



The Ramblers South Somerset Group

Minutes of virtual Zoom committee meeting 2pm Thursday 5 November 2020.

Present

Roger Cripps (Acting Chairman)
Stuart Thomson (Treasurer)
Ian Rendell (Hon. Secretary)
Phil Bradshaw
Wendy Yates
June Curtis
Martin Pakes
Peter Milligan

Moment of Remembrance

The committee took a moment to remember Carl Earl and John Oliver who have died since the last committee meeting.

Roger Cripps confirmed that a donation of £50 (£25 from Main funds plus £25 from self-funded funds) has been paid to the Area towards a memorial for Carl Earl. It is hoped that the other Somerset Ramblers Groups will make a similar donation. It has been proposed that a bench seat be installed in Wayford Woods, but final decision yet to be made.

Minutes of the last (virtual) Meeting 4 June 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 June were approved by the Committee for signing by the Acting Chairman, Roger Cripps.

Matters arising

Confirmed that the Christmas lunch planned for the Muddled Man has been cancelled due to the Covid19 restrictions on group meetings.

There has not been any offers from members to submit text for the "Somerset Ramblers" Newsletter. This matter will be raised at the AGM.

Chairman's report

All reports from the Acting Chairman are covered under other agenda items.

Treasurer's report February 2019

See attached set of accounts for details of our year-end balance sheet. The Treasurer, Stuart Thomson, reported that the Group's finances are in a healthy state. We finished the financial year on 30 Sept with a total balance of £829.99. This is made up of £739.99 in the main account and £90 in the self-funded account (from monies received from RWH Travel).

The year-end accounts have been independently examined and approved by Peter Bradford and submitted to the Area Treasurer. Peter has agreed to remain treasurers as the Independent Examiner for this coming year.

Phil Bradshaw proposed a vote of thanks to the Treasurer.

A discussion took place about a replacement for David Fawthrop as a signatory to the Group's bank account. Phil Bradshaw agreed to accept the role which was unanimously confirmed by the committee.

Secretary's Report

(From report submitted by the secretary to committee members prior to the meeting).

Letters / E-mails received.

No correspondence has been received during the period since the last committee meeting: no doubt due to the general inactivity because of the Covid19 virus.

The normal e-mails that used to be sent to membership secretaries informing them of the changes of membership have now ceased. This is part of the new system with the Central Office computer and the new way of the RA working. Areas and Groups are able to gain access to their section of the main office computer to obtain information appertaining to membership.

Permitted Numbers on Walks.

Unless the rules are changed this Thursday or thereafter, I risk repeating information with which you are already familiar.

The maximum number partaking in a walk must not exceed 30, as an outdoor activity, (to which the limit of 6 does not apply). Subsequent instructions from Ramblers HO are that all group walks are not allowed under the current Covid restriction until Dec 2

Walk Leaders can set a lower limit if they wish for whatever reason.

Walkers must not travel to or from high alert areas; nor must they travel to Wales.

“Don't Lose Your Way”

The R.A. is looking for coordinators to work with project teams on the “Don't Lose Your Way” project making sure walks remain on the Definitive Map of paths. Applications are invited on line to Central Office. Ian advised that Somerset has 9000 miles of paths which are not on the definitive map, this is more than any other area.

Membership:-

Ian advised he has not been able to find current information in the form he's presented over past years concerning Group membership. Below is the last set of figures given at the last committee meeting:-

At 01/05/20

Individual 98, Joint 91, Individual Concession 22, Joint Concession 25

Life - Individual 1, Life - Individual Concession 6, Life – Joint 2, Life – Joint Concession 4,

TOTAL 249

At 2/11/20

The RA computer is showing a total membership of 236 but without a split into the various grades. Ian said he is unable to explain why there is such a drop from the May figure since he is sure we have not physically lost that number. Perhaps the RA computer lost a few in changing over from the old system! Ian agreed to investigate further.

A little bit of trivial information is that the average age of this Group's members is 74 years whereas for the whole association it is 66 years. In the South Somerset Group there are 51% of males and 49% female members.

Ian confirmed that he has advised Rambler HO that we only have an Acting Chairman now,

Reports from Footpath Secretaries

East (P Bradshaw) - nothing to report, however, Phil commented he was encouraged by the way Les Stather had picked up Carl Earl's Area Footpath responsibilities and will continue to maintain regular contact with him. Phil also urged all Footpath Secretaries to submit claims for travel expenses associated with site visits.

South (P Milligan)- nothing to report

North (J Verkroost)-nothing to report

West (R Cripps)- nothing to report

Working Party

Roger Cripps advised that the last working party was on 19 February. We no longer have any member with a valid First Aid Certificate, which is required for any Working Party. Working parties will not operate until a volunteer to lead the Working Parties is found, the current Covid restrictions are lifted and a volunteer to be trained as a First Aider comes forward.

Reports from Programme Secretaries

Sunday walks - Jean Verkroost submitted a written report advising she had managed to fill all Sundays for the 3 months Jan – March 2001. All leaders were happy to submit details as they could specify the maximum group size and all have been registered as Volunteer Leaders. They were generally keen to get back to official organised walks despite the extra requirements.

Jean advised that she will not be putting walk details on the Ramblers' online walk finder whilst numbers are restricted but the programme will be available for anyone to view on our website.

Thursday walks June Curtis confirmed she will be resigning as programme secretary, and from the committee, effective at the AGM. Roger Cripps thanked June for her work and contribution to the committee and as programme secretary, Phil Bradshaw thanked June for all the help she has given to him in preparing the Jan – Mar programme.

Phil advised that he would coordinate both the Short and Long walks for the April – July 2021 programmes. He was happy to continue beyond that for the Short walks but we will need to find a new programme secretary for the Long walks.

