



The Ramblers South Somerset Group

Minutes of the Committee Meeting
held on Thursday 14th February 2019 at 7.00pm
at 11 Manor View, Crewkerne

Present: David Fawthrop (in the chair), Phil Bradshaw, June Curtis, John Oliver, Ian Rendall, Stuart Thomson and Wendy Yates, Linda Fawthrop (taking the minutes)

Apologies: Roger Cripps

Minutes of the last Meeting 4th October 2018

The minutes of the 4th October 2018 meeting were approved and signed by the Joint Chairman, David Fawthrop.

Matters arising

John Oliver reported that holding the summer supper at Yeovil Rugby Club was not viable as they used outside caterers.

Monthly newsletters from Vanessa Griffiths (RA's CEO) are being received by the officers.

Regarding membership cards, if members are recognised it is not necessary to ask for their membership cards. New walkers have up to three walks to decide whether they wish to become members.

When a membership lapses Head Office tolerate up to three months after membership expires. At four months they drop off the list.

Ian Rendall receives information from HO regarding people who are no longer members. It was agreed Ian Rendall would forward this list to committee members.

Roger Cripps has confirmed that Carl Earl will take on becoming the Working Party Leader but Carl's wife has had a very bad accident and in hospital so matters are on hold at present.

The Summer Supper walk will start at 4.30pm with walkers being requested to park at the side of the pub followed by the supper at 7pm.

We are not sure which area is responsible for organising the Area AGM. Post meeting Somerset Area AGM 2019 to be hosted by Woodsprings on 17 February 2019 after which the Group holding the 2020 AGM will be announced.

Joint Chairman's Report

It was agreed that Programme Distribution for the next programme (Apr-Jul 2019) would be 11 July at the Summer Supper and 18 July at Wheathill Golf Club for the short walk.

Christmas meal at the Muddled Man went very well and the Committee gave thanks to Ruth Goodland for arranging the event and for all her efforts elsewhere on behalf of the Group.. Ruth will be asked to make a booking for the Muddled Man for 12 December.

Summer Supper Ruth has made a preliminary booking with the Quarry at Keinton Mandeville for 7pm on Thursday 11 July 2019. Price for a two course supper will be £17.50 per head. Menu will be confirmed nearer the time. Phil Bradshaw has agreed to lead a walk beforehand.

The Group AGM 2019 will be held on Saturday 2nd November at East Coker Village Hall at 2.00 p.m. Derek Lucas will be asked to lead a walk beforehand.

Walk Leaders' Telephone Numbers Linda Fawthrop has updated this list . If any programme secretary knows of any alterations, changes please let her know.

We have two new walk leaders - Colin Hill and Sue Appleby.

Vacancies Carl Earl has agreed to become our Area Representative and lead the Working Party.

Numbers attending walks Stuart Thomson has continued to update the spreadsheet with details of the current programme walks. Numbers walking, when notified, are inserted by Linda Fawthrop who will send the list with numbers to Phil Bradshaw and Wendy Yates.

Ruth Goodland's Report.

It was agreed we need 300 programmes as previously and 200 copies of the Somerset Rambler. Ruth now has 91 addresses on the email list. Last time we had 203 address labels, 126 envelopes and 77 emails. Ruth is going to try the Clover Press, Ashill for printing this time. Cost is the same but should be easier to collect.

Somerset Rambler - Linda Fawthrop has submitted an entry to the Somerset Rambler, including a photo of the Group taken on the Althampton Walk.

Numbers attending Walks - Average monthly numbers adding the two walks together for four weeks and taking the average is between 15 and 19. Holidays, grandparent duties and summer weather seem to have contributed to the fall in numbers.

Treasurer's report October 2018

The Group's balance at the end of the financial year stands at £839.69 as detailed in attached accounts. All outstanding expenses should be submitted by end of September, the year end. We have received a credit of £40 from Ramblers Worldwide Holidays.

Secretary's report

and Correspondence received (up to 12th February 2019)

(1) Letters / Emails received .

(a) **Newsletter from Vanessa Griffiths (R.A.'s CEO)** of 23/1/2019 and an email from the RA Campaign Team refer to "Britain's Best Walking Neighbourhood". They are looking for Groups and members to nominate areas where walks could be classified under this heading. Publicity can result from such nominations and walks can be in the country or in towns and be considered "best" for many varied reasons.

(b) **Volunteer information** An email from C.O. informs us that the RA is open for suggested nominations of members who are considered to be worthy of a 'Volunteer Award 2019'. There are 3 categories for where exceptional effort has been shown, namely:-
Inspiring Walkers, i.e. ones who help and inspire other persons to be interested in and take part in walking (with the Ramblers, of course).
Innovation - those who have tackled a challenge to promote our aims for the benefit of others.
Protecting and expanding where we walk. This is for a member who has helped to protect or maintain the local path network.

(2) **New Telephone System** Central Office informs us that the RA has a new telephone system which links London with both Cardiff and Edinburgh offices. The new numbers for Ramblers are:-

London	020 3961 3300
Cardiff	020 3961 3310
Edinburgh	020 3961 3270

Membership Services team (London) Direct line 020 3961 3232
Volunteer Support team Direct line 020 3961 3180
Email volunteersupport@ramblers.zendesk.com

(3) **New Membership Team Leader** An email has been received from Nicola (who chooses not to give her surname) telling us that she has joined the RA as head of the Membership Team.

(4) **Ramblers Holidays** Our Group regularly receive leaflets about the offers of their walking holidays and remember that members who book a holiday with Ramblers Walking Holidays benefit the South Somerset Group. The amount depends on the number of persons/holidays booked. The Walking Partnership would be willing to pay for an advert in our walks programme (this would put us at odds with GDPR).

