

Ramblers Sheffield 40's Walking Group

Minutes of Committee Meeting

The Fat Cat, Sheffield
July 3rd 2017
7.30pm

Present - Wayne Grounsell, Chairman. Emma Myers, Group & Membership Secretary. Jill Brogden, Treasurer. Tracey Lyne, Socials Co-ordinator. Martin Wistow, Walks Co-ordinator.

Apologies: Jez Kenyon, Website Editor.

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

1. Minutes of the last committee meeting of May 15th 2017

Proposed by Tracey 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

Wayne attended the last Area meeting where our proposed constitution was agreed unanimously. A copy will go on the website so all members can access it.

ii) Ramblers Allocation

Jill confirmed that our allocation has been received. We have not yet been reimbursed for the costs of hosting the Area AGM in January. Jill will send Gavin the invoice he requires. He has assured Wayne that the monies will be reimbursed once he has sight of the invoice.

iii) Area Meeting Report Back

Wayne confirmed he had attended the meeting in June 5th. It had been made clear at the meeting that we are allowed to use Ramblers' funds for any purpose which promotes our group, promotes the Ramblers or encourages people into walking. Wayne gave several examples of where Area had used their funds for such purposes.

iv) AGM

Date agreed October 18th and will be communicated to all mid August. Final draft minutes of last year's AGM agreed and will be emailed to all members and put on the website.

All the committee members present confirmed their willingness to stand for re-election at the forthcoming AGM.

v) Anniversary Walk and Meal

Scheduled for October 22nd. Wayne will lead the walk and as it is our 10th anniversary will adhere strictly to the route of the original walk. An alternative shorter walk will be arranged as well. Tracey will book the Chinese at the Woodroffe Arms in Hope.

A discussion was held about ordering merchandise for distribution or sale on the day. Jill and Tracey will look into the cost of ordering various items and will report back. It was thought perhaps give everyone attending a free gift of a calendar (produced by Kevin Dolby?) and a grid reference finder (produced by Mike Dibb) and cost other items for sale.

4. Secretary's Report

No issues to report. All membership records are up to date. We currently have 233 active members.

Emma expressed concern that we are seeing several new faces on walks but have very few new members joining. Either people are coming on a walk and not returning or are continuing to walk with us without joining. Emma will attend the upcoming Walk Leaders' meeting to discuss how she and the walk leaders could monitor new walkers to ensure they join after their initial 'three free'.

5. Treasurer's Report

Current account balance £774.20.

Jim needs his first aid kit replenishing. Tracey will sort. He has also asked about First Aid training but Jill indicated we need to cost that before making any commitment.

The issue had been raised by a member on reimbursement of walk leader expenses but it was confirmed that this is not policy in this group.

It was agreed that in future, payment for socials and weekends away must be made by bank transfer into the account so Jill can keep track of such payments. Cheque payments can be agreed by rare exception. Cash will not be accepted under any circumstance.

6. Walk Co-ordinator's Report

There are 19 gaps in the Walk Calendar in the next twelve weeks but Martin is confident they will be filled.

Mark Waite has led his first walk, Sue and Jane have expressed an interest in walk leading as have Peter and Eileen.

There have been 20 led walks since the last meeting 8 weeks ago and all walk reports have been received.

Wayne has done his first GPS training session with Julie Sweeting.

A Walk Leaders meeting is to be arranged in the near future.

7. Social Co-ordinator's Report

Peter's Bempton Cliffs walk/day out on July 1st went well with nine people attending but the walk overran as there was so much to see on the route. It was agreed that if the walk is repeated it could be shortened to allow more time for the social aspect of the day.

Events agreed which are to go on the website shortly are as follows.

Sunfest Beer Festival at The Rising Sun 6th-9th July

Tramlines at CADs Shalesmoor 21st & 22nd July

Castleton Pub Crawl 11th August

Pub Meet 22nd September

Huddersfield to Cleethorpes Rail Ale Trail 15th-17th September

New Members Night 6th October

Anniversary Walk and Meal 22nd October

Bonfire 5th November Dam Flask

Christmas Night Out 8th December (Venues to be explored)

Christmas Walks and Meal 17th December

In respect of the latter Tracey will ring the Lathkill Dale Hotel at Over Haddon and the Anglers' Rest at Bamford.

It was agreed that with immediate effect the roles of Social Co-Ordinator and Weekends Away Co-ordinator be combined into one and that Tracey will take on the new combined role with the Socials sub Committee becoming the Socials and Weekends Away sub Committee.

Tracey will send an email to all Group members before the next Committee meeting inviting new faces on to the Socials and Weekends Away sub Committee and Jill suggested we also open up to all members of the group ideas for and volunteers to arrange further weekends away.

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

The Dent weekend went well with 18 people attending. The next event is Jillian's Keswick weekend.

9. Web Editor's Report

Jez was not able to attend but sent an email update as follows.

All seems quiet on the web front - handled a few minor things for Jim.

I have added the newsflash to the Walks page, because lots of people have that bookmarked and don't see them.

I have also added the CEO newsletter as a newsflash - it is something we are supposed to circulate, and its actually pretty decent reading with our new CEO.

I've spoken with Peter Robinson about the Sheffield Country Walk - aiming to meet end this week / early next week with the Sheffield member who has been handling it.

Re Derbyshire paths - I am spending a chunk of time with Derbyshire Ramblers (including Chesterfield) trying to find a way forwards after the council withdrew volunteer support. It is not good - they are really now underfunded and the paths will suffer, except in the Peak District.

I have provisionally arranged for Ramblers Chief Executive, Vanessa Griffiths, to come up for a walk, on Wednesday 25th October. The idea was to meet a couple of folks from SYNED and Lancashire Areas and go for a walk and chat. I guess it would be a mid morning to late afternoon, or some such. It may turn into SYNED and Derbyshire Areas.

If any of you are interested in coming along, please let me know. We may try to get our northern region helper, Diane Simcoe, along as well - that is the lady who has been hired to help the northern groups and be a resource for us to use.

11. Further Items for Discussion

None

12. Any Other Business

None

13. Date of Next Meeting

September 4th at the Fat Cat, 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm.