

**Bearsden and Milngavie Ramblers and Hillwalkers
Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Thursday 22 November 2018**

PRESENT

Elaine Maclean (Chairman), Phil McElroy (Secretary), Moira Allan (Treasurer)
Fiona Taylor, Peter Allan, Karine Davison, Imogen Johnstone, Hazel Miller, Sheila Crawford,
Pam Lee, Sue Swinson, Peter Bartos, Madeleine Blackley (Minute Secretary)

1. WELCOME ADDRESS BY NEW CHAIR

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and welcomed the new committee members. She expressed her delight in joining as the new Chair and looked forward to future ongoing success of the Club. If anyone had any ideas or points to this end they were not to hesitate to air them.

The Chair spoke on the Ramblers Scotland web site development. This was likely to have an impact on the operation of local groups and it might be useful to consider becoming involved in its development. This has to be put on the Agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Fiona Denman

3. RATIFICATION OF NEW COMMITTEE POSTS

Pam Lee was appointed to the Committee at the AGM and her role as Walks Programme Co-ordinator was ratified at this meeting.
Sue Swinson was appointed at the AGM as a Committee member.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY AUGUST 30 2018

The Minutes were Accepted by PM and Seconded by MA

5. MATTERS ARISING

The Treasurer advised that Area got the expenses they requested. There were no further matters arising.

6. REPORTS AS CIRCULATED

Secretary's Report

Nothing to add to report.

In order to save time at the meetings, especially if there was a lengthy agenda, the Secretary suggested the Committee should read the Reports prior to the meeting. Questions, if any, could then be raised at the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Nothing to add to report.

Points to discuss Recce Expenses

A discussion took place on claims for recce expenses and whether it was possible to claim more than once for the same recce. It was agreed that recce expenses could be claimed on more than one occasion.

It was also discussed that leaders could, if they so wished, donate their expenses to the group funds if they did not wish to claim the expenses for themselves. This could only be done by filling out the recce claim forms and then donating the money to the group. This would allow the Treasurer to move these funds into the appropriate account. This point will be notified to all leaders as some leaders were not claiming for their expenses at all.

Action: FT will email leaders notifying them of this option.

Programme Editor

Nothing further to report.

It was agreed that the Chairman would be an Area Representative as this had been voted at the AGM and approved.

Additional phone numbers were taken and noted by the Programme Editor.

Membership and Mailing Report

HM was unable to give an update on this as she had been locked out of the Membership Dashboard due to some malfunction on the site. Discussion took place on the fact that there had been a Ransomware attack on the system but no information had been stolen. The point that the Ramblers website was poor was also discussed. The membership should continue as is and this should be put on the Agenda for the next meeting.

Access Report

Nothing to add to report.

The next East Dunbartonshire Access Forum meeting is on Monday 26 November 2018.

Action: EM will attend this meeting as IJ unable to attend. Attendance variable at these meetings.

Social Convenor's Report

Nothing further to report.

Christmas lunch – 47 members attending at the moment. This will be capped at 50.

Discussion took place on events being arranged for the next session.

Webmaster's Report

Nothing to add to report.

Area Representatives Report

Nothing to add to report.

Various points were discussed.

Volunteer Roles - To register their volunteer roles, members should log onto Ramblers UK website then login to 'Your Account', having created it and received an acceptance by email, then 'Update Profile' and update information in 'My Volunteering'.

Action: KD will provide information to FT for the Club programme.

Dogs on walks – it was agreed that dogs would not be permitted on walks, unless assistance dogs.

Persons under the age of 18 – Jim Lawson, from Area, to confirm details on this point. Further discussion required.

Area AGM – there will be a walk following this meeting.

KD was giving information to FT for GDPR representation for Programme.

7. FOREIGN HOLIDAY UPDATE

The holiday to Norway is now fully booked. Thirty one members are being accommodated in 21 rooms .There is no waiting list at the moment.

The organisation of this will now proceed to the next stage, focusing on a programme of walks, local transport etc. Payment of the first part of the hotel deposit will be due in December.

PB to give information to FT for the programme.

8. AGM SECRETARY'S REPORT

At the AGM the Secretary read out the Access Officer's Report and included in her annual Report, edited reports from the Leaders of the Wednesday Wanderers and the Wednesday Morning walks. It was agreed that if individuals wished to read out their own reports, they should keep them brief. (1 minute approximately)

9. A.O.C.B

- Would advertising be allowed on the website or programme? Committee decision - no.
- The title of the new Chairperson. To be on the agenda at the next AGM.
- Recruitment of new members – to be put on agenda for next meeting.

The Chair asked if she might belatedly thank everyone who had helped her prepare for the role. This had been much appreciated.

Breaking News – this should be looked at by all members for updated information.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next committee meeting will be held on **MONDAY 25 February 2019 at 7.00 p.m in Waitrose meeting room .**

Reports for meeting on Thursday, November 22nd, 2018

Treasurer's Report

No 1 a/c – Main Account

Balance at 12/11/18 - £595.72. The balance includes the first quarterly payment of £363 from Area, slightly less than last year as membership is down. Funds of £38 are still available in the account towards our navigation training. Also £60 has been received from Ramblers Walking Partnership. Expenditure so far Recce Expenses £35.45, AGM Expenses £115.50, Admin £4.99, Website £6.34 and First Aid £702.

No 2 a/c - Self-Funded Account

Balance at 12/11/18 - £2661.71. Credits to a/c, Norway deposits £1400, Ceilidh £90. Funds paid out, Ceilidh £1234.00, Wednesday Morning walks Christmas Lunch Deposit £180.