Membership:-

Membership has, at last, gone up by 2 since the meeting at the beginning of October 2018.

At 01/01/19

Individual 97, Joint 86, Individual Concession 36, Joint Concession 26
Life - Individual 2, Life - Individual Concession 6, Life – Joint 3, Life – Joint Concession 4
TOTAL 260

At 01/10/18

Individual 100, Joint 78, Individual Concession 39, Joint Concession 26
Life - Individual 2, Life - Individual Concession 6, Life – Joint 3, Life – Joint Concession 4
TOTAL 258

Publicity Officer's Report

Normal circulation occurs. For the next programme Wendy might contact the Conduit again. John Oliver reported the Tourist Board in Yeovil is undergoing major change and the programmes have to be handed to someone behind the scenes. Blacks ask for extra copies. Programmes are sent to the 10 surrounding Tourist Boards, delivering to Yeovil Library, Tourist Board and Outdoor Wear shops. Doctors Surgery etc. At Yeovil Library these leaflets are on the first floor. As in the past years, these programmes disappear off the shelf with no noticeable addition to membership resulting. A poster in the entrance to the library could attract peoples attention but our programmes do not get produced in sufficient quantities to be left in the area.

Footpath Secretary East (P Bradshaw) - nothing to report.

Phil Bradshaw advised that he liaises with Carl Earl regarding footpath problems and it is agreed which problems need investigation. Most problems are down to the landowner for maintenance of stiles and gates etc including crop clearance. Phil has a very comprehensive Rights of Way Manual handed down from Jim Fewkes.

Footpath Secretary South (P Cullen-James) - nothing to report.

Footpath Secretary North (J Verkroost) - No major requests/orders made. Interesting result was that an application to upgrade L24/5 and CH24/14 in Stocklinch and Puckington to a bridleway has resulted in the recommendation that it be upgraded instead to a restricted byway.

Footpath Secretary West (R Cripps) - nothing to report

The Committee agreed Footpath Secretaries should still send a report in to the meetings.

Programme Secretary Sunday walks

We continue to offer a full programme. Hopefully we will not be forced to cancel any walks in the current programme due to bad weather.

Programme Secretary Medium walks

June Curtis reported on the lack of walk leaders. She has lost at least twelve C walk leaders in the last two years and we are relying more and more on the same people. There is a feeling that potential walk leaders need to have someone with them to help recce the walk and be with them on their first walk. A notice to the effect that if you wish to lead a walk someone will help you with its organisation should appear in the programme. David Fawthrop will ensure such wording appears in the programme.

Programme Secretary Short walks

Phil Bradshaw reported he has made arrangements with Philip Tolley who lives in Chard to take over leading Roger Cripps' walk if he is not well enough to lead.

Programme Enveloping Ian Rendall to liaise with Ruth Goodland.

Any Other Business

Ian Rendall questioned whether any problems had arisen from GDPR to which the answer is not as far as we are aware.

All members of the committee confirmed that they agree to their names being included in the Minutes of the meeting.

Linda and David Fawthrop were thanked for hosting the meeting.

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 6th June 2019 at 11 Manor View, Crewkerne TA18 8JT at **7.00 pm** to be chaired by David Fawthrop.

South Somerset Ramblers Group Accounts 2018/19 as at 25 Jan 2019

Opening balance 1 October 2018

£828.14

INCOME				
Date	Folio No	Source	Amount	Total
24-Oct		Ramblers HQ	£93.95	£93.95
31-Oct		RWH travel	£40.00	£40.00
				£0.00
				£0.00
				£0.00
TOTAL				£133.95

EXPENDITURE									
Date	Paid to	Folio No	Chq No	Walks Prog	Publicity News	Practical Work	M'tings	Admin	Casework / other
26-Oct	Rockwell Printers	230	BACS	50.4	36				
14-12-18	East Coker VH	231	BACS				£30.00		
15-12-18	W Yates	232	BACS			£6.00			
									£0.00
									£0.00
									£0.00
				£50.40	£36.00	£6.00	£30.00	£0.00	£0.00
									£122.40

Ramblers Association South Somerset Group

Balance Sheet YTD (as at 1 June 2018)

Assets	2017/18	2017/18
General Fund at year beginning	£828.14	£708.39
Income minus expenditure 2016/7 ytd	£11.55	£119.75
Balance	£839.69	£828.14

Income

From RA Group entitlement	£93.95	£750.00
Interest	£0.00	£0.00
Self funded Sales of Programmes, donations	£40.00	£10.00
Total Income YTD	£133.95	£760.00

Expenditure

Walk programme	£50.40	£461.78
Publicity / Newsletter	£36.00	£138.24
Practical Work	£6.00	£0.00
Meetings	£30.00	£30.75
Admin	£0.00	£2.90
Campaigns/ case work/surveys	£0.00	£6.58
Other		
Total expenditure YTD	£122.40	£640.25

Income less Expenditure YTD	£11.55	£119.75
-----------------------------	--------	---------

BANK BALANCE

Opening Balance as per Balance Sheet	£828.14	£708.39
Plus deposits cleared	£133.95	£760.00
Less payments cleared	£122.40	£640.25
Current Bank Balance	£839.69	£828.14
Plus deposits made - not yet cleared on statement	£0.00	
Less payments made - not yet cleared on statement	£0.00	

NET FUNDS

	£839.69	£708.39
Bank Balance as per Statement dated 25-Jan-19	£839.69	