

**Minutes of the Coeliac UK West Sussex Local Group AGM
held on Saturday 2nd March 2019 5pm
at Angmering Village Hall**

Welcome and Introduction

Anna Henderson - Group Organiser - welcomed everyone and introduced the existing Committee:
Tracey Martin – Group Secretary
John Johnson – Treasurer
Nicky Johnson – Membership Secretary
Andy Whittaker – Minutes Secretary
Pam Whittaker – Postal Secretary
Chris Martin – Horsham coffee morning
Jenny Martin – Horsham coffee morning
Phillipa Caddy – Hassocks coffee morning – absent

Apologies for Absence

Six apologies for absence were received from:
Phillipa Caddy, John and Dena Kitchener, Richard and Shirley Calvert and Jan Marfleet.

Minutes of last AGM – were approved unanimously.

Highlights of 2018

Anna Henderson highlighted that last year was the 50th Anniversary of Coeliac UK. She spoke about the work that Coeliac UK have done to improve the lives of coeliacs over the 50 years including pressing for clearer labelling and healthier gluten free products, educating the catering industry to provide safe gluten free food and driving and funding coeliac research. Anna also outlined the benefits of belonging to Coeliac UK.

In West Sussex we had several meals out – Burns night, Chinese, pub meals and 3 Christmas meals as well as regular coffee mornings in Worthing, Hassocks, Horsham and Chichester.

Our two highlights were the Big Coeliac Family 50th Birthday Celebration Day at Butlin's Bognor in May and the Gluten Free Food Fair at Boxgrove near Chichester in October.

Group Finances – John Johnson Treasurer

Please see attached Group Annual Accounts Summary for the period 01/01/2018 – 31/12/2018. John highlighted that last year £735.65 had been earned net from the Food Fair, but there was a need to address fund raising in the future.

In answer to questions from the floor John explained the following:

The opening balance includes the legacy from Stuart Burrell received in 2017. This covered many of the costs of the Butlin's event including £99 to assist several families to afford to attend the Day. Income column - the Butlins Tombola receipts of £187.10 were donated to Coeliac UK Research. Expenditure column - the Christmas meals figure is larger because of an overlap of money received in the previous accounts period.

The new Coeliac UK logo and colours meant merchandising costs over 2 years to implement the changes. - £332.77 last year and £358.49 the previous year.

Newsletter printing and posting costs last year were £264.46. John said the committee need to consider how this is financed in the future. A suggestion was made for stamped addressed envelopes – this has been tried before - Anna explained that postal mailings also incur printing and paper costs

as well as manpower. Another suggestion was for the postal member to give the email address of a friend or for newsletters just to be available at events.

Pam and Andy expressed concerns that a small group of members who do not access computers would not have the benefit of receiving local Newsletters that contained local information about venues and local events and said they were willing to continue the postal mailings.

Anna pointed out that we do not receive any funding from Coeliac UK and are required to be self funding, future funding including for postal mailings will be discussed by the new committee.

Future Plans for the West Sussex Group: Anna Henderson

Another Chinese meal. A bowling and burger evening.

Butlin's Fun Day for coeliac children and their families on 18th May. Booking ends 15 March.

Coeliac Awareness week 13-19 May – many of our members want more safe places to eat across West Sussex. Anna suggested each member organise a meal out during that week with a group of friends also eating gluten free. This will raise awareness amongst our friends and encourage more places to cater for us. We should then share any recommendations.

Coffee mornings in Chichester, Horsham, Hassocks and Worthing are all continuing and details of Christmas meals will be sent out later in the year.

Any other ideas for events, let Anna know.

Seven members of the existing Committee are standing down from today:

John and Nicky Johnson

Pam and Andy Whittaker

Chris and Jenny Martin

Phillipa Caddy

Anna thanked them all for their service and presented them with a small token of appreciation.

We are very pleased each one has agreed to continue as volunteers to run the coffee mornings in Hassocks, Horsham and Worthing as well as helping at events.

Election of the new Committee Members:

Gillian Carr – Treasurer

Dena Kitchener – Membership Secretary

Mike Butler – Minutes Secretary

Lisa Warring – Administrative assistant

Ros Buckland – Health and Research Contact

Tracey Martin - Group Secretary, and Anna Henderson - Group Organiser are both standing again.

Elections proposed by Christine Stevens and seconded by Veronica Saunders.

They were all elected unanimously.

Anna also thanked Jacky Holmes for her work as our social media contact which she will continue.

Anna is still looking for additional help. Please contact her for more details. The help required is:

Events Organiser/Coordinator

Young members Contact

Horsham area Contact

Worthing area Contact

There was no Other Business or Questions. The meeting ended at 5.45pm.

The AGM was immediately followed by a Fish and Chips supper and Quiz. Grateful thanks to Richard and Christina Stanfield for organising the excellent Quiz.

West Sussex Coeliac Group Annual Accounts Summary

Period 1/1/2018 – 31/12/2018

Opening Balance **3664.39**

Income

AGM, Raffle & coffee Mornings	214.85
Butlins tombola	187.10
Butlins day	2,185.00
Xmas meals etc.	1,850.00
Food Fair	1,174.74
 Total	 5,611.69

Expenditure

Xmas meals etc.	2,208.00
Butlins day	2,831.48
Food Fair	439.09
Coeliac UK research	187.10
Merchandise costs	332.77
AGM Hall hire	97.95
Newsletter printing	264.46
Expenses	220.63
 Total	 6,581.48
 Closing EOY balance	 2,694.60

(3,664.39 + 5,611.69 – 6,581.48)

John Johnson

Treasurer

2nd March 2019