

MENDIP RAMBLERS GROUP

Minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2019 at The Highwayman

Present : Mike Plaskitt (Chairman), Mary Birchall, Elaine Dadley, Tony Dyson, Nancy and Kevin Moynihan, Mo Bennett, Ken Masters, Les Stather, Janet Morland, Tony and Mary Parsons and Jane Dyson.

Apologies : Peggy Fortunati and Brian Underwood.

- 1 Footpaths. Somerset has reclassified all the footpaths according to usage. Les has checked Frome and Walton has been done. Many parishes have ignored the information and not checked them.
- 2 Peggy sent a reminder that there is a lack of leaders. Walk leaders should encourage people to volunteer.
- 3 Publicity. Our main publicity is for the festival
- 4 Socials. The next social will be at Oakhill on 25th January, please contact Jane about food you will bring. There will be a BBQ + something at Holcombe on Friday 12th July.
- 5 Walking Festival. Kevin said we will be using the Sports Centre in Shepton Mallet and can use the school for parking. The room hire will be £150.
- 6 Eastbourne. The coach will use the same pick up points as last time. All ramblers have paid up. The walk leaders will meet on 16th January.
- 7 Working Party. They worked on 48 days last year. Mike will attend an Access Meeting.
- 8 West Mendip Walkers group is attracting a large number of walkers and will cease to advertise.
- 9 Dave Owen. His funeral will be on 2nd February at 12.00 at Christ Church, Frome followed by lunch at the Conservative Club opposite. Peter Gatenby has done a leaflet on Dave, can it be printed?
- 10 Wake Up Wells. Peter Gatenby will do a display for this event in Wells Cathedral on Sat 26th January.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 19th June 2019

Mendip Ramblers: Publicity report to Committee for meeting on 09/01/2019

Tasks completed since last meeting:

A: Festival 2019

- Item to Country Walking

B: Other tasks:

Report to AGM

Item to Mendip Times and local print media 15/12/18 - old/new programme, post

Christmas publication

Report to Committee January 2019 meeting

C: Forthcoming tasks:

Festival notifications to Ramblers, Somerset Rambler, Walk Magazine, Mendip

Society, Ordnance Survey and William Hill will be sent January/ February.

I'm away from 21st February to 12th March. Adios!

Elaine Dadley

January 2018 Membership secretary Report

Having only recently taken on the post, I have very little to report

We have 333 members including the 8 new members who have joined us since the beginning of November. I have no information as to membership numbers a year ago, but it seems to be fairly constant.

I thought I had taken on an easy task in November, but in the last month I have received information from headquarters to the contrary.

Membership Secretaries will now have to access all information from The (secret part of the) Rambler's website because, apparently, eventually, the association wants each member to manage their own data "as this is standard for membership organisation and this will make us fully compliant."

I presume therefore that the Membership Secretary will be expected to pass on the information to members – the blind leading the blind comes to mind in my case.

I hope by the next committee meeting I will feel more informed.

Mary Birchall

Mendip Ramblers Social Secretary report Jan 2019

Since the last meeting the only event has been the pre Christmas walk and lunch at North Wootton, which was well attended and I believe enjoyed by all.

Once again we had a raffle, organised by Sally, and raised well over £100 for the local food banks.

Our next event is the Bring and Share supper, at Oakhill on Friday 25th January at 7pm. Cost is £3 per head, usual rules, bring glass and own drink. I have around 28 people signed up for this and Les has just put it on the web site. If anyone else wants to come, just let me know and what food you want to bring – I am trying to make sure we have a reasonably balanced supper! I am unable to get hold of the curling set, so we shall be having an indoor Boules tournament.

Jane Dyson

Footpath Officer Report Mendip East January 2019

WN4/6. North Brewham

Clare has passed the problem onto the enforcement office. I have chased this up but not heard anything.

Colliers Way from Cheese and Grain to Welshmill Weir

This path is adequately protected

Lost Path In from The Retreat to Aderwell

This path was claimed and subsequently blocked by the land owner. Carl Earl is pursuing this with the ramblers as we may need to get the secretary of state involved

Frome Gets Walkers Welcome Status

The walking day in Frome on the 18th of November was successful with 84 people attending.

