

**Minutes of South Somerset Ramblers Committee Meeting held at Tintinhull
Village Hall on 14th October 2021**

Present: Jim Turner (Chairman)
 Ian Rendall (Secretary)
 Stuart Thompson (Treasurer)
 Phil Bradshaw
 Wendy Yates
 Rosie Arampatta
 Maggie Owers
 Lynne Reece
 Bill Tregillus
 Maureen Day
 John Day

1. **Apologies for absence:** Martin Pakes, Peter Milligan, and Jean Verkroost
2. The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the new Membership Secretary, Bill Tregillus and other new members on the committee.
3. The minutes of the meeting held on 1st July were read and unanimously approved.
4. **Matters arising from the meeting held on 1st July:**
 - 4.1 The Chairman is to write to Somerset Area regarding the increasing level of bureaucracy in Ramblers.
 - 4.2 Still require someone to send text to the Somerset Rambler.
5. **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman stated that it was good to have the new committee up and running again.
6. **Treasurer's Report:**

The funds in the account as of 30th September 2020 were £1121.82. Based on headcount we should receive £320 to £380 from Ramblers Headquarters. The accounts have been submitted to Peter Bradford for auditing. It is a Ramblers requirement that there should be three members to authorise expenditure. The committee, therefore, unanimously agreed that Jim Turner and Lynne Reece should have "view accounts, submit payments and authorise payments" levels of Internet Banking with the Unity Trust Bank, in addition to Stuart,

7. Secretary's Report

7.1 Letters and correspondence received up until 12th October 2021

No correspondence has been received during the period since the last committee meeting, except periodic reminders from Ramblers Walking Holidays of their existence and that holidays are available now travel is more possible again. (Remember this Group's funds benefit when holidays are booked by members who declare that they are members).

7.2 Venues for Ramblers Meetings.

This time our meeting on 14th. October could not be held in the Dampier Room at the East Coker Village Hall as it is being reserved in case emergency accommodation is required for Covid-19 patients. The main hall was not available and thus we are at Tintinhull. For a similar reason we are not able to have the main hall at East Coker on 6th. November, despite sending our application very early on for our AGM. Once more we have booked the meeting room at Tintinhull Village Hall.

On 13th. February 2022 it is the turn of the South Somerset Group to arrange for suitable accommodation for the AGM of Somerset Area. To meet this requirement I have booked the main hall at Keinton Mandeville Village Hall for which, incidentally, Area's funds meet the cost.

7.3 Forms and Bureaucracy: Central Office v. Local Ramblers Groups.

Phil Bradshaw wishes to open a discussion on this subject. (This is a request made after publication of the agenda for the meeting). A copy of Phil's risk assessment sheet, to which he will refer, is added below this report.

7.4 Membership of this Group

I think you are probably all aware that Bill Tregillus has taken over the job of keeping the Group's membership record and the use of it for circulating information to our members who are on email. Due to this change I will, therefore, no longer be giving a membership section in my reports.

8 Membership Secretary's Report

There are 231 (51% female, 49% male) active members of the group of which some 130 or so have not given email details for contact.

9 Programme Secretaries Reports

No report

10 Walks Programme Co-ordinator's Report

10.1 Short (C and D) walks

Phil reported that there is a problem with getting enough walk leaders for the C and D walks, which is why there are occasions where only one walk is available per week.

On 16th December the walk is from Wheathill Golf Club, who will be offering a carvery, which will be limited to 24 people with pre-booking required.

There was a discussion on the Ramblers documentation the use of which seems to vary between groups. It was agreed that the basic Risk Assessment sheet is useful and can be amended to suit the circumstances.

If enough people are willing it is possible to set up a Leaders Training Course. Provisional details of the A358 road scheme from Ilminster to Taunton have been provided for consultation.

In future footpath assessments will be monitored directly from Somerset County Council in Taunton.

10.2 Weekend walks

All walk dates have been filled.

11 Footpath Secretaries Reports

Nothing to report.

12 Publicity Officer's Report

12.1 The Committee would like to thank Roger Cripps for his invaluable contribution to the South Somerset Ramblers over many years.

12.2 The Committee would also like to record its appreciation of the work that Ruth Goodland has put in for our group over many years.

13 Working Party Report

Roger Cripps has given up organising working parties and the tools have been given to the Mendip group.

14 Any Other Business

14.1 It was agreed that walking programmes by email is the preferred method of distribution (see 8 above), although hard copies could be provided on request.

14.2 The Christmas Lunch will take place at the Muddled Man, West Chinnock on Thursday 9th December (last date for booking is 1st December)

14.3 The Group AGM will take place at the Village Hall, Tintinhull on Saturday 6th November at 2pm. Wendy will arrange for a supply of cakes.

14.4 The Somerset AGM will be held at Keinton Mandeville Village Hall on Sunday 13th February 2022. Phil Bradshaw will organise a walk to start at 10.30 am.

14.5 Ruth has notified us that she will not be organising the Summer Supper or Christmas Lunches in future.

John Day

17.10.21

Risk Assessment for Group Walk

Walk Leader:	Date of Recce:	Date of Risk Assessment:	Date of Walk:
Potential Hazard	Who may be affected/ How	Control Measures	Action Taken
Covid	All	Register, Face Masks in case of emergency, Social distancing, hand sanitiser	
Weather	All. Heat Stroke, hypothermia	Check forecast, Shorten walk	
Equipment	All Slips, exposure to heat or cold	Suitable clothing and footwear to suit the conditions.	
Roads/Crossings	All Collision	Try to avoid major roads. Look for suitable crossing point	
Steep drops, Cliffs	All Injury	Try to avoid. Stay away from edges	
Livestock	All Injury	Detour if necessary Cross fields as a group	
Other Conditions	All		
Vegetation	Cuts, grazes stings, trips	Cut back if possible, discuss on the day.	
Electric fences	Electric shock	Use isolator points if available, monitor crossing.	
Mud, slippery ground	Slips and falls	Discuss on the day.	
Anything else			