

Ramblers Sheffield 40's Walking Group

Minutes of Committee Meeting

The Fat Cat, Sheffield
January 18th 2016
7.30pm

Present - Wayne Grounsell, Chairman. Emma Myers, Group Secretary. Jill Brogden, Treasurer. Martin Wistow, Walks Co-ordinator. Alan Plimmer, Membership Secretary. Jez Kenyon, Website Editor. Tracey Lyne Socials Co-ordinator.

Apologies: None

Chair welcomed all to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. He introduced Tracey who was unanimously accepted as Socials Co-ordinator.

1. Minutes of the last committee meeting of October 19th 2015

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

2. Matters arising not on the agenda

None

3. Chairman's Report

i) Constitution SWG40s

A proposed draft constitution was put forward based on the standard Area 'constitution for local groups'. All to read and any amendments to be proposed at the next meeting. Needs to be adopted by the committee and then put forward at the next AGM.

ii) Area AGM 28th January 2017

We have been asked to host and Wayne has booked Bradfield village hall. Area cover all costs but payment of £70 required now so Jill will pay this week and recover from Area. We will need to organise a walk, (Jim Conibear has been asked to lead), and to arrange refreshments. Volunteers will be needed nearer the time. Jez is going to this year's AGM on 23rd January and will report back on proceedings.

iii) Default Sign Up

Some walk leaders are not happy that the template defaults to text sign up in advance 'Not Required'. A discussion took place and a vote was held with 6 in favour of removing the default on the template.

iv) North Yorkshire Weekend

Gill Green has offered to co-ordinate a weekend in Newton Upon Rawcliffe 9-11th September 2016. Any members wishing to attend will have to book their own accommodation and Gill will arrange walks for the weekend. All agreed they were happy for the weekend to be advertised on the website as long as the description makes it clear it is a

'member organised' weekend and not an official Ramblers supported trip. If members are interested they will be asked to email Gill direct. Alan and Jude are still planning to arrange a weekend in Buttermere which will be an official Ramblers supported trip. Jill will reply to Gill's email to let her know her weekend has been agreed.

v) Governance Proposals

Wayne has read all the proposals which, to summarise, offer a choice between a military style 'top down' type of organisation or a federal style 'bottom up' approach. At the moment we have the latter and the proposals are to move to the former. However, we are not being asked 'Which do we want?' but 'Do we think the military style would work?' One important proposal is the introduction of incentives for meeting targets. All agreed that they were not happy with this type of approach, that the Group's policy is to oppose the Governance proposals and their questionnaire and that Wayne and Jez should take that view to Area.

4. Secretary's Report

Nothing to report.

5. Treasurer's Report

a) Statement of current financial status

Bank account balance £985 including £250 which has been allocated and received for walk leader training.

b) Financial outcomes of Group events

The Halloween Pie and Peas event and the Christmas Meal at the Lathkill Hotel both broke even. Money is starting to come in for the Middleham weekend in March.

6. Walk Co-ordinator's Report

Four walk incidents had been reported since the last meeting. Martin will forward details of these and all future incidents to Emma who will keep a record of them. Martin will ask walk leaders in future to also report phone numbers of any walkers involved in an incident so we can follow them up afterwards. Jez will locate on the Ramblers website details of the procedure to follow on receipt of notification of an incident and will forward these details to all the committee. Martin will remind all walk leaders of the importance of submitting walk reports.

Martin will ask all walk leaders to let him know of new potential members on their walks to attempt to try and monitor the 'three free walks' rule.

He is also trying to get walk leaders to recce walks well in advance and get the details up on the website as soon as possible in advance of the walk date.

7. Social Co-ordinator's Report

Tracey has sent out emails making members aware of future planned social events and will continue to send reminder emails.

Ten people attended the 'Games Night' at the Fat Cat on January 15th. The next event is a pub meet on February 5th but there is also a brunch at The Milestone Inn planned for January 23rd which one of the members, Debby, is arranging.

A meal at Otto's restaurant is planned for February 26th and those wishing to attend have been asked to pay a deposit to ensure they attend although this is not required by the restaurant.

A 'New Members' night is planned for April 9th and Tracey is asking all the committee and the socials committee to attend if at all possible.

The annual Awards Ceremony is planned for April 22nd at the Harland Café. The cost will be £9.50 per head with 40 attendees required to make it pay. Regrettably we cannot afford a discount for walk leaders but it was thought this would not cause a problem.

Tracey is trying to organise a Ceilidh on June 10th and will bring the details to the next meeting.

8. Weekend's Away Co-ordinator's Report

The Middleham trip, March 25th -28th, is now fully booked with five names on the reserve list. Jill will look into booking further accommodation. The pub is booked for the meal and walks are being planned.

The New Year 2016 Allendale weekend will shortly be put on the website.

A date will be agreed for Alan and Jude's Buttermere weekend and that will then go on as well.

9. Web Editor's Report

Jez is still working on a combined walks and socials calendar and will also create a new user friendly walk template.

10. Membership Report

Alan indicated no issues to report. We have 230 members at present. Emma will contact David Gadd requesting Ramblers leaflets for handing out to new and potential new members.

11. Further Items for Discussion

None.

12. Any Other Business

None

13. Date of Next Meeting

Either March 7th or March 14th or March 21st at the Fat Cat. Wayne will confirm the date to all.

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm.