



LOUGHBOROUGH & DISTRICT GROUP OF THE RAMBLERS

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING held on Wednesday 8 February 2023 at 7.15 pm

Present: Richard Jack (Chair), Chris Rimbault (Treasurer), Dave Twigg (Programme Coordinator), John Samson (Area Rep), Lynne Atkinson (Membership Secretary), Sue Mears (Social Secretary), Stuart Tyler (Footpaths Secretary), Margaret Machin (Elected Member)

1. **Welcome by Chairman**

The Chair welcomed everyone and thanked SM for hosting the meeting.

2. **Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies.

3. **Minutes of the last Meeting (7/12/22)**

The minutes were approved.

4. **Matters arising from previous Minutes**

8(a) JS was now advertising walks weekly on the Facebook page. It would be useful if walk leaders were able to post a description of the the walk themselves but if they were unable to do this they could it email it to JS to enter.

(b) DT had changed the wording on the web site for bringing dogs on walks.

5. **Officer's Reports**

(a) **Treasurer's Report**

Currently there is £773.43 in the main account and £530.88 in the self funded account making a total of £1304.31. We are awaiting payments from Ramblers Holidays and HF for the advertisements in Soar Feet. A new Area Treasurer had been appointed.

(b) **Membership Secretary's Report**

Membership stands at 140. From 1 December 2022 to 31 January 2023 we had four new members, one member had resigned and two memberships had lapsed.

(c) **Programme and Web Report**

The Committee managed to put a programme together for the next two months for the Wednesday walks and DT would try and sort out the Saturday walks.

DT was still finding it difficult to get people to offer to lead walks. RJ would put together an appeal letter to all the members that regularly attend our walks asking them for help.

(d) **Social Secretary's Report**

SM asked DT to amend the number of people who had attended the Cotswold walk from 26 to 36 on the web site.

Group Holiday - Church Stretton

There are 19 people booked and 23 places reserved. The cost is £320 for singles and £295 for everyone else.

HF are now saying that if you aren't a member of HF there will be an extra £30 charge. HF do offer a £100 group membership and therefore it was decided that we could use the money from the Soar Feet advertisements to pay for this as it was a one off payment. During the meeting MM found an item on an old Annual Report which showed that we had paid the membership. SM would check that this is still valid.

Chilterns Day Out - 1 April 2023

It was decided that the charge for this would be £25 which would mean that we would need 40 people to break even. As last time there will be a long and a short walk. A group of people will go down to do a recce of where the walks will start, eating places, etc.

SM asked DT to put the flyer for the day trip on the web and asked LA to circulate it to all members. JS was also asked to put it on the Facebook page.

(e) **Report from Area Committee**

There is a First Aid course on 11 March.

There was a discussion about pre-walk expenses for leaders and that some groups were using their discretion to do this.

JS attended the Area AGM where there was a video presentation about the Charnwood Forest Landscape Partnership Scheme. £3.7 million is partly to improve the landscape facilities and partly to educate the public about it.

(f) **Footpath Officer's Report**

The Shepshed footpath (old railway line) is being registered as an asset to the community which means they can't sell it for the next 6 months. Shepshed Council are now trying to buy it from the owners.

6. **Committee Recruitment**

Three people will be resigning at the AGM in October, the Footpaths Secretary, the Membership Secretary and Ted Wells, the Editor of Soar Feet. We therefore need to start asking people if they would be willing to stand for these posts.

7. **Any Other Business**

RJ had received an email from the charity Sense who were hoping to set up a sensory walks session and thought this could be something we could collaborate on. RJ would reply saying that at present we are unable to help with this.

Tony Coates and RJ had discussed whether we needed to keep the Risk Assessments anymore. It was understood that they should be kept for three years so for now they will still be sent to TC

8. **Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 10 May 2023.