Phil advised that he was finding it difficult to get walk leaders for a full programme of two walks per Thursday and it may finish up with just one walk per week for some weeks.

Publicity Officer's Report

Nothing to report.

Any other Business

Future working arrangements. It was agreed that committee meetings for the foreseeable future under Covid restrictions would be Zoom meetings. Committee agreed to purchase a 1-month subscription to Zoom Pro to cover the next committee meeting.

Production of Walks programme. Martin Pakes advised that the Walk Programme for Jan -Mar 20121 is now ready for distribution. After discussion it was agreed that this programme would only be distributed by email to all email addresses held by Ruth and Ian. Martin asked that any comments on the new format for the programme be sent quickly before he sends it to Ruth for distribution.

The committee will review any comments from members on lack of a paper distribution before deciding future policy on programme distribution.

Phil Bradshaw stated he would like to move to a 4 monthly programme in the future and would like to see more space made available for walk details. It was agreed to discuss the programme format and content at the next committee meeting once we've had any feedback from members about email only programmes.

AGM. Stuart Thomson reminded committee members that Ruth had sent an email on 16 October advising that the AGM would be by Zoom on Saturday 14th November at 2pm (giving necessary 14 days' notice). After some discussion the committee agreed to stay with this date. The Zoom invitation will be sent via email to all members for whom we hold an email address. Committee agreed that the AGM agenda and any other information will be sent under cover of a separate email.

Roger Cripps confirmed that he would continue as Acting Chairman until the end of the calendar year but we need to find a replacement chairman to take office after that.

Roger Cripps advised that John Day has agreed to write the minutes for the AGM.

The committee agreed that, until we can find a permanent minutes secretary, committee members will take turns to write the committee meeting minutes. Wendy Yates agreed to write the minutes for the next committee meeting.

All members attending the Zoom committee confirmed that they agree to their names being included in these minutes.

Date of Next Committee Meeting

Zoom meeting Thursday 11 February 2021 at 2pm

South Somerset Ramblers Group Accounts 2019/20 Year End as at 30/9/2020

Opening balance 1 October 2019

£668.93

INCOME					
Date	Folio No	Source	Amount	Int	Total
29/10/2019		Ramblers HK	£91.58		£91.58
31/10/2019		RWH Travel	£40.00		£40.00
09/01/2020		Somerset CC	£90.00		£90.00
27/01/2020		Ramblers HK	£88.00		£88.00
31/01/2020		Somerset CC	£90.00		£90.00
04/05/2020		RWH Travel	£10.00		£10.00
05/05/2020		Ramblers HK	£88.00		£88.00
01/06/2020		Somerset CC	£30.00		£30.00
27/06/2020		Ramblers HK	£88.00		£88.00
					£0.00
TOTAL					£615.58

EXPENDITURE											
Date	Paid to	Folio No	Chq No	Walks Progr	Publicity Newsletter	Practical Work	M'tings	Admin	Campaigns Casework	Other	TOTAL
03/10/2019	J Verkroost	240	BACS	7.32							£7.32
04/11/2019	Clover Press	241	BACS		£72.00						£72.00
06/11/2019	R Cripps	242	BACS				£42.00				£42.00
17/12/2019	T Temlett	243	BACS			£9.44					£9.44
19/12/2019	W Yates	244	BACS				£6.00				£6.00
19/12/2019	R Cripps	245	BACS			£12.60					£12.60
04/01/2020	E Colker VH	246	BACS				£30.00				£30.00
10/02/2020	P Bradshaw	247	BACS			£20.16					£20.16
04/03/2020	P Bradford	248	BACS			£12.88					£12.88
05/03/2020	R Cripps	249	BACS			£6.72					£6.72
05/03/2020	Clover Press	250	BACS		£79.20						£79.20
11/03/2020	T Temlett	252	BACS			£2.24					£2.24
20/03/2020	J Verkroost	251	BACS	£7.32							£7.32
09/09/2020	W Yates	253	BACS				£26.40				£26.40
09/09/2020	P Bradshaw	254	BACS			£12.32					£12.32
26/09/2020	I Rendall	255	BACS	£98.82	£2.44		£2.44	£4.22			£107.92
				£113.46	£153.64	£76.36	£106.84	£4.22	£0.00	£0.00	£454.52

Ramblers Association South Somerset Group

Balance Sheet YTD 26/5/2020

Assets	2019/20	2018/9
General Fund at year beginning	£668.93	£828.14
Income minus expenditure 2019/20 ytd	£161.06	-£159.21
Balance	£829.99	£668.93

Income

From RA Group entitlement	£575.58	£375.95
Interest	£0.00	£0.00
Self funded Sales of Programmes, donations	£40.00	£40.00
Total Income YTD	£615.58	£415.95

Expenditure

Walk programme	£113.46	£316.46
Publicity / Newsletter	£153.64	£144.19
Practical Work	£76.36	£49.75
Meetings	£106.84	£34.94
Admin	£4.22	£4.32
Campaigns & Casework	£0.00	£25.50
Total expenditure YTD	£454.52	£575.16

Income less Expenditure YTD	£161.06	-£159.21
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BANK BALANCE

Opening Balance as per Balance Sheet	£668.93	£828.14
Plus deposits cleared	£615.58	£415.95
Less payments cleared	£454.52	£575.16
Current Bank Balance	£829.99	£668.93
Plus deposits made - not yet cleared on statement	£0.00	
Less payments made - not yet cleared on statement	£0.00	

NET FUNDS

	£829.99	£668.93
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Bank Balance as per Statement dated 30-Sep-20

£829.99

