



SOUTH SOMERSET GROUP

of THE RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION

55th Annual General Meeting held on November 2nd 2024 at Tintinhull Village Hall

1. Present: Jim Turner, Ruth Goodland, Rosie Arampatta, David Fawthrop, Linda Fawthrop Phil Bradshaw, Maureen Day, John Day, Wendy Yates, Jenny Lucas, Derek Lucas, Peter Milligan, Judi Tregillus, Jean Pakes, Martin Pakes, Peter Bradford, Marion Pattison, Bill Pratt, Bill Tregillus.

2. Apologies Received: Katherine Pratt, Jean Verkroost, Tony Prior, Bridget Carter.

3. Matters Arising from AGM held on November 4th 2023: There were no matters arising and the minutes were approved.

4. Chairman's Report: Jim Turner welcomed everyone to the meeting. He began by thanking the committee for its ongoing support throughout the year. He thanked the walk coordinators and the walk leaders who are essential to the future of Ramblers. He talked about the current Ramblers guidance which does away with the need for written risk assessments although existing written ones must be kept for 3 years. Recces are not mandatory but are recommended. He pointed out that at the recent committee meeting the walks programme had been reduced to 3 months from 4 months in the hope that this would encourage more people to lead walks as they would not have to plan so far ahead.

He told the meeting that Katherine Pratt was standing down as Group Secretary and from the committee and thanked her for her hard work during her time in the role.

5. Secretary's Report: The first aid training course was well received and was a real success. The first aid kits have all been distributed.

6. Treasurer's Report: Bill Pratt reported that there had been little activity on the bank account apart from the first aid training and the hire of Tintinhull village hall for committee meetings. The annual accounts were approved and will be sent to the Area treasurer. Currently our account stands at £1145.91.

7. Programme Secretary's Reports: John Day for the Thursday walks hoped that the change to a 3-month programme will encourage more leaders. He said there were not

many C walks on the programme now, walks are mainly around 5 miles. Numbers on walks are lower but steady.

Peter Bradford for the Sunday walks said we were losing leaders faster than we were gaining them. We would need 17 leaders to enable each leader to lead just one walk per programme whereas at present most leaders do two and some three. The need for new leaders to undertake online training courses may be a factor in people not coming forward.

Programme Coordinator, Martin Pakes felt that there was still a role for a hard copy programme and this could be placed in useful outlets such as libraries.

8. Footpath Secretary's Report: Phil Bradshaw reported he had made a visit to look at a problem at Cucklington in response to a request From Rambers H.O.

9. Social Secretary's Report: Wendy Yates outlined the facilities at the Royal Oak at Hardington Mandeville for the Christmas lunch on December 12th. Numbers will be restricted to 40.

10. Membership Secretary's Report: Bill Tregillus reported that our group membership last year was 227 but had dropped to 208 in June but had recovered slightly to 216 at the time of the AGM. Bill felt the Facebook page had stimulated some interest. A copy of Bills statistics is attached.

11. Election of Officers for the coming year: All members of the committee apart from Katherine Pratt had indicated their willingness to continue as members of the committee and in addition would continue in their current roles. Rosie Arampatta had volunteered to take on the role as group Secretary. There were no additional nominations from the floor to fill the 3 vacancies. The nominations were approved. The current committee is now

Chair:	Jim Turner
Secretary:	Rosie Arampatta
Treasurer:	Bill Pratt
Membership Sec	Bill Tregillus
Social Sec:	Wendy Yates.
Programme Sec for Thursday walks:	John Day
Programme Sec for Sunday walks:	Peter Bradford
Committee member:	Maureen Day
	Phil Bradshaw

Website Coordinator	Jean Verkroost
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Footpath Secs: East	Phil Bradshaw
South	Bill Pratt
North	Jean Verkroost
West	Vacant

12. **Appointment of 2 delegates to Area:** Bill Tregillus and Jim Turner volunteered to represent the group at Area meetings. This was approved.

13. **Appointment of Independent Accounts Verifier for the coming year:** Peter Bradford volunteered and was approved.

14. **Matters for discussion as notified:** None

15. **Any Other Business:** In case of Emergency Cards (ICE) were handed out.

16. **Date, Time and Place for the next AGM:** Saturday November 1st 2025 at 14.00 at Tintinhull Village Hall.

The meeting finished at 14.40.

