



THE ICKNIELD WAY ASSOCIATION

Chairperson Report for 2024 AGM

Meetings

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. This celebratory year we selected the middle of the route. If anyone would like to arrange a walk and tea anywhere along the route during the year, we could supplement the AGM with “meet ups” along the route over the year.

Committee

The Committee all agreed to continue in our roles again with the following exceptions. Lesley gave notice of her wish to retire as Secretary last year after 12 years of service, and Laurence has stepped forward to take on that role, they have been working together over the past year to enable a smooth transfer. Lesley plans to continue as Membership Secretary. After six years in the role, Clive Beckett resigned as Development Officer in the summer, he has found that his family duties and other community responsibilities meant that he could not commit adequate time or energy to the Icknield Way. I record my thanks to Lesley and Clive for their commitment and contribution over a number of years.

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, Clive, Doug, Tim, Laurence and Maria 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 informed the committee & AGM several years that I would like to stand down from the Chairmanship, evidently no-one has stepped forward! I have found it difficult to commit the time necessary for the Icknield Way leadership whilst running a growing business. Last year I sold the business but continued working on the transition until this summer. If anyone would like to get involved in any way, then please contact Laurence or myself.

Wardens & Route

Thanks to all the dedicated folk who keep an eye on the route. We welcome the 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.

Several 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.

Finally, let me send my best wishes to all our members who wish to support the promotion of the Icknield Way and the longer Great Chalk Way, please get out and walk or ride some or all of the Icknield Way.

Tom Chevalier Chairperson 6th Oct 2024

Info@IcknieldWayTrail.org.uk 01525 873986