

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, 2 November 2019
Twyford Parish Hall – 2.30 p.m.

Minutes

Present: <u>Committee Members</u> Stephen Cocks - Chair Neil Elder - Treasurer Steve Nicholas - Walk Co-Ordinator Jan Wilson - Membership Secretary Mandy Norris - Secretary <u>Members:</u> Julian Frankish Jack Norris Jo Sofaer Sarah Goss Dave Morris Miranda Shoebridge Pat Kelly Vivienne Scales Richard Boardman Neil Pritchard Jane Hudson Sandra Pru John Goodall Apologies: None		
1.	Welcome Stephen Cocks opened the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and circulated papers.	
2.	Approval of AGM Minutes & Matters Arising The Minutes of 03/11/18 were accepted as an accurate record. <u>In Case of Emergency Cards</u> These are available from the Ramblers website for those who would find them useful.	
3.	Annual Report – October 2018 to September 2019 Written report presented and summarised as follows:- <u>Chairman's Report</u> Stephen said it has been a very positive year and the Group has achieved its goals of putting on a good and varied walks programme and attracting a number of new members. The Pembrokeshire and Quantocks breaks were very successful and the summer walks programme was welcomed and well attended. There was a good range of walks in new areas, at varying lengths, as well as some old favourites. Stephen thanked all the Group membership, the Walk Leaders and the Committee Members for attending walks and for all the 'behind the scenes' work involving in planning and leading walks and running the Committee. On behalf of the membership, Miranda thanked Stephen for his tireless work over the last few years which included walk leading, IT support, Chairing the Committee and provision of excellent cake!	

	<u>Membership Secretary's Report</u> Jan confirmed that membership numbers have continued to be positive, with membership of H40+ being 170 including 29 new members. She now sends new members a welcome letter if they consent to being e-mailed. Jan asked everyone to remind new members to tick the box for H40+ so that they are linked to the Group and funds are allocated accordingly. <u>Walk Co-Ordinator's Report</u> Steve said that he has reviewed walks data and today's walk was the 100th this year and the Group walks have covered a total of 860 miles. The spreadsheet on the Facebook page has been well received and enabled better forward planning. Walk Leaders are able to add their own walks to the Ramblers website once IT access has been granted. Elaine's organisation of the summer evening walks programme and Neil P's commitment to offer a monthly walk for the whole year has supported good forward planning. Thanks were given to Neil P and Richard contributing weekend walking breaks to Pembrokeshire and the Quantocks, respectively. Steve encouraged Walk Leaders to put walk narrative on the website at the earliest opportunity. A number of locations for weekend walking breaks are being considered for 2020, including the Peak District, the Malvern Hills and the Cotswolds. Details will be published in due course. New Walk Leaders are always welcome and will be supported if that would be useful. <u>Social Events</u> Mandy was thanked for organising the 2018 Christmas Party and everyone is looking forward to the 2019 Christmas Party which is being arranged by Jan. Jan said there is one ticket left if anyone is interested. There were other social events to look forward to, including the Meon Ramblers Barn Dance on 16 November and two post-walk meals on 15 and 29 December.	
4.	Accounts - Summarised as follows:- <u>Treasurers Report</u> Neil circulated a copy of the Income and Expenditure Accounts to 30/09/19 which has been independently examined and signed off by Matthew Child and submitted to the Ramblers. Neil highlighted the following:- • The balance in the main account at 30/09/18 was £211.34 • The balance in the surplus account at 30/09/18 was £915.94, however, funds were being held to pay the remaining balance for the Christmas Party 2019 and the final surplus balance was likely to be approximately £217.69. • The Group would not be claiming the next six months grant.	

	There was general discussion about what the funds could be used for. It was suggested that the Group could fund a gate which would be of public benefit and support the accessibility agenda, however, as the Group is county-wide it would be difficult to decide the location and there were other issues to be considered such as the ownership of the land and the practical skills required to install a robust gate. In addition, issues with paths and access should be reported to Hampshire County Council and the Ramblers who have the experience to manage these issues effectively.	
5.	Election of Committee Members All Committee Members stepped down and roles were agreed for the next year as follows:- • Steve Nicholas - Chair (Proposed by Pat Kelly. Seconded by Jan Wilson.) • Mandy Norris - Secretary (Proposed by Pat Kelly. Seconded by Jack Norris.) • Neil Elder – Treasurer (Proposed by Mandy Norris. Seconded by Steve Nicholas.) • Jan Wilson – Membership Secretary (Proposed by Sarah Goss. Seconded by Miranda Shoebridge.) • Neil Pritchard – Walks Co-ordinator (Proposed by Sarah Goss. Seconded by Vivienne Scales.) Stephen Cocks agreed to continue in the Non-Committee role of Web Master (supported by Dave Morris and John Goodall as required). Richard Boardman agreed to be the Footpath Representative for the Group.	
6.	Any Other Business • Website – Stephen said he would be refreshing the Group website and would be adding some guidelines about walking etiquette and possibly adding up to date Committee Member photographs. He would welcome ideas from members about things they would find useful on the website.	