

Folk Camps Society Limited
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
held at Milton Keynes Irish Centre 20th November 2010

The Chairman, Paul Weir, began with a slide show, introducing the contractors, the Council for 2010 and showing slides on camp costs 2010 and the sites for 2011

The AGM was declared open at 14:50

1. Present: 82 Governing Members

Apologies were received from 43 Governing Members and 8 Associate Members (non-voting).

2. Minutes of last meeting: Approved: Proposed John McNamara seconded by Cecil French and carried unanimously.

3. Matters arising: The claim against A1 Loo Hire for Woolserly marquee camps 2009. The Issue is on-going. A1 didn't respond to the small claims court resulting in a judgement by default. Their solicitor subsequently claimed that they hadn't received any correspondence. Court hearing was reset to 8th December 2010.

4. Tellers for a ballot: Tellers were appointed for the ballot – Stuart Beattie, Chris Jewell, Dave Bennett and Jenni Pollard

5. Election of New Council members: The following members were elected to serve on Council for 2010-2011:-

Anne Kenyon, Caroline Tracey, Jason Rosser, Patrick Self, Richard Jones and Steve Porritt.

Those who did not get elected were encouraged to stand again next year.

6. Adoption of report & accounts: Adoption of the 2009-2010 Accounts was proposed by Jacqueline Beattie, seconded by Liz Cooper and carried unanimously.

7. Appointment of James de Frias as auditors: Re-appointment of Auditors proposed by Cecil French, seconded by Andy Malleon and carried unanimously.

8. Appointment of members of development fund committee: Caroline Tracey, Ren Thompson, Emily Malleon and Barry Pollard agreed to stay on. John McNamara joined them.

9. Resolutions in Advance: There were none.

10. Any other business:

a)

Dave Richardson felt that campers attending the 2010 French Camps were charged too much. The French Camps contributed 26% of the society's profits this year and he requested refunds for all who attended. The matter was discussed in depth.

Council reminded the members that a survey of all French campers was conducted prior to finalising the camps and people were asked whether or not they would pay the price requested. The majority had answered yes.

Ann Tracey stated that the wording of the price in the survey led campers to believe that it could be less. However, a combination of French suppliers not finalising their quotes in time and bookings not coming through quickly enough, resulted in Council not being able to re-assess the prices.

Heather Tracey asked for any potential discount to be redeemable on 'any' other camp.

Barbara Pollard expressed her feelings about being 'blackmailed' into the French camp. The price was not affordable to younger campers and felt it created a split between French campers and other campers.

Cecil French added that the discussion is not a new one. Foreign camps had previously subsidised other camps. He asked Council to review the situation.

Paul Weir replied that it was true that the French camps did subsidise other camps. In fact, all week-end camps are subsidised by other camps. This year the society had a good financial year and the French camps played a major role in that result. However, in 2007 French camps had to be cancelled late as a result of a lack of interest and this occasioned substantial costs which had been carried by the Society.

Mel Horton suggested a possibility for the future to introduce an 'exchange rate surcharge' which could be applied or not as necessary.

Council agreed to discuss the matter at a future meeting and stated that the campers who attended the 2010 French Camps will be contacted individually.

b) Jenni Pollard requested a breakdown of the camps profits. Mic Spenceley agreed to provide this.

- c) Aggie Richardson raised the issue that FCS used to have 4 summer camps running simultaneously in the 1970's. Do we need to consider the possibility again of having more camps running simultaneously in August?
- d) John McNamara requested that people send him camp photographs so that he can create a collection.
- e) Brian Pollard asked whether we could have an 'extended' version of Extent on-line, which would not be limited to 16 pages. John McNamara, the editor, replied that we could have an extended Extent, depending on the level of contributions.
- f) Sarah Malleson suggested that members should be able to opt-out of receiving paper materials in the post. Mic Spenceley specified that currently only 100 members are sent all documents by post. Invoices and site information will generally be sent by email for the 2011 season. The only postal mailing to everyone is the pre AGM information.
- g) Jacqueline Beattie offered thanks to the retiring members of Council and to all Council members without whom the Society could not run.
- h) John and Faith Kemp were presented with flowers and Waitrose vouchers in recognition of 20 years of running 'Kemp's Kitchen' at the AGM. The position is vacant for 2011.
- i) Barry Moule made a special heartfelt speech to recognise the huge contribution of both Paul Weir and Mick Green who retired from Council in 2010.

The meeting closed at 16:05

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Chair 19 November 2011