



# THE ICKNIELD WAY ASSOCIATION

## **Chairman Report for 2021/22 AGM**

### **Covid-19**

Well, what a couple of years. It was disappointing that our 2020 & 2021 AGM could not be held as normal but it was simply not practical or consistent with government advice. When the Committee consider the 2022 AGM arrangements earlier in the year we determined to hold a virtual meeting, not knowing what may be happening in October 2022.

One of the challenges we always have is that the route is over 100 miles long, so physically meeting anywhere on the route means someone having a long journey. If anyone would like to arrange a walk and tea anywhere along the route, we could replace the AGM walk with one or more “meet ups” along the route over the year.

The Committee all agreed to continue in our roles last year, other than the changes noted below and on the Agenda the committee members are willing to continue into 2023.

### **Committee**

May I thank all the committee for their work over the year. We are a small band of individuals each with other interests and pulls on our time and therefore I wish to record my thanks to Lesley, Chris, Sue, Phil, Clive and Doug for the time and effort they have put into the IWA over the past year. As ever, if there is anyone else willing to take on however a small a role, it would be much appreciated.

I must particularly record my thanks to Sue and Phil Prigg for their dedication to the Icknield Way through many years. As members will have read in the Spring Newsletter, Sue lost her battle with cancer earlier in the year. Phil, understandably, felt he could no longer play a role on the Icknield Way Committee and therefore resigned.

I informed the committee last year that I would like to stand down from the Chairmanship, evidently no-one has stepped forward! I am finding it difficult to commit the time necessary for the Icknield Way leadership whilst running a growing business. If anyone would like to get involved, then please contact me or Lesley.

I am pleased to report that Tim Johnson has volunteered to take on the role of treasurer. Subject to formal agreement at the AGM, this is a welcome step forward.

### **Wardens & Route**

Thanks to all the dedicated folk who keep an eye on the route. We welcome the couple of new wardens that have taken on the role. The wardens are essential in identifying problems on the route and for investigating/responding to questions from users.

A number of vacancies remain at the time of writing which we need to try and fill (see newsletter & website news). But particular thanks to those wardens that have retired during the year all of whom I know would like to have continued but circumstances dictate otherwise.

### **Guidebook Sales**

See separate report



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## **Websites**

See separate report

## **Membership**

See separate report

## **National Trail & Great Chalk Way**

See separate report

Finally, I will repeat my best wishes as the country reopens for business and leisure, please get out and walk or ride some or all of the Icknield Way. When I walk locally on paths that form part of the Icknield Way, I often find people are actually walking the route which is really satisfying as it justifies the effort.

## **Tom Chevalier**

Chairman

25<sup>th</sup> Sept 2022

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