

Minutes of Annual General Meeting for year ending 31 March 2011
Convened at Southwater Country Park, Visitors Centre on Tuesday 14 June 2011.

1. Present

Horsham Green Gym (HGG) Committee

David Jessop (DJ)	Chairman
David Searle (DS)	Secretary
Mike Cattell (MC)	Treasurer
Gwen Lewis (GL)	Committee Member
John Matthews (JM)	Committee Member
Dick Simmons (DS)	Committee Member

Horsham Green Gym Members

10 Members

Horsham District Council

Steve Delahunt (SD)	Head Countryside Warden
Andy Flegg (AF)	Countryside Warden

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Jake Everitt HDC and members Cath & Rob Roberts, Mark Tidy and John Aldridge

2. Approval and Signature of Minutes

The minutes of 2010 Annual General Meeting held on 8 June 2011 having been previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman as being a true record.

3. Welcome

DJ welcomed all those present to this the forth Annual General Meeting of HGG and went on to thank members for their on going support and enthusiastic approach to all the tasks that have been set. In addition DJ thanked HGG Secretary and Treasurer and other Committee Members, Horsham District Council and in particular Steve Delahunt and Mark Pullen, and the Countryside Wardens for their continuous support throughout the year.

The group continued to express their appreciation to Matthew Garner who sets out the refreshment cups, ingredients and biscuits each week and packs them away afterwards. Especially through the extreme winter conditions, his help has been appreciated by all members. Matthew also completes the attendance register.

4. Chairman's Report

DJ gave a brief summary of the tasks that HGG has successfully carried out this year:

Warnham LNR, 10-acre wood, Bennett's Field, Owlbeech Wood, Leechpool Wood, Castlewood Lake, Southwater, Chesworth Farm, The Ducky at BBH, Coltstaple field for horses, Lemmington Way football field, Southwater CP, Horsham Hospital garden, Denne Hill, Dry Pond, Horsham Park, Pond Farm Ghyll, Harwood House, Warnham Butterfly Reserve · Southwater Infants school, Harwood Road roundabout, St John's school, Capel private nature reserve, Barns Green, St Mary's school

Particular reference was made to the tasks carried out for private clients which has brought in sufficient funds to enable more tools and equipment to be purchased and fund a successful BBQ and Christmas social evening.

5. Hon Treasurer's Report:

A copy of the year end Financial Report had been circulated. The report once again shows a healthy position with income for the year amounting £590 made up of donations from site owners and others. Expenditure was £1,118 and mainly covered the purchase of new equipment, insurance and social event. We had a surplus for the year of £528 giving us a year end bank balance of £371.

HGG is grateful to Ray Dunscombe FCA for examining the accounts and has indicated he is happy to do this again next year.

6. Head Countryside Warden Report

SD thanked HGG members for their continued hard work and dedication in maintaining and improving the Horsham and District countryside and made particular reference to the following works

Chesworth Farm - Successful hedge

Owlbeech Woods - Removal of birch allowing the Nightjars to successfully nest; clearance and maintenance of footpaths.

To apply for lottery funding SD advised he had to provide an estimate of the number of volunteer hours worked on their projects in a year. He was pleased to report that these hours were met in the first 8 months and allowed him to apply for a grant of £36k for further improvement works.

7. New Committee Members

Chris Garner had expressed an interest to join the committee and those present were asked to indicate by a show of hands their acceptance of the new Committee Member. The election of the new Committee Member was carried unanimously.

8. BBQ

This years BBQ will be held on Tuesday 12 July at Chesworth Farm. Whilst HGG will make a contribution to the event members will be asked to pay a nominal £3 towards the food. Tickets are available from Dick Simmons.

9. Health & Safety

DS advised that there have not been any significant accidents recorded in the accident book this year but reminded members to remain vigilant to safety issues.

10. Additional Work Group

On some occasions the number of HGG members attending Tuesday work groups has exceeded 30 and this has introduced further hazards and identified new risks. With support from Steve Delahunt, the Committee had decided to form another group, to work on Thursdays between 1st October and 31st March each year. This should reduce these risks. The Tuesday group will be lead by Dick Simmons and the Thursday group by David Jessop. Further details will be published on the website. SD advised that HDC will be able to provide sufficient work for the groups as their Saturday work group will not continue to operate this autumn.

9. Any Other Business

It was suggested that a "Long Service" HGG, T-shirt be issued to members. DJ agreed to discuss the proposal at the next Committee Meeting.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting will be agreed and advised accordingly.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS, THE CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING AT 1.30 pm.