

Draft Minutes of Mendip Ramblers Committee Meeting, 7pm,  
26<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at The Kings Arms, Shepton Mallet.

Agenda:

- 1) Welcome and apologies for absence.
- 2) Minutes of last meeting.
- 3) Matters arising.
- 4) Election of Vice Chair.
- 5) Officer and Sub Committee reports.
- 6) AOB.
- 7) Date and venue of next meeting.

1). Welcome and apologies for absence.

The Chair welcomed new members to the Committee.

Present: Alice Lock, Colin Mansfield, Carol Griffin, Richard Plant, Paula Ruddock, Mike Plaskitt, Maggie Massey, Paul Massey, Clive Edney.

Apologies: Barbara Calverley, Nick Harding, Mike Beveridge, Doreen Marks, Les Stather.

2). Minutes of last meeting.

The minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September were agreed as correct.

3). Matters arising.

Nick Harding has replied to Eric Dole.

Colin Mansfield's letter to Rod Porter is still awaiting a reply.

Carol has returned the Mendip Ring feasibility study money to Ramblers Association head office.

Ramblers Association 2010 "Baton walks". Paula had volunteer walk leaders for two baton walks: Gus - Stockhill woods and Les - Frome riverside. She will communicate with RA head office.

Because of the necessary two month lead time for the compilation of the walks programme, it was agreed that in future, a new Walks Programme Secretary would take over the Spring/Summer programme (1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> July).

Alice offered to assist in encouraging leaders to submit walks.

Clive raised the matter of getting people interested in leading walks.

4). Election of Vice Chair.

Colin Mansfield proposed that Mike Plaskitt be elected to the post of Vice Chair. Alice Lock seconded the proposal.

5). Officer and Sub-Committee reports.

a) Chair. He felt privileged to be elected chair of such a vibrant and successful group. He had two broad aims for his chairmanship. Firstly he wanted to ensure that everyone on the committee and all others who contribute to the group by leading walks and organising events felt valued We are after all volunteers. Secondly to lead the further development of the group. While the group is successful there is always room to develop. Ideas and support from the committee are essential. Possibly needs "brainstorming " session.

b) Group Secretary. Nothing to report since AGM.

c). Membership secretary. Nothing to report since AGM.

d). Walks Programme Secretary. Distribution problems are adding to the rising cost of producing the programme. Dave Wilcox does Frome with the help of Alice and Dave Owen. Trevor Evans does Shepton Mallet. Need to ask for more volunteers for Wells and Glastonbury. Carol offered to distribute programmes in Street.

Is it possible to separate the compilation and distribution sides of the programme?.

e). Treasurer. Problem has arisen with signatures because Lisa has resigned and Owen is on holiday for nine weeks. Colin Mansfield proposed that Paula be second signatory, seconded by Alice. Lisa still to countersign cheques until bank informed of change.

Appointment of auditor. Martin Young has been asked and is considering the matter. The committee needs to continue looking for potential auditors.

f) Footpath officers: East. Nothing to report since AGM.

West. Has established communication with Clare and Sheila at Mendip District Council.

g) Publicity officer & 2010 walking festival. Paula has sent get well cards to Mike Beveridge, Hilary Malpas and Richard Woodman. She reported that Richard Woodman had passed away on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November and will obtain details of funeral arrangements.

2010 walking festival. Nunney Village Hall is too expensive. Gus is investigating a subsidy from Mendip District Council. Colin enquired about revisiting a previous festival location as that would permit more footpath repair work to be achieved across Mendip District Council area as a whole.

h). Social Secretary. Nothing to report since AGM.

i). Webmaster. Website recently updated with new photos of the Swanage weekend, new programme details and new committee details. No further changes until returned from holiday.

j). Spring Holiday. No report as still recovering from knee replacement op.

k). Area meeting report. Nothing to report since AGM.

6). Any other business.

a). Liaison with work party. Work party is still active and volunteering charter is being discussed between Somerset County Council and Ramblers Association head office. Clive to liaise with Bob Berry.

b). Area AGM. The area AGM is before Mendip Ramblers next committee meeting, Paula will attend the area AGM, possibly with Owen.

c). Colin asked whether a letter of support requested by Mendip Cross Trails Trust had ever been sent.

d). Paula requested that committee members encourage the sale of "Mendip Merchandise", especially 2010 calendars.

e). Clive raised the matter of encouraging new walk leaders to come forward.

Need a new agenda item to discuss getting new walk leaders.

Maggie suggested a new leaders evening, or better a new leaders walk.

7). Date and venue of next meeting.

Thursday February 18<sup>th</sup> 2010, 7pm at the King's Arms, Shepton Mallet.

The meeting closed at 8:30pm.

#### ACTION POINTS FOR NEXT MEETING

Ask for more programme distribution volunteers.

Confirm second signatory.

Appointment of auditor.

2010 Walking Festival.

Clive to liaise with Bob Berry re: work party.

Obtain walk leaders help and safety cards from Ramblers HQ.

Clive to compile short list of potential walk leaders.