

Draft Minutes

Sheffield 40s Walking Group

28th October 2022 7pm via Zoom

Present

Jez Kenyon, Chair. Bev Kenyon, Secretary/ Membership Secretary. Mick Nott, Treasurer. Sara Collin, Dave Depledge, Walks Coordinators. Mandy Kippax, Jillian Gilbert, Socials and Weekends Away Coordinators. Allen Hudson, Footpath Officer/Web Editor.

Apologies None

Approval of minutes

Minutes now found, done and circulated. To be approved at the next meeting.

Matters arising

- None

1) Chair

- AGM arrangements. Date agreed as 2nd November at 7pm. Venue to be approved. Mick and Mandy will ask at several places. The date and time will be posted on the website as advance notice for members. Invite to include any reports sent in by committee. We will advertise that we will need a Treasurer to take over from Mick, who is willing to stay in place until the new person is trained up. We are also looking for someone to job share with Mandy on Socials, someone to job share with Keef on Walks. Alan is also standing down as Footpath Officer. It is yet to be decided whether we will need someone as the footpath agencies are now working better than before. We will put an agenda item about possibly re-naming the group as there has been feedback that new members are confused by the number "40" in the group's name.
- Promoting the Ramblers membership offer. There is information on the website and our Facebook page. We have new members coming through regularly and our numbers are growing very slightly – we have people leaving the group.

2) Treasurer

- Mick has sent the report for the accounts up to the end of August. Accounts are healthy. Our budget has been agreed with Ramblers and stands at £1200 for the coming year. This is made up of £400 basic allocation and £800 towards the main funds. We can be flexible on how to spend this amount. For example, in this Financial Year 9 members attended a Walk Leader Training Course.

- The expenses system is going well and walk leaders are starting to submit claims for expenses incurred doing recces and buying First Aid Equipment.
- The social funds are healthy and stand at £760. Mandy asked what should happen to this money and all agreed that it is essential to have a surplus which means if something goes wrong with a booking, we have the funds to cover it.
- Mick has said that he will be standing down as Treasurer at the AGM, however he is willing to stay on and help the new treasurer get to grips with the systems.

3) Secretary

- Our current membership as per Ramblers records stands at 294 which is in line with our records of 299. Bev will make sure the lists are as up to date as possible before the AGM invite is sent out.
- A discussion took place on how we make sure that people who have done 3 walks join the group. Some walk leaders ask new people outright and some walk leaders ask by text when new people sign up to the walk. Keef will include this as an item for the next Walk Leader Meeting. We feel that there are only a small number of walkers who do not become members.

4) Walks

- Keef is concerned that the calendar is looking a little empty for the next few weeks. Committee reassured him that this is very often the case. Some walk leaders do not like to commit themselves too far in advance. Keef is always willing to swap a day that he has put a walk on to accommodate a walk leader who can only do that week. To be discussed at the next Walk Leader meeting.
- First Aid Training is ongoing. We have decided to go ahead and organise our own training and send an expense claim to the Area.
- A course on using OS maps App discussed. This may be something that we can do in-house as Alan has done this before. Need to check interest with the group via the Website and Facebook page.
- An issue was raised by a member about walkers getting left behind and being told to keep up. Keef will speak to the member concerned to find out more about what happened. We discussed that all walkers have a responsibility to stay behind the walk leader and to make sure that they listen to instructions about the route and timings of breaks carefully. It was pointed out that some walkers at the back like to stop and look at animals etc.
- A Walk Leaders' WhatsApp group would be useful. To be discussed at the next Walk Leader meeting.
- Keef would like a second person to job-share the role with him. This is very helpful as it provides cover for holidays etc.

5) Socials and Weekends

- There are socials ongoing and in the pipeline.
- Mandy stated that the weekends are a lot of work, and she will be offering one a year from now on. Members can arrange their own weekends away and the group will advertise them.
- Mandy is hoping for a second person to share the role of Socials Coordinator with her.

6) Footpath work

- Peak and Northern have taken on a lot of the paths network work. At the moment the Sheffield Ramblers take on a lot of the footpath work.
- Alan has said that he will be standing down as Footpaths Officer at the AGM.

8) AOB

- None

Date of next meeting

- AGM 2nd November and 22nd November – venue to be confirmed.