



Committee Meeting Agenda

DATE: Thursday 24th October 2013 at 7pm

VENUE: The King's Arms, Leg Square, Garston St, Shepton Mallet
BA4 5LN. Tel: 01749 343781

1. **Welcome & apologies for absence**
Alice Lock and Peggy Fortunati
2. **Minutes of last meeting**
Approved
3. **Matters arising**
None
4. **Officer & Sub-Committee Reports**
 - a. Membership Secretary
Ref Appendix 1
Mary has been contacted by the Area Membership Secretary to share what she is doing. Mary has sent the welcome pack
 - b. Footpath Officers
Ref Appendix 2
 - c. Walks Programme
The Frome Rights of way Walks will no longer be shown as part of the programme but a note will be made that FROW walk on the first Sunday of each month and contacts will be provided/
 - d. Publicity Officer
Ref Appendix 3
 - e. Social Secretary
Alice will be resigning at the AGM we thank her for her tireless effort in providing social events.
 - f. Treasurer
Ref Appendix 4
The accounts for the year were discussed in detail and approved
5. **Agenda Items from Brian Underwood**
 - a. **Discussion on Footpath Reporting Problems**
Brian asked for clarification of what needed to be reported. It was agreed that even small things such as a broken step should be reported on the interactive map but Bob berry should also be informed as we have permission to fix small issues without prior approval from SCC
 - b. **The possibility/advisability of organizing sponsored walks**
Les was asked to check with Area if walks could be sponsored. This was done and as no clear direction was given, the Ramblers have been contacted
6. **Working Party Update**
The working party has spent £75.33p on tools. They have been very busy with the majority of their work being done in Bath and North East Somerset. A meeting has

recently taken place with SCC and they are very happy with the standard of the work. They are, however, finding it difficult to identify pieces of work to be done. Given the number of faults on the network the working party find this difficult to believe.

7. AGM Preparation

The AGM will be at The Poachers Pocket Chelnych on the 16th of November. Everything is in hand for this.

8. Report from Festival Committee.

Les reported that the festival went well with nearly 300 people attending over 3 days with a cumulative distance of from Wells to Athens walked. The festival xt year has been booked for Wellow.

9. 2014 Spring Holiday

The spring holiday will be at Woolacombe from Friday 4th to Monday 7th April. We have many people interested. It was agreed to set up an electronic payment option as well as cheque..

10. Any Other Business

We had an interesting talk and demonstration from a member of the My Guide Dog organisation on the 16th October. The five who attended, were given an insight into the various forms of sight defect, and discussed and practised the techniques for assisting partially sighted and blind walkers.

During the festival this year, we had a visit from some members of a walking group from Shepton Mallet's twin town, Oissel near Rouen. They were keen to promote the walking in their area. Mike will let Peggy have the details for the programme.

Brian was contacted by Andrew McCloy a freelance writer for Walk Magazine regarding an article he was writing on Cliffs and Caves in Mendip. We look forward to reading this in the next issues

11. Date and venue of next meeting

Thursday 23rd of January 2014 The Kings Arm Dusthole Shepton

Appendix 1

Membership Secretary Report A.G.M. 2013

Mendip Membership has decreased this year. Despite having 18 new members and 2 reinstated our numbers are down by 22. The total number of members at the end of October is 329.

Membership rates went up this year which was the first rise since 2010. There will not be an increase for concessions, and new members will get £10-00 discount for the first year.

Welcome letters have been sent to all new members.

I tried to contact payment pending members with very little response.

I received a few replies to follow up feedback letters which are sent to new members after a short time.

There was some interest shown at the walking festival from potential new members.

The new Monday afternoon tea walks are quite popular with less able walkers and the more able seem to be enjoying them. Any other ideas to encourage new members always welcome.

Mary Davis (membership Secretary)

Appendix 2

Footpath Secretary's Report for Mendip West.

Two footpath diversion notices received for Butleigh and Street. No issues and no objections raised.

Two footpath surveys completed, 9 sections in May and 4 in August. Ken Masters assisted. No failures reported.

Problem encountered with a blocked path at Coxley (WS10/69) on a walking festival route. Landowner disputing the definitive path.

A new stile erected on Tynings Lane, Wookey Hole in time for the walking festival and two new Bristol gates installed at Wookey (WS16/27)

Appendix 4

24th OCTOBER 2013 PUBLICITY REPORT FOR COMMITTEE

General

Reports have been sent to local media on a regular basis. Have sent interim reports re: holidays between the end of programme reports to try to keep a high profile. Received feedback from members that they were published.

Festival

Reports to magazines, eg. Country Life, re the festival were successful as there were a number of phone calls and people did join the festival from further afield.

I contacted the Parishes that were covered by the festival walks, then sent out posters to them all but had no acknowledgement from any of them. It would be interesting to know if any of the posters were displayed.

I have reported on the festival to local media but am not sure what has been published. I have had no feedback on Mid Somerset paper. The Somerset Standard has now become the Frome Standard and I wonder if they consider Mendip to be out of area as they don't appear to have published.

Mike emailed the editor for local radio as he has given interviews previously, but received no response and I don't think they advertised the festival for us. I would appreciate feedback and a couple of photos from the 2 recent holidays so I can report on them.

Mary Birchall

Ramblers Association - Mendip Group
Income & Expenditure Account for Year Ending 30th September 2013

Expenditure	2012/13	2011/12	Income	2012/13	2011/12
Walks Programmes	£358.49	£305.12	Area Grant	£740.00	£342.00
Newsletters/publicity			Bank Interest	£2.09	£2.47
Campaigns			Miscellaneous		
Practical Work	£756.67	£289.74	Donations	£440.00	£70.00
Meetings (inc AGM)	£5.00				
Walking Festival	£100.00	£100.00	Walking Festival	£145.98	£165.96
Publications	£63.75	£87.60	Publication Sales	£113.30	£105.50
Admin	£12.00	£122.19			
Other					
Holidays	£5,612.00	£6,575.00	Holidays	£5,182.00	£6,735.00
Social Events	£1,001.65	£1,110.25	Social Events	£1,002.00	£1,110.50
Total	£7,909.56	£8,589.90	Total	£7,625.37	£8,531.43

Summary

Income	£7,625.37	£8,531.43
Expenditure	£7,909.56	£8,589.90
Surplus in year	(£284.19)	(£58.47)

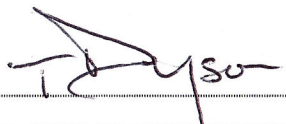
Balance Sheet

Bank Balance b/f 1st Oct 12	£2,488.22	£2,546.71
Surplus on year	(£284.19)	(£58.47)

Breakdown

Restricted	£403.28	£500.00
Holiday payments	£1,180.60	£1,610.25
Main funds	£620.15	£377.97
Bank Balance c/f 30th Sept 13	£2,204.03	£2,488.22

Tony Dyson - Treasurer



24th October 2013

Independant Examiner's Statement

Having carried out procedures in accordance with the Area and Group independant examination guidelines, I consider the Mendip Group accounts to have been properly prepared and give a true and fair view of the Group's finances for the year to 30th September 2013

Signed



Date

17/10/13

Name & Address

Mrs K Simpson, 1 Mead Cottages, Brewery Lane, Holcombe, BA3 5EQ
