

# **Minutes of the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Northern Kite Group**

Held on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at St Thomas's Church Hall, Moorside, Oldham

## **Present**

Len Royles (Chairman), Dave Bleasdale (Secretary), Mary Jones (Treasurer), Keith Proctor (Membership Secretary).

Ian Brayshaw, Bernard Crick, Daryl Smith, David Holt, Mark Welborn, Peter Leonard, Peter Hartt, Sue Storey, Gwen Williams, Sally Humpage, Jock & Peter Walker, Steve Ransom, Tony Kidd, Rodney Burrows, John Welborn, Zoe Lee, Simon Cooper, Jan & John Whymark, John Casson, Craig Harby, Sue Kennedy, Carol Royles, Steve Grimwood, Vanessa & Jim Potts & Lynn Bleasdale.

(This is the list of members who signed in. The 31 present met the quorum required to conduct business. Members who are under 18 are not counted in the determination of the quorum)

## **Apologies**

Josie & Ken Bretherton, Graham & Fiona Wilkinson, Peter Nelson, Jennifer & Frank Hardman, Pat & Harry Allick, Peter Heayns, Josh Mitcheson, Diane Mottram, Steve & Lynne Palmer, Roger Dix, Pam Evans, Dorothy Ransom, Pat & Jenny May & David Stead.

## **Previous Minutes**

Minutes from the previous AGM were accepted as a true & accurate record.

**Proposed:** Keith Proctor

**Seconded:** Gwen Williams

“The minutes were a true & accurate record of the 2014 AGM”

**Passed:** Unanimously

## **Chairman's Report**

2014 brought us a year of variable winds but we had a number of successful kite flying events throughout the year.

Sadly there were two bereavements during the year, Graham Lockwood wrote a wonderful tribute to Ted Iredale for the Spring Newsletter and more recently we lost Olive Caine who was an Otterspool regular before she succumbed to a long illness.

Early in the year we had a number of fly-ins followed by the Western Lakes Kite Festival where we had very strong winds followed by the exact opposite at Beacon, with low winds keeping the big lifters becalmed. Morecambe and St Anne's festivals were blessed with excellent weather and made up for the difficulties experienced earlier in the year.

Our own festival at Beacon was an opportunity for youngsters to fly a set of Rainbow Delta Kites the group had purchased earlier in the year. On the Saturday the lack of wind was made up for, by the enthusiasm of the dozen or so youngsters who chased around to keep their kites aloft. Many thanks to those who helped out in the arena. On the Sunday very little flew due to light wind.

In October we had a very light wind OSOW, followed by a very windy Light Up The Sky event at Otterspool. The latter raised over £281 pounds from the auction and over £180 from the collection bucket and other donations.

The beginning of November included a new venture, an end of season event at Westmorland.

Organised by NKG members Craig Harby & Sue Kennedy, it was a mixture of great camping, flying and a wonderful entertainment evening at the local Memorial Hall. Many thanks to Craig & Sue.

There was also an enjoyable Xmas Meal held at Otterspool to finish the year off.

Our members also attended other festivals around the UK including Margam, Barmouth, Westmorland and Portsmouth and further afield including Berck, Dieppe and Fuerteventura.

Looking forward to 2015, we are often asked to support events as a group, such as Taylor Park & Houghton Tower and we benefit financially if sufficient members attend. So please make every effort to attend when possible and if you plan to attend please let Dave know.

Our Kite Newsletter editor, Simon produced a couple of stunning issues during the year for us and I am sure that we all enjoyed reading them. Please ensure that we continue to support Simon by sending in articles for inclusion in future newsletters.

### **Treasurers Report / Annual Accounts**

Mary reviewed the accounts. The final end of year balance for 2014 was approximately £1000 less than the figure for 2013. Mary explained that this was due mainly to the fact that two years group insurance had been paid in 2014 plus the purchase of the Delta Kites & the funding towards the end of season event. The income from the membership fees just about covered the cost of the groups insurance & that without income from festivals & events the group would have lost money over the year.

The full audited accounts version was available for inspection at the meeting & Mary thanked Karen George for auditing the accounts.

**Proposed:** Daryl Smith                      **Seconded:** Rodney Burrows

“The accounts for 2014 be adopted”

**Passed:** Unanimously

### **Club Fly In List for 2015-2016**

#### **2015**

April 12th	St Anne's & Roundhay Park Leeds
April 19th	Otterspool
May 17th	Worden Park
May 30th/31st	Country Fest
June 21st	Beacon Park Kite Festival
June 27th/28th	Morecambe Catch the Wind Kite Festival
July 5th	Hoghton Tower
July 25th/26th	St Anne's Kite Festival
August 15th/16th	Western Lake District Kite Festival
August 23rd	Fleetwood
September 12th/13th	Middleton Park Kite Festival - Leeds
September	Taylor Park Kite Day (Date to be confirmed)
September	Wakefield Kite Festival (Date to be confirmed)
October 11th	OSOW @ Pontefract Racecourse & Otterspool
October 18th	Light Up The Sky @ Otterspool
November 15th	Fleetwood
December 13th	Otterspool Xmas

#### **2016**

January 10th	Roundhay Park Leeds
January 17th	Newbrighton Dips
February 21st	AGM
March 13th	Crosby
March 20th	Fleetwood & Pontefract Racecourse

The acceptance of the list was

**Proposed:** Keith Proctor

**Seconded:** Mary Jones

**Passed:** Unanimously

The chairman then reported on the changes to the Beacon Kite Festival.

