

Kendal Group of the Ramblers

Minutes of the 42nd Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 10th November 2011 at Stricklandgate Methodist Church Hall, Union Street, Kendal

Present: Chairperson (Terry Doherty), Secretary and 42 members.

1 Apologies: Donald Brumfitt, Hilary Parker, Derek and Briony Teather, Laraine Earle, June Postlethwaite, Mary and Anthony Close, Malcolm Petyt, David King, Ian and Krysia Brodie, Peter Standish, Mary and James Harper, Gerald Cummins, Joan and Brian Meakin, Jennifer Ray, Irene Farrington, Jan Wiltshire, Alan and Jenny Paley, Brenda Cockshott

2 Minutes of the 41st AGM: Approved

3 Matters Arising: Emailing members: Polly Robin commented that at the recent Ramblers Publicity Day it was useful to collect and use members' emails. Terry Doherty proposed that newsletters be sent out by email, with the exception of AGM notices which would be posted. Pat Walsh confirmed that just over half the 387 membership had registered email addresses with her. Margaret Pook queried whether walks' programmes would be emailed. Terry D. confirmed that they would be sent by email and also, in reply to a question, it was confirmed that regional newsletters are sent out by email. Ernie Robin proposed that notices of the AGM be sent out by email; this motion was voted on and carried. It was stated that spare paper copies of AGM reports would be available at the AGM and those who have not registered their email addresses would continue to receive AGM papers through the post.

Ramblers are asked to give assistance in the twice yearly sample survey of the condition of footpaths; a training course was recently held by an officer of the Lake District National Park.

Maps were on display showing the proposed extensions to the National Park boundaries.

John Brock distributed his booklet, The Swale Way, but added that an erratum slip should be in each but is obtainable from him; Avril Hallam mentioned that Hincaster Trailway booklets were available.

4 Acting Chair's Report: Polly Robin and Terry Doherty will jointly share the Chair. Two Committee members were proposing to exchange jobs: Pauline Goodridge and Ann Beeching, Secretary and Footpaths' Officer (outside Lake District National Park). Colin Rowley, Access Officer would like to step down in 2012; Pat Walsh wishes to step down, as does the Treasurer, Laraine Earle and the Walks' Programme Officer, John Holman. Pat W. appealed for a person(s) to collect sheets for mailing and assistance in dealing with the mail outs.

Short Walks Leaflets: Final draft proofs are available. A second costing is being obtained.

5 Secretary's Report: Accepted.

6 Footpath Secretary's Report (Lake District National Park): Bryan Harris mentioned a path diversion at Ings had been confirmed this week. He said that there had been recent changes to personnel both inside the Lake District National Park and outside it, particularly rangers and officers dealing with rights of way. There had been a decision over the use of motor vehicles on the byway, the Garburn Pass; vehicles are now excluded from this route. Report accepted.

7 Footpath Secretary's Report (Outside the LDNP): Accepted.

8 Access Officer's Report: Commented that the 10 year review had been postponed, probably for at least two years. Accepted.

9 Walks Programme Officer's Report: John Holman said that there had been no mention of the move back to the car park, now B & Q. He had talked to the Manager; members should be grateful for being allowed to park there. Leaders should ask John if unable to lead or a leader would be 'press-ganged' on the day of the walk.

10 Countryside Officer's Report: Accepted.

11 Publicity Officer's Report: Polly Robin emphasized the need to sell more walks' books, the value of the stock being £4070. She reported that we were now supplying Waterstones' booksellers direct with the books, but that we need more outlets in order to reduce the stock more quickly. She is still hoping that a member will take on the role of Marketing Officer for the Group.

12 Treasurer's Report: Tony Willey, in Laraine Earle's absence, explained the significant figures in the report. Income from the sale of the books is nowhere near the cost of printing. Expenses for postage are high (£505) The Treasurer was thanked for maintaining the figures in an exemplary way. Accepted.

13 Appointment of Independent Examiner: Tony Willey was re- appointed.

14 Election of Officers: The Executive Committee and officers were voted in unopposed. Terry Doherty was thanked for her contribution as Acting Chairperson. Alison Jones is to shadow Laraine Earle as Treasurer in 2011/12. John Holman was thanked for his efficiency as Walks' Programme Officer.

15 AOB: Bryan Harris presented the Joint Chairpersons with gavels made by him. Margaret Adams who had previously announced her intention not to walk with Ramblers again (at the age of 85) was presented with a framed Good Service certificate, a photo album containing photos from walks and flowers by Syd Searle who spoke about the formation of the Group and Margaret's part in it.

The meeting closed at 8.16 p.m.