

National Chairman's report

NEC Meeting on the 7th of November 2024

Dear All,

Welcome back to Oxford and the North Oxfordshire Association building in Summertown.

Since our last meeting the dynamics of life have played out. Craig and Lauren have decided to return to supporting their group by the next NAGM. I would like to thank them both for the breath of fresh air and ideas. Despite a short stint they have made more of an impact than they realise.

As I reflect on the past year I ponder on the future direction of Plus. Clearly, we are too entrenched in the past and struggling to take a step into the future. A year on we still have no new website. I have followed on my conversation with Mark Hewson who is still able to continue with the old website but as I write not a new one.

We still find ourselves with no NEC Administrator which is making additional work for the current NEC.

It is disappointing to see little done on activities front given we are an activities & social organisation. The pandemic has had a major affect on people meeting up and we are not the only organisation affected. Even today with an opportunity to meet up numbers are low. My recommendation of the next NEC would be to set meeting dates well in advance to ensure better attendance. But reflect that online meetings may take president.

An interesting development with Midlands Walking Weekend going up a gear to provide a more refined event. Value for money is key to the success of any event and I wish them well with this new ventured. Like WASH which has had to adapted to the changing times and the cost of living that shapes our society today. An interesting move for WASH was doing a video presentation to advertise the event. I think the whole organisation needs to take notice that new approaches are needed. Especially when our membership base is so low.

I look forward to welcoming you all on Saturday and I will send out the meeting link for anyone who are unable to attend at Oxford.

Steve
Steve Rolfe
National Chair