

## Kendal Ramblers' Group

### Minutes of the Committee meeting Thursday 5 January 2012

#### 01.12 Present

Terry Doherty, Polly Robin, Ann Beeching, Pauline Goodridge, John Holman, Alison Jones, Colin Rowley

#### 02.12 Apologies

Laraine Earle, Bryan Harris. Sympathy was expressed at Bryan's ill health continuing and best wishes sent for the New Year.

#### 03.12 Minutes of 20/09/11

Agreed as correct

#### 04.12 Matters arising/review of Action Points

**Ramblers holidays offer** No reply has been received from the RA head office as yet regarding the possible conflict of interest in Holiday Fellowship being the RA's recommended holiday organiser. Committee agreed we should be able to accept offers from both Ramblers Holidays and HF Holidays and publicise these in the next newsletter. **TD**

Agreed to write to Tim Farron to ask for progress report on the implementation of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. **AB**

#### 05.12 Reports

1 **Secretary** – The Cumbrian liaison officer for the Dales Way Association, Donald Holliday, has written to Tim Farron regarding the problems on the Dales Way between the Crook O'Lune bridge and Grayrigg. Donald will be invited to attend our next Committee meeting. **TD**

2 **Countryside** - Nothing to report.

3 **Footpaths (LDNP)** – Nothing to report. The possible replacement as Footpath Secretary (LDNP) (Dave Harrison) to be invited to attend the next meeting. **TD**  
In the meantime, in view of Bryan's ill health, Ernie Robin has offered to do site visits and leave Bryan to do the paper work. This offer was gratefully accepted subject to Bryan's agreement.

4 **Footpaths (outside the LDNP)** - 2 Problems have been reported to Cumbria CC.  
i. the Stile on Hayclose Lane has been added to the schedule of works  
ii. Patton Mills attempt to dissuade walkers from using the footpath will be inspected shortly. Pauline Goodridge has received two reports from non-members about the problems (poor paths, aggressive dogs and obstructive farmers) on the Dales Way. She will write about the problems to both County Council and Tim Farron MP. **PG**

5 **Access** – Colin Rowley reported a story of endless delay. Crow likely to be delayed due to state of public finances for a further 2 years.  
**Coastal section.** Draft proposals for the first section Whitehaven to Allonby are in and subject to public consultation. Ian Brodie favours concentrating on the extension north rather than south. Our section of the Coastal path is possible and has only minor problems.

6 **Treasurer** - A **deteriorating financial situation** was reported. Book sales on which we rely for income have dropped despite Polly Robin's work. **Our largest expenditure is on postage** which is due to substantially increase in 2012. It was agreed that in future all mailings would be distributed via e-mail to those members who have supplied an e-mail address. All members who have not registered an e-mail address would continue to be sent their information through the post. It was agreed to write about this in the next Newsletter. Mailings by email have already reduced postage charges by 30%. **PR/TD**  
We have **£1326 in the bank**. Income since AGM **£321.40**. Expenditure **£264.73**. We still owe **£3100** to the Lake District Area, borrowed towards the cost of publishing South Lakes Book 3. It was agreed to **repay £1000** but to **apply for a further loan** if our application for grant aid towards the cost of printing the short walks leaflets is unsuccessful. **AJ**

- 7 Membership – Current membership** is 383. Two members have died (Pat Delaney and Alan Muckle) and two members have joined.  
**Circulation of members** It was agreed that when Pat Walsh is ready, members of the Committee have volunteered to collect walks programmes newsletters etc, and stuff and post them. Pat to be advised. **TD**  
**Welcoming new members** either at the AGM or in the Newsletter was discussed. It was agreed to open committee meetings to any member who wished to attend, those considering undertaking committee work particularly welcome.  
**Expenses** It was also agreed to point out to members that if they did work for the Group they were entitled to claim expenses. Piece required for newsletter covering this point and the one above **PR**
- 8 Walks programme**  
**The next programme** (May-August) is in preparation and nearly all leaders are booked. John Holman needs short walks for which he finds it difficult to find leaders.  
**Walks Programme Organiser** At present no-one has expressed an interest in taking over his post and it was agreed to write about this in the next Newsletter **JH**  
**The problem of slow walkers** who wished to shorten the walk on their own was discussed. Recently a walker had been prevented from turning back unaccompanied by the leader and it was agreed that the proposed policy should be outlined in the next Newsletter. This item to be further discussed by committee and meanwhile those taking part in our walking programme requested to heed the advice of the leader at all times.  
**Short Walks Festival** It was agreed to take part in the proposed Summer Evening Festival proposed by the RA and to discuss combining short walks with South Lakes Walking Club.  
**Special short walks** as an introduction to attract new members were discussed. Jan Wiltshire was suggested as a contact.
- 9 Publicity/Marketing -**  
**Posters** regarding the Festival of Winter Walks and our December Walks programme have been displayed in the Town Hall, Market Hall, Library and Westmorland General Hospital.  
**Winter Walks** Three walks took place as part of the Ramblers Assn. Festival of Winter Walks and they attracted 5 non members. Date of Get Walking Days to be queried following change of Bank Holiday weekend from May to June. **PR**  
**Book Sales** 8 members are selling books through booksellers in their localities  
It was agreed to look into placing the books in other sites e.g. **Kendal Mountain Film Festival. PR**
- 10 Publishing**  
**Book 1** needs re-editing as we have only a few copies left. Ernie Robin has begun work on this.  
**The 10 short walks leaflets** are ready for publication possibly in June although Easter was suggested as an alternative. No reply has been received as yet regarding our application for a grant.  
**Additional Loan** Alison Jones will write to the Ramblers' Association Area Treasurer to prepare ground for possibility of a further loan. If we cannot obtain grant aid the idea of making a small charge for the leaflets was discussed.
- 11 Social**  
**Christmas Lunch** Favourable Email letters and one post card on the Christmas lunch have been received. Christine Winsor has agreed to the text of her card being reproduced in the next newsletter. It was agreed to book the Golf Club again for 2012. **TD**  
**Hot Pot Supper** The speaker at the Hot Pot supper is to be advised that 45 mins is a suitable length for his talk and that slides are desirable.
- 12 Newsletter** – Terry Doherty would like items for the Newsletter. It was suggested that a précis of the Committee meeting minutes be included. **AB**
- 06.12.1 AOB**  
**Accident** – Roger Palmer reported an accident on his walk on 27 December 2011. The report has been forwarded to the Ramblers  
**Area Council Delegates** – Terry Doherty and Ann Beeching agreed to attend.  
**Committee agenda** – It was agreed that reports should be sent to the Secretary at least 10 days before the meeting to enable circulation by email with the Agenda. A reminder will be sent out. **AB**
- 07.12 Date of Next meetings** – 12 April, 2012; 5 July, 2012; 6 September, 2012; 8 November, 2012 (AGM) **AHB/10.01.2012**