

HODGEMOOR RIDING ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 30th November 2015

A short presentation on "Core Stability in the Horse and Rider" by Dr **Tracy Crook** MSc Vet Physio (RVC) PhD, (Chartered Physiotherapist and Specialist in Equine Biomechanics) had us all shifting around in our chairs and trying to sit up straight! One exercise she suggested was standing on one leg with our eyes closed for at least 10 seconds: not easy. Tracy said she would be giving taster sessions, and running courses in Pilates specifically destined for horseriders, during 2016.

1. **Welcome by Chairman.** Marcus introduced Colin Bradley, from the Forestry Commission. The 2014 AGM minutes were approved. Committee members Jane Braithwaite, James Burfitt, Miranda Thomas and Angela Stallard apologised for their absence.

2. Election of Officers and Committee

Anne Pearson and Kevin Malyon had stepped down since the last AGM. The current Committee is:

Marcus Bicknell (Chairman)	James Burfitt	Miranda Thomas
Susie Bicknell (Secretary)	Francesca Burfitt	Angela Stallard
Richard Hill (Treasurer)	Shona Fraser	
Jane Braithwaite	Geoff Gudgion	

3. **Approval of Accounts.** Accounts to 5 April 2015 (attached to these minutes) were approved. Funds currently stood at about £17,000. £16,848 were still owed to the Forestry Commission, but when this amount was paid, Richard said there would still be around £900 to keep us going.

4. **Change in Financial Year dates.** At Richard's suggestion, the financial year would run from October to October, rather than April. In this way, figures would be up to date for the AGM, usually held at the end of November, rather than months behind. Therefore, the current financial year would run to 18 months.

4. **Membership subscription.** There was discussion on how to encourage all new arrivals at yards to join:

- Posters in yards and leave membership packages at yards: Susie to do
- Have an actual rep to chase up rather than yard manager and/or owner
- Committee to be given contact details of new liveryes by yard manager/owner
- Posters in wood

Susie confirmed to Sara Caley that no one had ever taken the option of 5 years at £80,

5. Report on Events and funds raised : Calendar year rather than April to April

	2014		2015
Eventers Challenge	£ 100	TREC 19 April	£700
TREC 7 Sept	£ 735	WIDMER QUIZ Night 23 April	£974
Rob Waine Dressage	£ 150	Rob Waine Dressage	£200
		Clever Dogs Dog Agility	£119
		Waylands Dressage 29 Nov	£360
	TOTAL £985	TOTAL	£2353

- **Conclusions:** Holding one TREC and one big social event each year is key to fundraising.
- It was decided to hold summer BBQ preceded by mounted games at Homefarm Orchard
- Julia Tilley at Chalfont Equestrian still proposed to organise an sponsored ride in the fields round her yard which would be great.
- Shona Fraser suggested encouraging pony clubs to come to use the XC field. SB said that the couple of times this had happened, it had been quite disruptive for the little amount of money raised.

6. Report on this summer's work in the woods

A total of 409m of 2 metre width surface repairs were done and 80 metres of drains installed costing £16 848. Hopefully no more work will need be done in the wood for 3 years.

7. Report on Access Plan to upgrade footpaths to bridleways south of Hodgemoor.

Marcus reported that the proposed upgrade of the footpath leading from Jordans up past Manor Farm and into Seer Green had been put on the shelf because of some residents' antagonism. This was a pity as Jordans were in favour. Anna Stublely asked why they were so against. Marcus said residents were nervous because this route was often used by school children and also that motorbikes would start to use it.

8. **Cyclists in Hodgemoor.** There was a discussion on how to encourage more cyclists to become members, and to educate them on how to cooperate with horseriders. Colin Bradley from the Forestry Commission said cyclists can be quite a rebellious group: an article in the Chiltern Society recently had noted that the CTC (Cyclists Touring Club charity) was encouraging cyclists to use footpaths. Colin suggested positive communication via posters would be a good idea. Also a survey of both cyclists and horseriders would be useful. Nadia Whitley felt it was very important to be more informative to Hodgemoor wood users. She suggested a poster in the car park and elsewhere showing very clearly which trails cyclists could use. Inske Allso wondered if there could be a second association called something like the "Hodgemoor Access Association". Colin Bradley would send examples of notices done in other FC properties. It was decided:

- To put posters directed at cyclists in the car park and elsewhere
- Contact local cyclist organisations, eg, Buzz who runs the Saturday courses for children in Hodgemoor, and do a survey

9. Noisy Dogs in Rawlings Lane opposite Waylands. As Jane Braithwaite could not attend the meeting, it was not discussed. Those present had not had problems with these dogs.

10. Website & Facebook page. Marcus said the Facebook page was very useful: over the strangles outbreak, the notification has reached 27,000 people.

11. Any Other Business. No other subject was brought up.

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