



The Ramblers South Somerset Group

Minutes of the Committee Meeting
held on Thursday 6th June 2019 at 7.00pm
at 11 Manor View, Crewkerne

Present: Roger Cripps (in the chair), Phil Bradshaw, David Fawthrop, John Oliver, Ian Rendall, Stuart Thomson and Wendy Yates, Linda Fawthrop (taking the minutes) In attendance: Peter Milligan

Apologies: June Curtis

Minutes of the last Meeting 14th February 2019

The minutes of the 14 February 2019 meeting were approved and signed by the Joint Chairman, Roger Cripps.

Matters arising

Venues for the Summer Supper 2020 were discussed. Reports received led us to think that Yeovil Golf Club might not be amenable to holding the Summer Supper. Peter Milligan said he would try the Yeovil Golf Club. Sherborne Golf Club might be more amenable. Windwhistle Inn a possibility. Stuart Thomson said he would look at the Windwhistle option with supper starting at 7.00pm and opening the bar by 6.00pm. Maximum number 50 attending. Stuart will report back at the next meeting.

Mendips are due to host the Somerset Area AGM in February 2020.

Roger Cripps reported that he has not been leading any walks lately nor will be leading for a few months ahead.

John Oliver lead a successful walking holiday in Menorca with ten members.

Joint Chairman's Report

It was agreed that Programme Distribution for the next programme (Dec 2019- Mar 2020) would be 7 November at South Petherton for the short walks. John Oliver would deliver the programmes for the short walk. Programme distribution for the C walk would be 14 November (to be confirmed).

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

We have two new walk leaders - Philip and Michelle Bowers-Tolley.

Somerset Area Meeting Carl Earl is attending but the Minutes Secretary (Linda Fawthrop) was asked to give a report which she has not had to do before. Carl is our representative on the Area Committee.

Numbers attending walks David Fawthrop is keeping a record of numbers attending walks. Numbers attending C and D walks are between 35-40 in total on a good day but when averaged out the number is under 20 per walk. It is becoming harder to find walk leaders and Roger Cripps suggested we might in the future combine C and D walks to make just one walk. People are looking at the location of the walks, the length and who is leading the walk.

The Committee registered its thanks to Paul Cullen-James for all his efforts over the years as Footpath Secretary (South) and we welcome Peter Milligan who has agreed to take his place as Area South Footpath Secretary.

Roger Cripps reported that the County Council are very thorough in investigating Footpath/Bridleway upgrades and creation as they look at historical detail and background when assessing applications.

Ruth Goodland's Report.

The Muddled Man is booked for the Christmas lunch on 12th December. Ruth will contact them in September for cost etc. It was agreed we need 300 programmes as previously and 200 copies of the Somerset Rambler. Last time we had 204 address labels, 124 envelopes and 80 emails. Printing is being done by the Clover Press, Ashill. Wendy Yates said it was not cost effective to reduce the number printed by a small amount

Roger Cripps felt we needed a representative from the Sunday walks and invited Peter Milligan to join the Committee. Peter will give it some thought.

Summer Supper So far 41 members have booked.

Treasurer's report February 2019

The Group's current balance stands at £947.69. There are two batches of printing at £80 each to come. Costs for the AGM have to be paid but no other major expenditure expected. Budget needed for tools and also the cost of expenses on the footpath work when not covered by the Council. If anyone encounters expenses we can cover the travelling expenses as it is legitimate expenses. Stuart Thomson to have a word with Carl Earl re likely expenditure on tools and travelling expenses for the working parties. Stuart will circulate the budget to the Committee for comment.

Stuart needs the expenses by end of August/early September to prepare accounts by the end of September, the year end.

First Aid Training There should be no cost involved as costs are covered by a grant from the Post Code Lottery. If there is a cost it can be put into the budget. Stuart Thomson and Roger Cripps have registered their interest in attending the course. If numbers are sufficient the Ramblers could suggest a local venue. Anticipated start date for the rollout of first aid training is July.

Secretary's report

and Correspondence received (up to 5th. June 2019).

(1) **Letters / E-mails received .**

(a) **Newsletters from Vanessa Griffiths (R.A.'s C.E.O.)** of 22/21/2019, 22/3/2019, 13/4/2019, and 23/5/2019 which all committee members and officers should have received. Votes being given for "Britain's Best Walking Neighbourhood" are required to be submitted in June by sending to www.raamblers.org.uk/vote.

(b) **No other correspondence** has been received apart from the normal e-mails for the changes of memberships.

(2) **First Aid Courses** are being organised as promised by C.O. They will be arranged to suit the applications received as far as possible.

(3) **Welcoming of New Members** Central Office have decided that they will send a welcoming letter to new members after an application to join the association has been received.

(4) **Ramblers Walking Holidays** ~are mailing us circulars giving brief details of their holidays available at any one time but they have to be contacted for full details of any particular holiday.

Membership:-

The last meeting reported on an increase of 2 , over the period since the last meeting it has dropped back by 2.

At 01/05/19

Individual 99, Joint 85 Individual Concession 34, Joint Concession 25
 Life - Individual 2, Life - Individual Concession 6, Life – Joint 3, Life – Joint Concession 4
TOTAL 258

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

Publicity Officer's Report

The circulation of programmes continues as normal. However this period has seen no demand for any extra copies therefore I have more spare than usual to hand. However I would not suggest that we cut the number of documents printed. Occasionally I have a request on a walk for a programme

Footpath Secretary East (P Bradshaw).

