

COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, 3 October 2018

Holiday Inn - Eastleigh

Minutes

Present: Stephen Cocks - Chair Neil Elder - Treasurer Steve Nicholas - Walk Co-Ordinator Terry Jones - Area Representative David Morris - Area Representative Carol Ransome - Membership Secretary Mandy Norris - Secretary Apologies: None		
1.	Welcome Stephen Cocks opened the meeting by thanking everyone for attending.	
2.	Previous Meeting & Matters Arising The minutes from the meeting of 4 July 2018 were agreed as accurate. <u>Business Cards</u> The business cards have been printed and circulated to walk leaders. Item closed. <u>In Case of Emergency (ICE) Form</u> Stephen to add this item to AGM agenda for discussion.	Stephen Cocks
3.	Treasurers Report Neil reported that, following reimbursement to David for the cost of the H40+ business cards, the balance in the main account is now £263.61. Neil has prepared a year end statement and will ask Simon Gale to carry out an independent verification prior to forwarding it to the Area Treasurer by 21/10/18. The surplus account currently has a balance of £1,243.29. Once the final payment has been made to Botleigh Grange for the Christmas Party in November, the balance will be £95.19.	Neil Elder
4.	Membership Secretary's Report Carol reported that membership of the Group has slightly increased to 176 people. Where regular walkers' subscriptions have lapsed, Carol will remind people to renew their Ramblers membership. Stephen confirmed he regularly receives enquiries from potential new members and he directs them to the walk calendar on the website and occasionally signposts them to other local groups if they specifically ask for shorter walks.	

5.	Walk Co-Ordinator's Report Steve reported that the walks calendar has been well populated during the summer months, with a good variety of locations and lengths of walks, including weekend breaks. H40+ has delivered approximately 100 walks over the last year. Attendance numbers on walks remains healthy. Thanks were recorded to Elaine Cooper and Phil Housden who contributed a good number of evening walks through the summer months which proved very popular and gave good variety to the walks calendar. The calendar is looking a little sparse at the moment but this is not unusual as historically the group does not plan very far in advance. All walks are now published on the Ramblers website and this has attracted a small number of people from other groups. Walk leaders will be encouraged to continue their valued contribution to the calendar. Terry confirmed that he is happy to provide walks/maps to leaders if they require support. Steve will approach Neil Elder about providing a walk for Sunday 9 December, following the Christmas Party.	Steve Nicolas
6.	Area Representatives' Report David and Terry attended the last Area Council Meeting. A summary of the discussion is as follows:- – Area membership has reduced overall by 70 people and membership is aging because younger people are attracted to H40+ and similar groups for working age people. (Stephen confirmed the original idea was for the newly established 'age range groups' to feed into the existing groups but this did not happen because people stayed with groups which are attractive to them in terms of friendship groups and length of walk.) – Area Council commented that H40+ is not a campaigning group. Area Council was reminded that H40+ membership is generally from the working population who lead busy lives. (Stephen said that he previously offered to distribute information about campaigns and any requests for help with footpath surveys etc to members, however, nothing has been received from other groups.) – Area Council commented that H40+ walks are not visible. Area Council was informed that H40+ walks are now (since April) shown on the Ramblers website and are accessible to all. – Some groups have purchased kissing gates for the area in which they walk. – There was an update on the progress of the England Coast Path. It was recognised that the South's complex geography (including many inlets, conservation areas and private estates) was problematic. It is recognised the Coast Path target of 2020 is not achievable. – All Groups were reminded to keep using Ancient Rights of Way and report any issues regarding accessibility. – Devon Ramblers have produced a good quality leaflet about the different groups in their area. – A shortfall of approximately walk 100 leaders has been identified and Ramblers are setting up a Leadership Training Programme. – Walking for Health, an initiative of local authorities, is proposing to use Ramblers walks in future due to funding issues.	

	– The Ramblers is promoting walking for lonely men as a therapeutic intervention.	
7.	Chairman's Report <u>Trips Away</u> Stephen confirmed that, at this time, he is not planning to organise any group trips next year but instead will be focussing on personal trips. He will be encouraging others to organise trips and is happy to provide advice and possibly walks if required. Terry confirmed that he is also happy to support leaders and can provide walks for several days in most areas nationwide. Carol, on behalf of the Committee and Membership, thanked Stephen for the trips he has arranged in the last two years. They have proved very popular and were well organised. She acknowledged the considerable amount of work involved in organising trips to such a high standard. It was also recognised that Stephen's contribution has been an 'added bonus' to the walking calendar as it is not a requirement of either the Chairman's role or the Group to organise trips away. <u>Website & Social Media</u> Stephen confirmed that the new website is functioning well. A few walkers from other groups have attended H40+ walks as a result of making our walks available on the Ramblers website. <u>GDPR Compliance</u> No further update at this time.	
8.	Any Other Business <u>Christmas Party</u> Mandy confirmed that 40 people have booked tickets for the party. She is currently putting together a spreadsheet of people's menu choices. The payment balance, along with menu choices and table plans will need to be sent to the hotel at the beginning of November. She will raise a payment transfer for Neil to authorise nearer the time. <u>Walk Start Times</u> It was agreed that Steve will add a note to the walks information reminding people and Walk Leaders that walks will start promptly at the published time.	Mandy Norris Steve Nicholas
9.	Next Meeting Stephen confirmed he is making arrangements for the AGM to be held on Saturday, 3 November. He is planning for a walk to start at 10.30 a.m. followed by the meeting at 2.30 p.m. He will publish a notification of time and venue as soon as possible. Stephen will be writing the Annual Report for the AGM and asked Neil, Carol and Steve to send him a summary of activity for their roles as soon as possible. Carol, David & Terry confirmed they will not be seeking re-election to their current Committee roles at the AGM.	Stephen Cocks Neil, Carol & Steve