

**LEEDS COELIAC GROUP AGM**  
**MONDAY 25.3.13**  
**ST CHAD'S PARISH CENTRE**

**Present**

Sandra McLean chaired the meeting. There were 49 group members present.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Judith Baron, Monica Chilten and Dora Graves.

**2. Minutes of last AGM**

There were no matters arising. Wyn Tillotson proposed that they be accepted as a correct record. This was seconded by Leila Conway.

**3. Group Organiser's report**

Dorothy Hick gave the Group Organiser's report. She began by thanking the committee for their hard work during 2012. She also thanked group members who had supported events and two families who had donated money to Coeliac UK following bereavements.

Dorothy continued by saying that the group's Twitter and Facebook which had begun in 2011 now had over 500 followers. She also gave details of talks she had given to dietitians at Leeds Metropolitan University and alternative therapists. Feedback from the students was that her talk to them was most useful. She also mentioned the work Sandra McLean had undertaken with Leeds Hospital Trust with regard to hospital food to get a better service for people with coeliac disease. She thanked people who had completed a questionnaire for Dr Jennings. He was grateful for the feedback.

Dorothy reported that the 2012 food fair was so well attended that St Chad's was no longer big enough. Therefore, a different venue had been found for the 2013 food fair, the group's biggest fundraising event.

Sandra McLean had organised many meals at local restaurants but some were not as well attended as previously. This was probably due to the economic climate. Monthly coffee mornings had been arranged at White Rose but these were poorly attended so have been discontinued. However, the Christmas meal at Farthings Restaurant was again popular with many people attending.

Dorothy concluded by saying that it was generally a successful year for the group. Membership was growing: there are now about 600 group members. However Coeliac UK had about 1,000 people registered with them in the Leeds area. This means that some people are members of Coeliac UK but not the group. However, it is know that some group members are not members of

Coeliac UK. Members were encourage to get people they know with coeliac disease to join the group.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report**

Anne Shaw gave the Treasurer's report. She said that donations were down by £53.81 from 2011 (£717.50 in 2011; £663.69 in 2012). However, she said that total receipts were up by £141.19 compared with 2011 (£1,552.02 in 2011; £1,693.21 in 2012). She also said that expenses were down by £268.73 from 2011 (£1,963.44 in 2011; £1,694.71 in 2012).

Anne reported that expenditure on postage was down by £79.68 due, in part, to the fact that she stocked up on stamps before the increase in the price of stamps in April 2012. She also said that e-mailing where possible helps with both cost and time. Although the group did not send a donation to Coeliac UK in 2012, it was planned to do so in 2013 requesting, as in previous years, that the money is used for research.

Anne concluded by saying that the opening bank balance as at 1.1.12 was £1,306.21. There was income of £1,693.21 and expenditure of £1,694.71. Therefore the closing balance as at 31.12.12 was £1,304.71.

#### **5. Election of Officers**

Dorothy Hick had previously announced that she would be standing down as Group Organiser. On behalf of group members, Vicki Gilbert thanked Dorothy for all the work she had undertaken as Group Organiser and before that as a committee member.

Sandra McLean introduced existing committee members and gave details of people wishing to become committee members. Their names had been circulated prior to the start of the meeting. Margaret Spence proposed that the people listed should be committee members. This was seconded by Tessa Copeland. New members of the committee will be supported by existing members.

#### **6. Any other business**

Margaret Spence asked if this year's Christmas meal would be at Farthings Restaurant as it would be moving, along with the rest of Leeds City College, to Hunslet Road and, consequently, there could be issues with car parking. Sandra McLean is to investigate this.

#### **7. Speaker**

Unfortunately, Jaclyn Cliff, a dietitian from Dr Schar, who was due to be the speaker, could not attend as she suffered a car breakdown.

Instead, Vicki Gilbert gave details of hamper packs containing new products that were to be given to group members who would then give their opinions on those products to Dr Schar.

Dorothy Hick then gave full details of the talk she gave to dietitians and Viki Gilbert gave details of the food labelling laws which came into effect in January 2012 and advised people why it was important to study food labels.