email/letter cycle.</p> <p>Every member was emailed in Mid January and early February and have since sent specific emails out to those who have lapsed or delayed renewal, as reminders</p> <p>We currently have 241 members signed up through Webcollect It looks like</p>	

	<p>we have had 26 new members. Also people confirming they will not rejoin who have been removed from the following figures.</p> <p>We have approximately 90 people who have not renewed. - 23 have renewal dates ending last year -26 have renewal dates up to March so are lapsing.</p> <p>One more email to these at least with a reminder. Also, an email to their regional rep who hopefully will also get in touch with them. Refunds on part year membership resulting from the move to a web based January to December membership year is underway</p>	
5e	<p>Bulletin Editor Dave Symonds Bulletin continues to be printed by A & R Trade Print Ltd in Sheffield. They produce full colour editions and no charge to send them to Liverpool where they are posted from. The enveloping/posting of the latest Bulletin went quite well. There was a problem in that it wasn't clear who had asked for a paper MIS. We hope to have that clarified in time for the autumn edition. Cost of postage £279. NC discussed payments to the occasional articles, pictures, poetry etc from 3rd parties. In practise this is limited and kept within Bulletin budget.</p>	
5f	<p>MIS editor Jon Marsden Jon has now formally taken over the MIS and continues to produce it monthly. Uploaded to website ok. No particular issues.</p>	
5g	<p>IT Officer and Website Dave Doody - Nothing specific to report, continues to update website as required. Janet - has changed the Website Events page to contain information about the 2018 Annual Gathering weekend, with photos, borrowing heavily from the latest Bulletin article. Has also added a brief post to Latest News on the same topic. Suggests we should ask for expressions of interest by email to determine how many are likely to attend.</p>	
5h	<p>Training Officer No training officer currently in post. One possible interested applicant from Merseyside, Dave S to chase.</p>	Dave S
5i	<p>BMC (Andy Bateman) Andy - Not present, no report. Continues to forward communications he receives from the BMC to the NC.. From Sherry – Some in the BMC council are suggesting the membership (through an affiliated club – approx. £13) should be closer to the individual BMC membership (£30). If implemented, that would impact significantly on RR membership rates (a high % of which is BMC). Sherry to monitor.</p>	Sherry
5j	<p>Publicity - Janet Regions to be encouraged to leaflet suitable events and use contacts to get articles or cheap advertising into suitable publications locally. Has written a Bulletin article on finance support, and updated membership and trip forms on website. Discussion about what we send to new members - we already have a 3 fold leaflet that we send to new members, produced about 2010, and which Janet recently updated last year. Linda has a stock of these for new members - and they could be sent to renewing members if we thought it useful. New Leaflets - work in progress</p>	Janet
5k	<p>Ramblers Rep - Humphrey Report back from the Rambler's Council meeting, which was held at Southampton University 2/3 April. Humphrey represented Red Rope, as an affiliated club. Almost everyone at the meeting was from Ramblers local areas, and it wasn't that friendly a meeting for "outsiders"; virtually all the time was given over to plenary sessions. General impression was that the organisation was in a more stable state after some problematic years including a financial crisis due to pension fund problems.</p>	

	<p>and will check costs.</p> <p>Walks. Saturday and Sunday, one long and one short walk each day. Steve W and Humphrey for the long walks; Jon Marsden short walk for the Saturday including a "treasure hunt". Short walk leader still needed for the Sunday.</p> <p>Cooking Saturday evening – Gill a possibility. Adrian to ask her. (done – ok agreed)</p> <p>Bar - Barbara</p> <p>Climbing training – Janet to investigate</p> <p>Food - Dave Doody to order via a local supermarket. Past shopping list from Sherry as an example.</p> <p>Booking form – Humphrey to prepare, and Dave D to put on website.</p> <p>Steve to email all regional Contacts to promote the National Meeting</p> <p>Action list – Adrian to prepare</p> <p>For the meeting - Officers' reports, agenda and motions to be circulated by email only, so that only updates, matters requiring special emphasis and queries from members would need to be raised at the meeting.</p> <p>Reports to be displayed on a notice board at the venue from the Friday evening.</p>	<p>Pete Watson</p> <p>Jon Marsden, Humphrey, Steve</p> <p>Barbara</p> <p>Janet</p> <p>DD, Sherry</p> <p>Humphrey, DD</p> <p>Steve</p> <p>Adrian</p> <p>Nat Sec</p> <p>Janet</p>
8	<p>Regional issues</p> <p>West Yorkshire Group. West Yorkshire discussed. Not currently an active group. Steve W to act as regional rep for purposes of anyone contacting. Sheffield is the closest active group. DD to amend website contact list and emails to Steve.</p> <p>Merseyside/Yahoo Groups. Dave S queries RR yahoo groups. The RR national yahoo group has a link on the website; DD is the moderator and will send an invitation to anyone wishing to join. Liverpool's local Yahoo group is separate, not an NC issue.</p>	<p>DD</p>
9	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>None</p>	
10	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>As part of National Trip to the Don Whillans Hut, Roaches ; June 29th, 1st July (2 nights) 12 places. See MIS for booking, organiser Becky Bates</p>	