

LOUGHBOROUGH & DISTRICT GROUP OF THE RAMBLERS

DRAFT MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING held on Wednesday 10 May 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), Margaret Machin (Elected Member)

1. **Welcome by Chairman**

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

2. **Apologies for absence**

Stuart Tyler (Footpaths Secretary).

3. **Minutes of the last Meeting (8/2/2023)**

The minutes were approved.

4. **Matters arising from previous Minutes**

4(8a) JS said that no-one apart from himself had put any walk details on Facebook or sent him anything to put on.

5(c) The circular appealing for walk leaders was sent out.

5(d) DT amended the number on the Cotswolds walk.

SM confirmed that the group HF membership was still valid.

6. A request for new committee members was included in the circular sent out.

7. RJ replied to the Sense charity.

5. **Officer's Reports**

(a) **Treasurer's Report**

Currently there is £805.23 in the main account and £830.88 in the social account making a total of £1636.11. We are still awaiting the third quarter payment from Head Office and £20 from Ramblers Holidays.

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

Membership stands at 136. From 1 February to 30 April 2023 we had one new member.

(c) **Programme and Web Report**

(a) Programme

DT was still struggling to get walk leaders. Following the circular letter which was sent out only two members had responded offering to lead walks and they were going to need help from other walk leaders.

SM suggested that we could put a couple of National Forest walks into the programme or at least put a link to them.

The Committee managed to put a programme together until the end of June.

(b) Web Site

The promised changeover to the new system might be going ahead in the near future.

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

(a) The Chilterns coach trip went very well. A possible date suggested for the next trip was Saturday 13 April.

(b) There were 20 people booked onto the Church Stretton weekend. Walks still needed to be finalised for this.

(c) SM would organise another social evening with a walk starting at the Waterside Inn at Mountsorrel with food afterwards.

(e) **Report from Area Committee**

Mileage claims Nationally, Head Office have put up the costs of mileage and some groups are struggling to meet the costs. Groups should refer to the Treasurer Guidance on mileage claims.

Right of Way Area are wanting to highlight a group in each issue. We agreed that we could put something together about our activities but we would wait until we were asked to do this.

The Area Secretary was standing down.

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

Re Extension to Mountsorrel Quarry. So far no planning application had been lodged so it was unknown exactly how it will affect footpaths. If it is lodged with Charnwood, then ST will be notified straight away, if it is lodged with Leicestershire County then Martin Langsett will pick it up. Ramblers are only concerned with the footpath network so can't comment on the woods/countryside other than loss of enjoyment if we lose them. The footpaths in the woods are not public footpaths so not much we can do through Ramblers. People who lived in this area could make their personal views known to the council once an application has been put in. ST thought that initially they will apply for temporary closure or diversion of any public footpaths that will be affected.

8. **Great Walk Together**

JS had circulated an email about this walk but there was a lot of admin, marketing and sponsorship associated with it so we decided not to get involved.

9. **Any Other Business**

(a) Soar Feet. CR pointed out that if we didn't get an Editor for Soar Feet then we wouldn't get the income from HF holidays. It was suggested that we could from time to time produce an information sheet with our activities on and put the HF logo on this.

(b) Email from member re linear walks and Emergency tags

A member was asking if it was possible to do two linear walks. The Committee agreed to this if the member was happy to co-ordinate them.

A member was slightly concerned about lack of knowledge of new or one-off solo walkers regarding emergency contact details and felt that if someone sustained a serious injury or accident during a walk that they were leading that they should have access to this information. Most members who walk with us were issued with emergency tags and we still have lots left and these would be issued to members who would be encouraged to use them.

10. **Date of Next Meeting.** Wednesday 26 July 2023.