

Minutes of the Country Link Members Meeting held on Sunday 21st October 2018
at the Wensum Valley Hotel and Golf Club, Taverham, Norfolk

Tony P welcomed everyone to the Meeting

Apologies - were received from Dorothy and Simon Valda, Ian Martin, Drew and Carolyn, and Barbara

Introduction of the National Committee, the Area Representatives, the President and the Vice Presidents

Minutes of the Members Meeting held on Sunday 29th October 2017 - Tony signed these as being correct.

Matters arising if not an Agenda item - Wendy thanked the National Committee for producing the Handbook; she asked what the route for change is - this is through any member of the National Committee

Chairman's report - Tony thanked Jenny, Chris and their team for organising the weekend, and stressed how important it was for groups to organise the weekends; he gave an update on GDPR; he requested nominations for Vice Chairman for the AGM in May 2019; he invited each group to send a member to the National Committee Meeting in March 2019.

Secretary's report - Liz thanked Jenny and Chris for photocopying the Agenda for this Meeting and the Minutes from the 2017 Members Meeting; she thanked the organisers who had acknowledged receipt of the same Agenda and Minutes when it had been emailed out; she said that if anyone who is an organiser had not received the paperwork to speak to her to check the contact information, and also to tell her if the organiser had changed. She asked members to sign the attendance sheet.

Treasurer's report - Lesley has received subscriptions for 446 members for 2018 so far; she received 487 subscriptions for 2017, and she asked the organisers to chase up any outstanding subscriptions.

Expenses: £450 on club advertising, £750 on the website, £54 on meeting costs, £957 on insurance. Derbyshire Country Link had contributed £239 following the Hull weekend. There is £23,000 in net assets; Lesley asked for ideas of how to spend the money on advertising.

Lesley proposed the subscriptions remain at £10 pa; seconded by Maria; carried
Lesley proposed the advertising budget remain at £300 pa per group; seconded by John; carried

Claire and the Northamptonshire members modelled the hoodies they had purchased earlier. Lesley explained that the National Committee had agreed to subsidise the costs of the hoodies for members as they were a means of advertising the organisation; the hoodies are £16.74, but members will only pay £11.70; the National Committee will pay for the delivery and set up costs; the minimum order is 50.

Claire explained the hoodies can be in any colour, with white writing; the information will be on the website, together with the cut off date for the orders.

Web Editor's report - Maria said most of the reports still come from Cornwall and Derbyshire; she explained that future dates, nomination forms, reports, programmes etc are on the website. Tony thanked her for doing a sterling job.

GDPR - Tony pointed out that personal contact information is still being included on emails, and that any emails should be sent 'bcc'; there should also be no personal information on the programmes.

Tony explained about the GDPR forms: if you sign up for Country Link, then you are agreeing that your information will be kept within the parameters that is required eg information for weekend organisers, information for National Committee members; organisers have to inform members of the terms and conditions. Information collected for a weekend will be destroyed when the weekend accounts have been finalised.

Any other business - Jane asked about putting a report of the weekend in the local press; Tony said he would help. Kirsteen suggested emailing the newspaper; Liz G pointed out that it is best to have a name so that the email does not get 'lost'.

Passing of the Weekend Baton - Jenny passed the baton to Sue of Cheshire Country Link, who introduced the Spring Weekend: Friday 7th June - Monday 10th June in Frodsham, Cheshire. The hotel has a capacity of 106, with a limited number of single rooms; members would be able to go to the evening functions.

Maria presented Rodney with a mug, plate and knitted cakes as a thank you for his hospitality in hosting the National Committee Meetings over the years.

Date of the next Members Meeting - Sunday 20th October 2019 in Weymouth, Dorset

Tony thanked everyone for attending the Meeting