

Minutes of the General Assembly of 20.2.2021

This general meeting was held virtually by Zoom because of the COVID pandemic. We counted about 20 Zoom connections. Considering the fact that several screens were used by two people, we estimate that about thirty people participated in this assembly.

1. The minutes of the statutory GA of 15.2.2020 were approved.

2. President's report

We currently have approximately 115 members, reflecting a slow and steady increase in our membership.

At the GA of February 2020, the choice of the date of the general assembly was put to the vote. A very strong majority was in favour of the February vacation period. For the other dates (Christmas-New Year, Easter, summer, autumn), no clear preference emerged.

We also discussed the project of a charter for sustainable tourism. A broad consensus emerged in favor of:

- the maintenance of family-oriented tourism,
- the implementation of a 4 seasons tourism with regards to the ski lifts, including the new chairlift Tracuit - Mont Major,
- the integration of tourism development in the cantonal energy transition program decided by the State of Valais.

The committee has met 5 times, partly via Zoom, on 24.6 - 31.7 - 17.10 - 27.1 - 2.1.2021. The following points were discussed :

- Vercorin Tourisme SA, where we are represented by Jacques Perret, discussed the development of the Creux du Lavioz, a first stage of which will be completed in 2021. These include structures such as :
 - o Conveyor belt for skiing and cycling for children
 - o Mechanical sledge
 - o Wading pool with water from a mountain spring
 - o Tennis court bleachers for shows
 - o Climbing wall

It has also been decided to appoint a sole director for Vercorin Tourisme SA, the Téléférique Chalais-Brie-Vercorin and the Vercorin SA cable-car. Arthur Clivaz, the current president of Vercorin Tourisme SA, has been chosen.

- Eight people responded to the subscription request for the capital increase of the Vercorin SA cable-car.
- As far as the new tourist tax is concerned, 1022 mailings were made. Taking into account the fact that each second home is often the property of two (couple) or even several people (inheritance), it can be estimated that there are between 2'000 and 3'000 owners of second homes in Vercorin. About a hundred owners have opposed the new levy.

- Gaël Packer, a young engineer in environmental technology and energy at the HES of Sierre, came to talk to us about ways to save energy. He noted that:
 - Travelling and heating are responsible for 80% of the energy expenditure in Vercorin. Ski lifts account for only 15%.
 - It would be desirable that the municipality promotes the installation of photovoltaic panels. The recent installation of natural gas in Vercorin is not the optimal solution to reduce CO2 emissions.
- The proposal for a new cable car route between the plain and Vercorin (departure in front of the Daval petrol station - bypassing the Mont, East side - arrival at the cable-car station) aroused some skepticism among the committee members. While a certain advantage for tourists cannot be denied, the disadvantage for children who go to school all year round is too great, not to mention the aesthetic degradation of the view from the village towards the Val d'Anniviers.
- At the request of the Société de Développement (SD), the committee decided to participate in the SD. We are represented by Martine Favarger. The SD will take care of the organization of events of a certain importance such as the Dérupe, Cinéma 2336, Saveurs du Monde etc. Our concrete participation could take the form of encouraging our members to participate as volunteers. Such an attitude shows that R2s are not only users but also ready to lend a helping hand, which is already the case at the moment for many secondary residents.
- The following points will be discussed with the municipal authorities, in principle this spring:
 - Garbage bin, water and general garbage tax (the municipality of Val d'Anniviers has a fixed part and a variable part which is 0.3x for the R2)
 - Better directed lighting from street lamps
 - The future of the waste collection center for organic waste, metal objects, wood, paint, etc.
 - Implementation of the energy transition as defined by the State of Valais

3. The accounts, based on the auditors' report, were accepted. In the absence of a proposal to change the amount of the membership fees, this amount is maintained at 50 Swiss francs per year and per person.

4. The discharge of the committee was accepted.

5. Election

The president, the members of the committee and the auditors are elected for a period of 3 years. The longest-standing members are entering their 3rd year of mandate and no one has announced their resignation. The committee currently has 6 members. There is a vacancy because, according to the statutes, the committee can have 7 members.

Mrs. Isabelle Luthier, economist and teacher in a professional school, proposed herself and was elected.

6. Miscellaneous

- o Request for a shuttle bus service to the lower part of the village
- o Suggestion to allow R2 members holding shares of the Société de la Télécabine Vercorin SA to make their voices better heard at the AGMs of the said Company.
- o The closure of the local post office was deplored.

7. Intervention of Mrs. Sylvie Masserey Anselin, the new President of the Municipality. Mrs. Masserey insisted on the numerous and precious presence in the village of the R2s throughout the COVID crisis, a presence that has maintained the village's social life. There are about 600 residents in Vercorin, a number that rises to 5'000 during the high season, of which a large part is made up of secondary residents and their guests. In a spirit of great openness, Mrs. Masserey insisted on the fact that she shares our concerns to maintain family-oriented tourism in Vercorin, to develop a 4-season tourism, to increase the infrastructures of the Creux du Lavioz and to promote the energy transition by insisting on the possibility of hydroelectric development in Vercorin. As for the replacement of the Chalais-Brie-Vercorin cable car, she informed us of the importance that the chosen solution could continue to benefit from government subsidies as is currently the case. Finally, she mentioned the ongoing reflections concerning a rapprochement, including organizational and structural, between Télécabine Vercorin SA, Tourisme Vercorin SA and the Téléférique Chalais-Brie-Vercorin.

We were very sensitive to the new President's spirit of openness, her willingness to listen to our concerns and her desire for a constructive collaboration with the R2.

Vercorin, Feb. 21st 2021

Andreas Saurer, President