



SOUTH SOMERSET GROUP

of THE RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Meeting Held on 30 May 2024

Present: Jim Turner, Bill Tregillus, Bill Pratt, Wendy Yates, Phil Bradshaw, Katherine Pratt

Apologies for Absence Received: John Day, Maureen Day, Martin Pakes, Peter Bradford, Rosie Harampatta

The meeting was opened by Jim Turner at 7.30 pm

Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and passed. There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report

Jim discussed the new Walk Leader Handbook. He felt that parts of the document were not clear about risk assessments. It states that new walk leaders will now have to do two online training modules. The document also gives guidance about the ratio of leaders to walkers. It is available on the website.

Treasurer's Report

A copy of the accounts was provided. There is currently £1479.69 in the account. A payment has been made to the group by WRH travel for £90. The ramblers group gets a

payment when a member books a holiday with them. The main expenses have been for hall hire and refreshments. The payments for the recent first aid course will be shown in the next set of accounts. Following the recent first aid course, Bill T asked if we could fund first aid kits for walk leaders. Katherine will look at the cost of these.

Secretary's Report

Katherine reported that there are currently 121 members in the ramblers Facebook group. She had nothing else to report.

Membership Secretary's Report

Bill T reported that there are currently 220 members of the South Somerset Group. In 2021 we had 229 members. There have been no new members in April. The numbers appear to be slowly dropping and the average age of members is increasing. Currently 20% of our membership is over 80, 26% over 70 and there are no members who are under 20. We currently have e mail consent for 51% of our members.

Programme Secretary's Report and Walks Programme Co-ordinator

Peter Bradford reported that all Sunday walks for the programme have been covered. There are some gaps in the Thursday programme. We discussed the need to get more walk leaders. Katherine will put another post of Facebook. There will also be a Saturday walk led by Phil Bradshaw of 4 miles on 6 July. This will be advertised on Facebook to try and get some new walkers. Phil felt that he would like to do some 4 mile walks in the next programme on Thursdays. We all felt this was a good idea.

Footpath Secretary's Report

Phil reported that the Newt Hotel have apparently changed the route of a footpath without permission. He will investigate this.

Social Secretary's Report

Wendy will be sending out menus for the summer supper on 8 August. There will be a booking form with request for payment and a small amount added on for a tip. There will be a 4 mile walk before the supper, which will be held at the Royal Oak in Hardington. Katherine will advertise this on Facebook.

First Aid Course

There was good feedback from the walk leaders who attended the course. The trainer suggested several actions, including knowing the location of the nearest defibrillator. He suggested that first aid kits should be carried by walk leaders and include eye pads, steri

strips and finger dressings. Anyone who has a health condition should also be encouraged to disclose it to the walk leader. Members should also be encouraged to carry ICE cards (in case of emergency). Jim will order these.

. Any Other Business

Phil suggested that walk leaders look at wearing reflective jackets when leading a walk, particularly on the road. Katherine to look at the price of these.

Dates of Next Meeting

24 October at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.40pm