



Milngavie Mountaineering Club
Minutes of 35th Annual General Meeting,
Wednesday 28th October 2020 at 19.30
Due to Coronavirus: Meeting held online via Zoom

Virtually Present: Alex McLennan (President), Nick Harrington (Vice-President), Kevin Murray (Secretary/Treasurer), Allan Carr, Fraser Gold, Eunice Coop, Noelle Ryan, Allan Gilliland, Harry Birbeck, Donald Irvine, Rob Wight, Steve Meldrum

The President opened the meeting by welcoming all members to hopefully what will be our first and last AGM courtesy of Zoom.

1) **Apologies for absence:** Billy McIsaac, Cecelia Court, John McKenna, Dave Kingswood, Malcolm Hodgins, Ron Dorn

2) **Minutes of the 34th Annual General Meeting 2019**

Donald Irvine requested amendments to correct the following:

i. Error in the 33rd AGM minutes to clarify the description of Donald Irvine's achievement of a 'Full House'. The following correction was requested: delete 'Every Munro, every Munro Top, every Corbett and every Marilyn, Graham and Donald'. Replace with 'all Munros, Munro Tops, Furths, Corbetts, Grahams, Donalds and Donald Tops'

ii. Donald Irvine and Kevin Murray omitted from 'Apologies for absence' section

iii. Kevin Murray to be removed from 'Present' section

The minutes were then approved by Noelle Ryan as an accurate record of the meeting and seconded by Nick Harrington.

3) **Matters Arising**

No matters from 34th Annual General meeting

4) **President's Report:**

It has been an unusual year since the last AGM. We started well with a number of successful days such as the damp Shalloch on Minnoch, Kirrereoch and Tarfessock round and the snowy Glen Tarken Grahams. Club weekends, included to Keswick and to Aviemore Youth Hostel at the height of Storm Dennis where we climbed the Cromdale Hills. Thanks to Noelle's planning we had the high winds at our backs around the ridge.

Successful Christmas and New Year events included a Blane Valley lunch, a trip to Edinburgh and a Hilton to Milton reprise. Rick and Jenny gave a fascinating evening talk, on 19th February, about climbing the St Kilda stacks – certainly the most difficult Marilyn's. They refused a speaker's fee which allowed us to make a £150 donation to Lomond Mountain Rescue. The developing Covid pandemic caused the Glenuig Hotel owner to cancel our Glasgow/ Lancaster weekend on the same Friday we were due to travel and stay. During this time, Derek Hall, a close friend to many, longstanding MMC stalwart and treasurer passed away unexpectedly. This horrible time for his family was worsened by Covid restrictions resulting in the funeral being delayed and ultimately only the immediate family being able to attend. Various club members provided support to Linda and Joanne during this difficult time and Billy McIsaac organised a painting of Arran (Derek's birthplace) to be presented to his family, from the MMC. Billy has our deepest thanks for a touching tribute. Kevin Murray volunteered to be the new treasurer and has our thanks for stepping up. With lockdown all club outings ceased and our annual dinner was cancelled. Many members kept active on local hills. The MMC managed to restart club days in July, but social distancing means that participants generally make their own travel arrangements and we have not had any weekends away yet. Still, trips to Glen Artney, Glencoe, the Ochils and several trips to the Borders have been good for the soul. Rob Wight and my trip to the GR20 in Corsica was cancelled so instead we went to Colonsay, Mull, Ardgour and Tomintoul. It is unclear whether there will be new travel restrictions over the winter. Looking forward to 2021, I have rebooked Jura 7th to 11th May, Ron Dorn has booked Durness 4th to 7th June, Fraser Gold has booked Muir Cottage 18th and 19th June, and Allan Gilliland has booked Knoydart 2nd to 4th July. Our fingers are crossed.

I am delighted to stand down and pass the presidency onto Nick Harrington. He has, I am sure, our full support during these continuing difficult times and will take on the challenge with determination and focus. Thank you for your friendship and support during my two years.

