

# HUMBLETON OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES of the 2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held Hornby Laithe Bunk Barn, Settle, 7.00pm 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2025

1. **Attendance:** 46 members & friends.
2. **Apologies:** on behalf of camp kitchen staff still on cooking duties
3. **Introductions:** Chris (acting chairman) thanked everyone for their attendance.
  - 3.1 Special thanks given to Ian and Lew's organising team for all their planning & hard work in advance and throughout the camp.
  - 3.2 Special thanks also to Steve Barna & the Box Project for the provision of a replacement minibus at very short notice.
- 4 **Approvals:**

Minutes and committee approved.  
A brief outline of financial activities given.  
Mrs Julie Maxwell appointed as External Examiner for the coming year.

### 5 **Secretary's Report 2024-25**

Committee activity all year has been future-focussed. Serious current concerns were shortage of bus drivers and lack of contact with new members. Long serving driver Chris now too old, leaving Dave as our only dependable bus driver. Dave now retired from SCAS no longer has contact with potential new HOAA members.

Despite this, all 2024 activities were successful, a full activity programme scheduled for 2025 and reserves remained healthy.

5 new committee members had been brought in recently to strengthen future leadership and staffing. The committee, now with SCAS representation, face a big but achievable challenge of increasing activities and support in Sunderland where our members live, to try & match what has happened so effectively for HOAA at York.

However the most important people to ensure a thriving HOAA future remain the current members, carers and activity helpers and their continuing support was crucial.

Everyone present were already doing essential HOA jobs but many do not realise it.

The members remain our most important group as HOAA will always be judged by their achievements. Members continue to tell us their main needs are access to stimulating activities and opportunities to meet with new friends plus door to door transport to enable them to get there. 17 members present were praised for being our most effective advert in bringing HOAA participation, helpers and funding.

Carers also essential as the only means members have of getting to HOAA activities.

Both carers and helpers main needs remain opportunities to acquire skills, training, qualifications, good facilities and equipment.

Activity helpers were HOAA's third essential group because activities for low ability levels always much harder to organise than most club events. Rather than organise every activity HOAA looks for the best leaders & helpers and asks them to organise events for us. Once reliable people are found HOAA provides the funding & facilities etc and then delegates as much responsibility as possible to the organisers. Very important responsibility delegated to leaders is finding their own helpers. Very pleasing to see camp leaders here keeping to the HOAA tradition of all age helpers, so useful in developing our own home grown activity leaders, examples in Ian & Fionn..

All members, carers, helpers & leaders voluntarily give a big personal time commitment to HOAA activities. HOAA's long term success is because everyone feel's, as well as doing good for others, it also plays a positive part of our own lives.

Maintaining this as HOAA's special feature is key to continuing long-term success.

## 6 Appointment of new committee members

Sarah, Ross, Mattie, Saira and Gillian welcomed & introduced to meeting

Sarah & Ross - Safeguarding officers

Mattie – Members representative

Saira – Publicity officer

Gillian – SCAS representative

7 (meeting split into 2 groups for this item)

### Group 1: Members & HOA York

Took part in a series of communication games with Phil

### Group 2: Carers & Committee

Discussed future ideas for new activities at Sunderland. Suggestions included:

- Ideas for local activities including at SCAS Washington
- bake-off/cake competitions, indoor games, discos,
- more walks & days out eg at National Trust properties or similar,
- hydrotherapy groups at Fulwell for water confidence & mobility activities
- Richmond Castle event, 10<sup>th</sup> July
- social media publicity & Face Book group
- closer links between HOAA & Box Unit

8 **ENDEAVOUR TROPHY 2024** (everyone together again)

5 members camped independently at Grosmont: *Jason, Joe, Mattie, Jos, Steve.*

**Joe and Jason** awarded the trophy jointly because both were first time campers.

## 9 AOB items:

9.1 Lew advised we investigate the weight limit for the single axle luggage trailer and desirability of increased spending on safety equipment.

He proposed buying the following items:

- Radios for walkers and canoeists (set of 4 probably under £100)
- New helmets
- Training opportunities

9.2 Adam thanked & named several people present who had helped him