

Ramblers Sheffield 40'S Walking Group

AGM
The Fat Cat, Sheffield
7.30pm

Apologies: Maria H

Chair welcomed all and thanked them for coming. Minutes from last AGM approved.

Treasurers report - excellent. Accounts given - all healthy. Report approved

Walk co-ordinators report - we have 27 walk leaders. Thanks were given for a varied and interesting programme. We have had new leaders this year. We have in the main offered 3 walks on weekends. At times 2 walks on a Sunday can be a problem. We have had evening walks this year, which are popular. Map reading course went ahead with good feedback. There will be another course next year in, hopefully, the summer months. One member said that they had used the skills gained whilst leading a walk recently. Report accepted.

Members gave ideas for new committee to take on board. Chair called for more people to come forward to lead walks. The committee asked for group members to show preferences for types of walks to make sure that all were being catered for. How to get statistics from walks was discussed. Leaders currently give numbers on a report to co coordinator. Members again called on to offer to lead a walk. For example if everyone in the room put on a walk that would be over half the year covered. There are gaps creeping into the programme with most being filled at the last minute. Sue thinks that leaders are waiting to see if there is a gap and then offering a walk at the last minute.

It was suggested that leaders meet once every 3 months so that forward planning can be made easier. Ideas to encourage more to offer walks discussed. Map reading course can be offered again. This had been given positive feedback by those how attended and one member said that they had used the skills gained whilst leading a walk recently. Members to be encouraged to lead "repeat" walks as seasons can vary the walk and "mentor walks" to be encouraged which can also form the "reccy" to save time. Members could be asked to send GPS files to the web editor for saving for future use.

Social secretary's report - Jean has tried to include all interests and although it has been difficult there has been a varied programme. This will continue with a swimming event. There will be walk to Castleton followed by a pub crawl. Organised meals are not well attended. Christmas event will be a walk followed by a meal at the Lathkill Dale Hotel. This is booked and numbers can be reasonably flexible. Jean suggested that the Harland cafe event be repeated in April as the evening was a success and the "Brampton Mille" was suggested as a possible event in May or June.

The future of the role was discussed. The current committee and members felt that the role should become more of a coordinating role, with 'Social Leaders' planning individual socials, much as walk leaders do walks. New committee to bring ideas together and Chair made the point that we only need 3 roles in place. The other posts can be co-opted at a later date. Chair appealed for volunteers. Report approved,.

Web editor's report - web site working well. All walks are now on the Ramblers web site. Photo submission is easier and more people are posting photos to the site as well as Facebook. The group's website is still the main area for group access for information. Report approved.

Members secretary's report - we currently have 230 members with September seeing the slight increase. Question was asked if we can tell if all members are "Walkers". Difficult to assess. Walk leaders should only be asked to give numbers on their walks. Numbers on walks is not an issue. Numbers will depend on the type of walk and the types of walks offered on the day. The main issue is whether the walks available are suitable for all. Again the plea for more members to lead walks. Membership information is given to the group by Ramblers. Report approved.

Weekends away coordinators report - No questions. Jill and Jean thanked. Report approved.

Secretary's report - secretary thanked the current committee for all their hard work and wished the new committee every success.

Hustings for chair.

Chair's report - Raj gave his reason for standing down - he feels that the group needs a Chair who can give more time to the group. Chair thanked the committee and all the walk leaders. The members were thanked. Report approved.

Elections

There were 2 candidates for Chair - Julie Sweeting and Wayne Grounsell. Many thanks to both for putting themselves forward. Wayne Grounsell was elected as Chair.

Chair - Wayne Grounsell
Secretary - Emma Myers
Treasurer - Jill Brogden
Walks coordinator - Martin
Membership secretary - Alan Plimmer
Web Editor - Jeremy Kenyon

New Chair introduced himself. He is hoping for continuity and made the point that it was a good sign that we had two people putting themselves forward for the position of chair. Thanks were given to the current Chair and the outgoing committee.

AOB - members were asked to consider a sub-committee for socials. Tracey, Colin, Sue K, Debbie B and Jean are all willing to be part of a group which coordinates the socials.