Footpath Improvements in Bruton

I have still not heard anything from this group but have chased them up by asking them if they are aware of the footpath categorisation exercise as they need to ensure the paths on their promoted routes are not classified as 3.

CL 19/3 Farrington Gurney Golf Course

Modification 249 to re route this path is now closed. I am checking to see if the path has been diverted and way marked,

FR 14/65 Cottle's Oak Frome

This path has been reopened and is now well walked. However, the waymarks have been destroyed from the Leaze Road end.

WS 2/36

I received a phone call that someone has moved this path to accommodate a new build. Maggie Seaward has offered to take a look and take some photos. This is in Brian's area

Lamyat SM 13/9

This path has been closed since 2010. I have been approached by the chairman of the parish council to help them, open this path. I have written to Clare Haskins asking her to explain what the issues are.

Frome Missing Link Route 24 Cycle Route

An application is being made to divert FR 20/12 and FR 20/8 as part of creating the cycle path from Frome to Great Elm. We have no issues with this.

Lost Paths in Frome

I have identified two paths that are not on the definitive map. One goes from Egford Lane to join FR 14/59. The other is from Packsaddle Way to FR 20/2. I am sure both of these paths have been worked over a 20 years period and will be collecting evidence for a DMMO. No progress on this until the spring.

SCC Re categorisation of Rights of Way.

SCC have asked all parish and town councils to review the category of each of their footpaths. Carl Earl contacted me as we were concerned that the motive behind this was to increase the number of class 3 rights of way. This could then be used as evidence to justify a reduction in resources.

I requested a file containing the path number, parish, district and category for every path in Somerset and used this to identify parishes with a high number of class 3 paths. For example, St Cuthbert Out, a parish near Wells, has every right of way classified as 3. Carl was also concerned that as this exercise was being done on a parish by parish basis, paths that linked together to form valuable longer walking routes used by ramblers and not locals could end up being classified as 3.

Having identified the main parishes with paths classified as 3, I contacted local ramblers and asked them to influence the parish council's classification. Where we did not have a local Rambler, I did a desk top exercise and sent my results to the parish council,

The reclassification exercise finishes on the 31st of January. When the path category has been updated, I will receive another file and then be able to show the changes that have been made.

I have agreed with Jake that, if a parish does not submit a return, we can review the categories of their paths.

Mendip Ramblers Statement of Accounts as at 03/01/2019

Opening balance 01/10/2018

Restricted Funds	£2,360.60	Workparty Donation	£1,865.60
		Ramblers Holidays	£27.00
		Book Sales	£468.00
Self-Funded	£5,111.91	Holiday pre-payments	£1,280.00
		Holiday Residuals	£3,875.85
		Social Residuals	-£43.94
General Funds	£671.49		
Total	£8,144.00		

Income

Area Funding	£107.60	1 of 4 quarter payments
Ramblers Hols	£160.00	
Deposit Interest	£0.00	
Fundraising	£0.00	Walk festival donations
Holidays	£7,480.00	
Socials	£941.00	
Work Party Donation	£0.00	
Book Sales	£0.00	
Total Receipts	£8,688.60	

Expenditure

Courses	£0.00	First Aid course
Walking Festival	£150.00	Hall Hire etc
Festival Prog/Publicity	£9.45	
Programmes	£250.18	
Tools	£364.42	
Work party costs	£0.00	
Trailer Insurance etc	£0.00	
Meeting/AGM Costs	£0.00	
Admin	£0.30	
Holidays	£1,300.00	
Gates donation	£0.00	£0.00 From Ramblers Holidays
Socials	£883.00	-£58.00 From Social Residuals
Total Expenditure	£2,957.35	£364.42 From workparty donations

Funds as at 03/01/2019

Restricted Funds	£1,996.18	Workparty Donations	£1,501.18
		Ramblers Hols	£27.00
		Book Sales	£468.00
Self Funded	£11,349.91	Holiday pre-payments	£7,344.00
		Holiday Residuals	£3,991.85
		Social pre-payments	£0.00
		Social Residuals	£14.06
General Funds	£529.16		
Total Funds	£13,875.25		

At bank	£13,340.25
To bank	£535.00
Awaiting presentation	£0.00
Total	£13,875.25

£0.00

£0.00