There is no funding available again this year for the event, in fact this year is even worse as they weren't prepared to pay for the toilets and their PA system was defunct. When asked how much they usually spent on the toilets and a figure of £500-£600 was mentioned, also there had been charges incurred of £150-£200 for clear-up due to vandalism.

After discussion it was decided that the NKG were unable to subsidise Beacon and that it wasn't feasible to hold a full two-day festival. After further discussion with the Rangers it was decided to go ahead with a one-day festival, complete with an arena and with us being able to take our vehicles onto

the field. The date agreed was Sunday 21st June, the Ranger on duty that day would need assistance with the erection of the arena.

It is reasonable to expect that many of the folk who have in the past travelled some distance for the two-day festival will feel unable to justify travelling so far for a one-day event.

I would like to remind folk that in the past we have had complaints that there hasn't always been a lot of room at some venues once the big stuff is deployed. Well this year there may be more space at Beacon than we can fill. So I ask everyone to try to get to Beacon this year and help to keep the festival alive.

Any issues surrounding the Beacon Altitude Sprint Competition and the Auction will need to be sorted out at a later date.

### **Updates from Jim Potts, Dave Holt & Craig Harby**

Jim confirmed the NKG's Western Lake District Kite Festival is all set up again for its new date in August this year. In spite of Portsmouth changing their date to the same weekend Jim was pleased to announce that all the invited fliers have committed their support to Western Lakes Kite Fest with the exception of the commentator George Webster.

Middleton Park Kite Festival, a brand new NKG event for 2015 will have 3 nights on site camping available, a marked kite flying arena with commentary. It's a good site with plenty of room for everyone. There will be other events on the park over the weekend for added entertainment.

The event has come about after we had a fly-in there in 2013 & Friends of Middleton Park remember the day & decided they would like a 2 day festival. The secretary thanked the members that supported the fly-in.

Dave informed the membership that the Morecambe event is on again in June. There is still no sign of any future Wirral Kite Festival due to budget cuts. There was a possibility of a 1 day event in West Kirby with kite flying plus kite making workshop. The event organiser was currently sourcing funds for the event.

Members were encouraged to support these events & Dave reminded the membership there is a donation to the group for attending & supporting the Morecambe event.

Craig first thanked all the members who supported the end of season event at Westmorland Showground & the NKG for supporting the event financially, and looked forward to doing it again later this year. St Anne's kite festival will be going ahead again this year & Pat May has put a great deal of effort into securing funding for the event. There will be camping available at the cricket club again, but the numbers will have to be reduced this year. There will also be the meal in the cricket club again on the Saturday evening.

Country Fest will be on again with similar arrangements to last year & all members are welcome.

### **Electronic Payment of Membership Fees:**

Keith has been asked on one occasion about being able to pay membership fees electronically i.e. PayPal etc. A brief discussion was held about the advantages/disadvantages. It was decided there is currently no requirement to provide an electronic payment method.

### **Kite Magazine:**

The secretary thanked Simon Cooper for producing two excellent KITE magazines and asked the membership to continue to support Simon by submitting articles for the magazine.

### **Samuel Franklin Cody Memorial**

The secretary reported that the memorial brick had now been purchased with the engraving "NORTHERN KITE GROUP Est. 1978". The brick should now have been laid at the Cody Monument outside Farnborough Airport. If anyone is ever in the area it would be nice to get a photo of the brick.

## **Any Other Business.**

### **Individual Public Liability Insurance:**

The committee were asked for an update on the personal public liability insurance. Currently a suitable replacement for the previous insurance had not been sourced. The committee will continue to review the options available.

### **Election of Officers**

Chairman, Secretary, & Membership Secretary offered to be re-elected

It was proposed that the existing officers be re-elected en block:

Chairman	Len Royles
Secretary	Dave Bleasdale
Membership Secretary	Keith Proctor

**Proposed:** Daryl Smith                                 **Seconded:** Dave Holt

**Passed:** Unanimously

The Treasurer stood down.

It was proposed that John Whymark be elected Treasurer

**Proposed:** Jim Potts                                     **Seconded:** Vanessa Potts

**Passed:** Unanimously

### **Altitude Cup Presentation**

Open Altitude	-	John Bellis
Ladies Altitude Sprint	-	Gwen Williams
Fighter Altitude Sprint	-	John Bellis

(Unfortunately John Bellis was not present at the meeting)

### **Kite Building Competition**

The Mary & Jack Cunningham Kite Building Cup was presented to Len Royles for his Charles Rennie Mackintosh inspired Kite.

### **Presentation**

There was then a presentation to the retiring treasurer Mary Jones who had carried out the role for the group for 16 years. Mary was presented with some flowers & a Karl Longbottom 'Ladies Knickers' kite.



The meeting was declared closed by the Chairman.