Footpaths L6/3 and L6/4 at Charlton Mackrell. Planning Application 19/01207/OUT seeks to access on to road system at the end of Peddles Lane in Charlton Mackrell. The local RA Group (South Somerset Ramblers) is concerned that the narrowness (alleged to be in the region of 8 feet) of the access point coincides with the two paths above and building traffic and eventual house traffic consider it would be a potential danger to rights of way users. The local RA group formally (if conditionally) objects to the proposed development for the above reasons.

Letter sent stating the above to South Somerset District Council by Carl Earl.

Development at Charlton Mackrell, Peddles Lane which is a cul de sac which is walked regularly.

It is proposed we put in an objection on the basis that it may cause a problem to walkers ie hazardous.

Proposed: Phil Bradshaw Seconded: David Fawthrop The Committee unanimously agreed to Carl's letter of objection.

Footpath Secretary South (P Milligan) - nothing to report.

Footpath Secretary North (J Verkroost) - nothing to report.

Footpath Secretary West (R Cripps) -

There has been little activity to report; the Bridleways Association continues to apply for more upgrades of footpaths to bridleways and creation of new bridleways but I don't think they are getting very far.

Having said that, they have had some success on paths L 24/5 and CH 24/14 at Puckington inasmuch as an upgrade to a restricted byway has been approved. But, now they need to increase the headroom to 3 metres!

There was a Footpath Secretaries meeting at Creech St. Michael on June 5 (yesterday) chaired by Carl Earl. Three out of the four SS FP secretaries attended and I had the pleasure of meeting our new footpath secretary Peter Milligan; Phil Bradshaw was there also. It was mainly a rehash of previously aired topics but one new thing that came out was that Les Stather (Area Chair) is planning to add a new section to the Area Website- Info for Footpath Secretaries. Also it transpires that money can be made available from SCC for larger repairs e.g. replacing missing bridges, repairing slipped paths etc. This is a result of more government money forthcoming for Capital Expenditure.

Survey Volunteers

The surveyors have completed 40 approx. surveys in each of November and February and have just completed 75 approx. for May. I have expressed concern that if the volume goes much higher, we may

need to recruit some more surveyors. However, Peter Milligan has expressed interest in taking part; apparently he used to accompany Derek Lucas on surveys.

Working Party Volunteers

Roger Cripps report there has been just one work party day since Carl Earl took over, mainly because of his wife's unfortunate accident. At the moment I have to attend as we must have a certified First Aider and I am the only one.(this should change soon). This task was at Aller, clearance of vegetation and unblocking a large drain grating. This path can lead to High Ham where it has been closed thanks to Mrs Masters and the Pittard family. However, a new permitted path has been created to form a diversion (thanks to Somerset Wildlife Trust) and the route to High Ham is now usable. (checked by Derek Lucas)

Programme Secretary Sunday walks

We continue to offer a full programme

Programme Secretary Medium walks

David Fawthrop reported on behalf June Curtis that she has a full programme of walks for the next programme (Aug-Nov 2019) but is struggling to find walk leaders.

Programme Secretary Short walks

Phil Bradshaw reported he also has a full programme but has to lead walks himself to fill vacancies.

Programme Enveloping Ian Rendall to liaise with Ruth Goodland.

Any Other Business

Ian Rendall earlier in the meeting distributed a sheet listing all members who had resigned over the period 1 June 2017 to 31 March 2019 and mentioned what information he receives from Head Office.

Job Descriptions

Wendy Yates has a box of documentation given to her by Jim Fewkes which might have guidance as to duties, responsibilities of Officers. Wendy to see if there is anything relevant that can help us become acquainted with the duties of the officers and report at the next meeting.

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

Phil Bradshaw thanked Linda and David Fawthrop for hosting the meeting at their house.

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 3rd October 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 4 June 2019
Opening balance 1 October 2018 £828.14

INCOME					
Date	Folio No	Source	Amount	Int	Total
24/Oct		Ramblers H	£93.95		£93.95
31/Oct		RWH travel	£40.00		£40.00
01-Feb		Ramblers H	£94.00		£94.00
26/Apr		Ramblers H	£94.00		£94.00
					£0.00
TOTAL					£321.95

EXPENDITURE										
Date	Paid to	Folio No	Chq No	Walks Prog	Publicity News	Practical Work	M'tings	Admin	Casework / other	TOTAL
26-Oct	Rockwell Pr	230	BACS	50.4	36					£86.40
14/12/2018	East Coker	231	BACS				£30.00			£30.00
15/12/2018	W Yates	232	BACS			£6.00				£6.00
25/02/2019	Clover Pres	233	268	48	£32.00					£80.00
										£0.00
										£0.00
				£98.40	£68.00	£6.00	£30.00	£0.00	£0.00	£202.40

Ramblers Association South Somerset Group
Balance Sheet YTD (as at 31 Jan 2019)

Assets	2017/18	2017/18
General Fund at year beginning	£828.14	£708.39
Income minus expenditure 2016/7 ytd	£119.55	£119.75
Balance	£947.69	£828.14

Income	2017/18	2017/18
From RA Group entitlement	£281.95	£750.00
Interest	£0.00	£0.00
Self funded Sales of Programmes, donations	£40.00	£10.00
Total Income YTD	£321.95	£760.00

Expenditure	2017/18	2017/18
Walk programme	£98.40	£461.78
Publicity / Newsletter	£68.00	£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	£202.40	£640.25

Income less Expenditure YTD	£119.55	£119.75
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BANK BALANCE		
Opening Balance as per Balance Sheet	£828.14	£708.39
Plus deposits cleared	£321.95	£760.00
Less payments cleared	£202.40	£640.25
Current Bank Balance	£947.69	£828.14
Plus deposits made - not yet cleared on statement	£0.00	
Less payments made - not yet cleared on statement	£0.00	

NET FUNDS	£947.69	£708.39
Bank Balance as per Statement dated 31-May-19	£947.69	