

MINUTES OF THE GEDLING & DUKERIES GROUP RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2016 AT 7.30PM IN THE MEETING ROOM RICHARD HERROD CENTRE

PRESENT:

Mick Rawdin	Val Disney	Jonathan Ankers
Malcolm Costello	Jim Norris	Brian O'Neill
Brian Torr	Graham Dicker	Heather Darwent
Alex McGowan	George Wood	

APOLOGIES: Liz Pritchett, Pat Rogers.

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record.

Proposed Brian Torr, seconded Graham Dicker, and passed.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Area Council was no longer hosting the 2019 General Council in view of the recent committee resignations.

3. MEMBER'S REPORTS

Chairman's Report

The Chairman was irritated that some people left immediately before the AGM, having taken part in the morning walk and fuddle. Meeting documents were provided on the day.

A thank you to everyone attending tonight for being elected to serve on the committee for the next 12 months.

I have sent a card from the group to Ann Staples following the death of her sister. We need to discuss how her presentation is to be carried out; trying to make sure we have as many members present as possible e.g. Thursday walk or leave to the annual dinner. It is unlikely that she would make the Christmas Fuddle as her operation is only 5 days before the event .

Big thank you to Val and members who helped on the Go -Outdoors event. Photos on the web site.

Does anyone want to write the annual report to Area for inclusion in the Nottinghamshire Walker -perhaps a different perspective rather than my reports over the past 4 years . Report to Jenny by 1st December 2016.

Under AOB we need to discuss the letter to Area re the transfer of members / name of the Dukeries.

Secretary's Report

1. This year's Festival of Winter Walks will run from 17th December - 8th January 2017 and include Ramblers group walks, health walks and routes.
2. Our volunteers across Essex, Hertfordshire, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire are responding to proposals being put forward by Network Rail for the closure of 130 level crossings in their Anglia region.

3. The National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces (NFPGS), the umbrella organisation for the dynamic and inspirational grassroots movement of over 6,000 local Friends of Parks groups, has published a detailed call to arms for all those who love and value parks to demand Government action to reverse the current underfunding crisis threatening the future of the UK's public green spaces.
4. Area accounts to 30th September 2016 now available.
5. The Outdoor Industries Association (OIA) and Ordnance Survey (OS) have announced details of a partnership that will see all elements of the Britain on Foot (BoF) campaign transfer to the OS #GetOutside platform.

Treasurer's Report

Balance £686.13 with nothing outstanding.

Walks Programme Editor

Confirmation of the square dance details was awaited. **It was agreed** to produce 300 copies of the next programme.

Footpaths Secretary's Report

There had been a phone call from a lady in Burton Joyce regarding a gate on a path the day before the agm. Brian O'Neill fixed it on the Monday!

Membership Secretary's Report

31st October 2016

Total	235
Annual Individual	129
Annual Joint	99
Life Individual	5
Life Joint	2
Payments Pending	9
Members no longer in the group	1
New Members	0
Members Reinstated	0

Social Sub Committee Report

None. Not present.

Coach Secretary's Report

It was agreed to add the £1 charge for the use of the facilities at Gibraltar Point on the Skegness trip to the overall ticket price. Heather would obtain prices from Little's.

Publicity

Mick suggested a presence in larger locations e.g. Victoria Centre. Val handed over her remaining flyers to Malcolm, who would come up with ideas for the next meeting.

Area Liaison Officer's Report

This Report incorporates the Area Council Meeting on 18th October 2016.

The most significant event that was discussed was the resignation of the Area Chairman. The reasons behind this are complex and involve confidential matters. However it can be summarised as the Chairman feeling that Ramblers Head Office had placed him in an impossible position. The Area Council agreed the wording of a letter to Head Office highlighting the situation into which the Notts. Area had been placed. The situation has been exacerbated by the Deputy Chairman, Rod Fillingham, having recently had a heart attack. He has indicated that he will stand down from his position and Jenny will also stand down as Secretary. Consequently there are a lot of positions to be filled at the February AGM.

The Members Day was cancelled. The feeling is that it would be better to have an Open Day aimed more at the general public as part of the actions to attract new members.

The Secretary requested that all Local Groups notify her of Group Officers after their AGMs.

The Area Agm will be held on Sunday 6th February 2017 at Greasley Parish Hall – near the Horse and Groom. Ideas are being sought on how the AGM might be made more interesting.

There is still a need for more wardens for some sections of the Robin Hood way.

Alex and Marian Staniforth and Rod and Jenny Fillingham have declared themselves as willing to continue promoting Ramblers at local events. They now have Ramblers polo shirts, fleeces and caps.

Jenny has contacted Ramblers to check what PR material they have. Apart from membership forms they have a “Find Your Perfect Walk” flier, and badges. But the very useful booklet “The Heart of Walking” is no longer available. Consideration is being given to the Notts. Area producing its own leaflet.

Webmaster's Report

Some difficulties were being experienced with the web hosting company.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Graham Dicker mentioned that the BBC Countryfile programme had held a rambling weekend that did not refer to the Ramblers Association.
2. The secretary would write to Jenny Fillingham informing her of the Group's decision regarding Dukeries and asking if anyone from the Group should attend the Area a.g.m. or if she needed to see any of the supporting paperwork.
3. **It was agreed** to make the presentation to Ann after the Thursday walk on 28th November.
4. **It was agreed** that the Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance should benefit from donations in lieu of sending Christmas cards.

The meeting closed at 2040.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Thursday 5th January 2017.