

COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, 11 April 2018

Holiday Inn - Eastleigh

Minutes

Present:	Stephen Cocks - Chair Neil Elder - Treasurer Steve Nicholas - Walk Co-Ordinator Carol Ransome - Membership Secretary Terry Jones - Area Representative Mandy Norris - Secretary Apologies: David Morris - Area Representative	
1.	Welcome Stephen Cocks opened the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and confirmed that David Morris offered apologies as he is unable to attend.	
2.	Matters Arising From Previous Meeting The minutes from the meeting of 7 February 2018 were agreed as accurate. <u>Business Cards</u> Carol confirmed she has received the draft business card template from Lorraine which she previously designed. <u>Bank Account</u> Mandy and Neil confirmed they now have access to the Group's bank account. <u>In Case of Emergency (ICE) Form</u> Terry confirmed he has drafted an ICE form for the Group to use. Stephen said that it is a requirement for the Group to report any incidents to the Ramblers using the appropriate incident report form. For clarification, incidents include injuries, serious near misses and issues relating to the emergency services or land owners. Walk Leaders must inform a member of the Committee of any reportable incidents at the earliest opportunity.	
3.	Treasurers Report Neil reported that there have been no transactions since the last meeting and the funds still stand at £783.99 in the main account and £95.19 in the surplus account. Neil has confirmed to the Ramblers Treasurer that the Group will not require the next half-year payment. Discussion took place about the potential expenditure for the rest of this financial year which is likely to be room hire for the AGM in November and the printing costs associated with business cards. It was agreed that Neil will arrange to return £500.00 to the Ramblers so that the Group complies with Ramblers funding limit rules for local groups. Steve agreed to second the electronic payment.	Neil Elder

4.	Membership Secretary's Report Carol reported that she has cross-referenced the Group's membership list with the Rambler's current membership list and the Group currently has 172 paid up members. The Group has continued to have good membership numbers during the winter months and good turnout for walks. She believes this is because of the friendly and welcoming culture of the Group.	
5.	Walk Co-Ordinator's Report Steve reported that there has been a healthy walks calendar in the last quarter, with a good variety of contributions from new and existing walk leaders. Turnout has remained consistently good. There is a hole in the schedule for the weekend when some of the Leaders are planning to be away in the Chilterns and others will be prompted to offer a walk that weekend. Steve asked everyone to think about offering some shorter walks, as well as longer walks, for the summer months and also evening summer walks which are always popular.	
6.	Area Representatives' Report Terry reported that he attended the Area Meeting. The following is a summary of issues discussed:- • Research of 175 old, lost footpaths to and from villages and churches. • The UK Coastal Path progress (not so good in the New Forest) • Support for regional staff to liaise with local government on relevant issues. • Continuation of footpath and gate maintenance, replacing stiles where possible and footpath signage, although there is not a lot of funding available in the current climate. • And as a non-priority optional answer questions to be added to membership forms asking about any skills that could be used by groups to aid things. Stephen added an update about central Ramblers funding, events and publicity. He said that Ramblers are keen to support local groups to be successful.	
7.	Chairman's Report <u>Weekend Breaks</u> Stephen reported that the Group walking breaks are looking popular, with 14 people staying at the Cotswolds for at least one night and others going for day trips. There are currently 27 people registered to stay in Lyme Regis and he has given a deposit to the restaurant for the evening meal. Numbers are also progressing well for Wiltshire and the Test Way weekends. Stephen is exploring the possibility of a walking trip to Switzerland in 2019, depending on interest.	

	<u>Group Website</u> Stephen gave an update on the progress of Ramblers-Webs, including refreshing the narrative, removing advertisements and updating the walks page. He is working to meet the 27 April deadline so that fees do not have to be paid to the current provider. Stephen said he has also updated the Group's Facebook page, including the description of the Group and the social media policy. The Committee, on behalf of all members of the Group, thanked Stephen for his work on this IT project which is very valued.	
8.	Any Other Business <u>Christmas Party</u> Mandy volunteered to research venues and prices for the 2018 Christmas Dinner Dance and agreed to bring information to the next Committee Meeting so that a joint decision can be made. <u>Walk Routes</u> Terry reminded members that he has a good range of walks available and is happy to share them with others on request.	Mandy Norris
9.	Next Meeting Stephen to publish poll of potential dates so that Committee Members can identify their availability for June.	Stephen Cocks