

Ramblers Sheffield 40's Walking Group

Minutes of Committee Meeting

The Fat Cat, Sheffield
July 23rd 2018
7.30pm

Present - Wayne Grounsell, Chairman. Emma Myers, Group & Membership Secretary. Tracey Lyne, Socials and Weekends Away Co-ordinator. Jez Kenyon, Website Editor.

Apologies: Julie Sweeting, Walks Co-ordinator. Jill Brogden, Treasurer.

Chair welcomed all to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

1. Minutes of the last committee meeting of May 31st 2018

Proposed by Jez as a true record of the meeting and seconded by Tracey.

2. Matters arising not on the agenda

None

3. Chairman's Report

GDPR

Wayne has been through the Legitimate Interest Assessment, has completed the IOC Legitimate Interest Assessment (LIA) and Checklist, confirming we qualify as a Legitimate Interest Group under Articles 5(2) and 24 of the regulations, and will ensure it is put on our database. The email confirming this was agreed by all present and Wayne will send it out to all Group members.

Area Council Meeting June 4th

GDPR – Was on the agenda. Other groups are taking a similar view to ourselves and are taking similar action.

Group Reports – Doncaster and Rotherham Groups have had their Walking Festivals and have concluded that these have no effect on recruiting new members. Sheffield's Walking Festival is September 7th to 16th.

Five Weirs Walk – has been badly vandalised but the Group that set the walk up no longer exist so it is unlikely the damage will be repaired.

Michael Portillo's Railway Rambles – Five Area members attended.

£10k Donation to the Great Ridge Repair – Gavin, the Area Treasurer has been reprimanded by Head Office for authorising the donation. He has responded to say he disagrees and the matter is pending.

Walk Leader Qualifications – Funds will be made available for any member who wishes to work towards one.

Next Area Council meeting is September 3rd.

4. Secretary's Report

All membership records are up to date. As at the end of June we have 251 active members and continue to see new faces on walks.

5. Treasurer's Report

Jill not present but had advised there has been no change to the Group finances since the last committee meeting.

She has applied to Area for our basic allocation.

6. Walk Co-ordinator's Report

Julie was not present but had submitted a report.

Looking back, there have been only four gaps on the Walk Calendar since the last meeting. Looking forward the next few weeks are full but after that the calendar is looking sparse. Julie will send an email out to all walk leaders to try and fill some of the gaps going forwards.

No Walk Leader meeting has been held since April 16th as this one and the one before were poorly attended but Julie will consider calling one if she feels it is required.

Walk reports are very intermittent. A suggestion was made that these could be texted in rather than emailed which might make it easier for the walk leaders and thus improve the submission rate.

7. Social Co-ordinator's Report

The Awards Evening on April 1st was well received with 35 members attending and a good night had by all.

Other recent events were the Three Valleys Beer Festival in June, Music in the Gardens in June and Sunfest and Tramlines - both in July.

Looking forwards there is a Gin Night on July 27th, Pete's Filey Walk with fish and chips on August 12th. There is also the Rail Ale Festival in Cleethorpes in September and the Fireworks Night in November.

The Social Committee will meet in a couple of weeks and amongst other things will be planning for Christmas. Just one event will be held this year, possibly a Ceilidh.

8. Weekends Away Co-ordinators Report

The Keswick weekend in June was well attended and very much enjoyed by everyone.

The next weekend is Anne Bradford's member organised Hawes weekend. The dates are on the website and Anne is shortly to forward the full details.

A New Year member organised weekend is to go ahead in York.

9. Web Editor's Report

Our web hosts have changed how they cache our website which has caused a number of problems. Jez advised he has had to put in a lot of work to resolve the issues but the website should be ok now.

He also discovered a bug which was affecting socials and weekends on the website but again he has now managed to resolve this issue.

Everything else is working fine at the moment.

10. Further Items for Discussion

Bradfield Stiles Project

Put forward by Jez. At the last SYNED meeting it was suggested that each group looks to suggest projects for improving paths using the Ivy Cowen legacy fund (about £30k left).

Jez suggested at the SYNED meeting that we look into the stiles from Worrall to Low Bradfield, part of the Sheffield Country Walk, as they are in dire need of improvement and it would make for a lovely route.

The Sheffield Rights of Way (ROW) group produced an initial assessment. Then some members of the Sheffield Ramblers group with Jez and Peter Robinson walked the route to review that assessment.

Sheffield ROW will match fund anything Ramblers put in and Terry Howard has got two other organisations who are also possible contributors.

The suggestion is that we could apply for possibly £8000 from the SYNED legacy fund and that it would be a joint project proposed by the three Sheffield groups.

Jez handed round a document detailing the proposed improvements.

All agreed that this was an excellent suggestion and that it had the full support of the committee.

Ploughing and Cropping

There are strict rules in place regarding ploughing and cropping over paths which are sometimes ignored by farmers. Jez suggested we could raise the profile of this issue by asking members to report in any such problems they see. The Pathwatch mobile app is the easiest way but reports can be emailed to the website.

Pathwatch Officers are also looking for extra volunteers to deal with incoming reports and also to revisit the 500 historic reports on file.

Jez proposed an email to Group members to explain what is happening and how to get involved. The committee agreed and Jez will forward a draft email to Wayne for approval.

11. Any Other Business

None

12. Date of Next Meeting

September 17th at the Fat Cat, 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.