5) **Secretary/Treasurer's Report**

The club accounts for the year ending 30th September 2020 are as follows. Once again the main source of club income is through membership subscriptions. We currently have 32 members with an annual subscription of £27.00. The club continues to maintain a very positive balance sheet with the main expenditure being the subscription of £560.16 to Mountaineering Scotland.

The club bank account showed a balance of £1323.47 as of 30th September 2020. The expenditure for the year was £840.02 made up of subscription to Mountaineering Scotland, Web Integrations, Domain renewal and costs towards Derek Hall's funeral service. The club made charitable donations of £176.00 to Lomond Mountain Rescue.

Members should note that all future payments to and from the club account should be made through the BACS system and cheques will only be used to make payments where the BACS facility is unavailable.

Members were remind to ensure that they clearly reference BACS payments and back this up with an email to the Treasurer who can confirm receipt of payment.

Turning to the question of Annual subscription, as the club currently has a healthy bank balance there was no reason to alter the current subscription fee of £27.00 but this was open this for discussion.

There was short discussion relating to reduced activity due to Coronavirus pandemic and club subscription to Mountaineering Scotland. One member felt that subscriptions to MS was not good value for money and that club subscriptions could be reduced if we reverted to individual membership but it was generally agreed to maintain the subscription at the current level of £27.00 for the year 2020/21. Subscriptions are now due.

6) **Club Equipment**

Dave Kingswood was unable to attend the AGM but provided an updated list of equipment. The equipment can be borrowed from Dave on request. Rob Wight commented that he had 3 (slings)? for return to the club.

7) **Website Developments**

Allan Carr provided an update on website usage and indicated that since Scotland went into Coronavirus total lockdown at the end of March 2020 stopping much of MMC organised walking activity.

This is reflected in the reduced use of the club website. The website also presents a public point of information for future members however as the virus regulations are so complex he was not sure exactly what activity is allowed so has temporarily suspended posting club walk reports. These can still however be circulated via the club email address. all@MilngavieMountaineeringClub.org

The club website is the obvious point of contact for future members, a few of which are waiting for the end of virus restrictions to join.

8) **Officers for 2020/21**

a) Election of Honorary President:

Alex McLennan stood down and Nick Harrington was appointed. Honorary President

b) Election/proposal of Honorary Vice President:

Noelle Ryan proposed Eunice Coop as Vice President and was seconded by Nick Harrington. There being no other applicants Eunice Coop was duly elected Vice President.

c) Election of Secretary/ Treasurer:

Alex McLennan proposed Kevin Murray as new club Secretary/Treasurer and was seconded by Nick Harrington. There being no other applicants. Kevin Murray was duly elected Secretary/Treasurer.

d) Election of new committee:

Existing Committee members have agreed to stand for a further term ie. Eunice Coop, Rob Wight, Allan Carr, Nick Harrington. As immediate past President Alex

McLennan also joins the committee.

9) **Annual Dinner**

The Clubs annual dinner was not discussed due to current Coronavirus restrictions.

10) A.O.C.B.

1. Club Programme: Due to current coronavirus restrictions it was agreed to appoint a Club Covid officer. Nick Harrington agreed to take on this role on behalf of the club.

There was much discussion over the interpretation of rules around the current restrictions. On the one hand Mountaineering Scotland has just informed members they are awaiting clarification as to whether those participating in 'Outdoor Sports' are exempt from travel restrictions outwith there Health Board areas and Tier 3 information on the Scottish Government website which indicates that travel to participate in outdoor sports is exempt.

It was agreed that Nick would contact members for a list of hills to climb and put together a programme for the period up until March 2021. Dependant on the interpretation of the rules Members may or may not be able to participate in the club programme officially or unofficially.

2. WhatsApp Group: Noelle who administers the club Whatapp group will be joined by Rob as co-administrator. Noelle will contact all members to ensure that all who are interested are invited to join the group.

Kevin proposed a formal vote of thanks to Alex for his sterling efforts on behalf of the club and to Noelle for organising the Zoom meeting.

The meeting was formally closed.

Minutes by Kevin Murray, 20/10/2020