Points to discuss - Recce Expenses

Moira Allan

12/11/18

Secretary's Report

Articles describing the Group's 30th Anniversary celebrations, along with photographs, were sent to the Bearsden and Milngavie Herald, The Bearsden and Milngavie Community Magazine and the Ramblers 'Walk' magazine. To date, the B&M Herald published a much abridged version of the article along with six photographs in a half page spread. Nothing else to report.

Phil McElroy

15/11/2018

Programme Editor-nothing to report.

Membership and Mailing Report, November, 2018.

NUMBERS

As of 31st October there are 301 members. During October, 2 members joined, 1 left, 3 lapsed (>3 months overdue subscription).

Head Office Changes.

A Membership Secretaries dashboard (report) has just been introduced. After some difficulty I have managed to sign on and see the membership lists with recent updates. I'm not sure how useful it will be but will find out at the end of month if the lists will still be sent out as usual. It looks as if it will be quicker to access members' details when on the move.

Hazel Miller.

16/11/18

Access Report

WHW project with Milngavie in Bloom. The last session of the year was held on 1st November. This was a session for leaf clearing.

Volunteers' Access Training Workshop 17.11.18

The attendance potentially was Scotland wide.

The session was comprised mostly of discussion groups and activities around increasing the knowledge base of attendees on legal rights, how to resolve issues and outcomes of some court actions.

Imogen Johnstone

18.11.18

Social Convenor's Report

September event on Tues 25th September. Guided tour of CRM's The Lighthouse. A total of 13 people signed up and our guide, was excellent, initially taking us outside then up the lighthouse from the ground floor upwards. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it and the view from the top was well worth it.

The 30th Anniversary Dinner and Ceilidh was held on 12th October and a total of 61 members had a great night in Milngavie Bowling Club enjoying the catering provided by 'a la cater', the company of good friends and Scottish Country Dancing. The committee had done a grand job in securing the venue, the caterers and the lovely table and hall decorations for the night. Thanks must go to Jenny and her team for all of their hard work in making the night so enjoyable and to Imogen and Sheila for baking and decorating the cake with a mountain and walking theme. Thanks also to Sheila for providing and calling the ceilidh dances. Great fun was had by everyone involved-a great night!

The AGM on 2nd November was extremely well attended and our sincere thanks must go to Sue Swinson for her illuminating and very personal insight into her experience as a participant in the Transplant Games. She is indeed a real inspiration to others! Our thanks also go to all of the committee members who provided the delicious home baking.

December's event is the Annual Group Christmas lunch again being held at the Buchanan Arms Hotel in Drymen on Saturday 8th December and thanks to Fiona T for leading the walk again before what looks like a lovely menu for the lunch. To date there are 45 members who have signed up. The traditional mulled wine and festive nibbles will again be served in the Hotel car park before the walk.

Sheila Crawford

18/11/2018

Report from the Group Holidays organiser

The Norway 2019 holiday is fully booked for the 8 single rooms with a waiting

list. There are three double/twin rooms still available from the 13 reserved. I have started an action to see if we can have three more singles instead of the unfilled doubles and to amend the contract, allowing three members on the waiting list to take part. Beginning of January is the deadline for payment of 10% deposit and collection of the payments will begin soon.

Peter Bartos

18/11/2018

Webmaster's report

I have nearly completed the first year of my three year term as webmaster, during which time I have got to grips with most aspects of the website with the help of Peter Allan. I am also grateful to Peter, Fiona Taylor and Joan Mackie who are the other members capable of adding items to Breaking News. This has been a great help to me, spreading the load and meaning that there is always someone available to post last minute items.

In this respect I would reiterate the point made by Fiona Taylor at the last committee meeting and by Jenny Kane at the AGM, that leaders should make good use of Breaking News to inform members of all changes to walks – whether it be a cancellation, change in timing, or even changes to the proposed walk itself – anything that might influence a member's decision as to whether to join a walk or not. Equally members should take it upon themselves to check Breaking News the evening before a walk to make sure they are up to date with what is happening. Breaking News is a very useful facility and we should make the most of it.

Fiona Denman

16/11/2018

Area Representative's Report

North Strathclyde Area Council Meeting on Sat. 17th Nov.2018

Friends Meeting House. 38 Elmbank St. Glasgow at 10.30am.

There were no minutes available from 1st Sept. meeting, as Liz Lawie, Minute Secy. went to Brighton some time ago to visit a sick friend. While there, her friend sadly died, and as Liz is the Executor she has had to stay on.

Liz Hunt took the minutes on behalf of Liz.

1. One Matter Arising from the MAY Minutes for Clarification, was whether Ramblers UK had actually established the Safeguarding Policy Age Limit without taking into account Scottish Law.

Unfortunately, Jim Lawson checked the website information only, which is where the information came from in the first place and caused the need for clarification.

An enquiry is to be made of Ramblers Scotland and possibly Ramblers UK.

2. Area Officers and Standing Committee

a. Treasurer reported Area's Annual Return had been completed and the 2017/18 Accounts have been signed off by the Independent Examiner.

The Annual Returns received from Groups have been forwarded to Central Office and on arrival there, acknowledged .

b. Ramblers Finance Dept. has informed Area Treasurer that the budget submission for 2018/19 has been approved, and the Area will receive the full amount requested.

The initial instalment from Central Office has been received, and the first quarter payments to Groups have been transferred to their accounts.

3. Secretary's Business.

a. Ramblers Scotland Newsletters.

Reminder that the above can be received directly from Ramblers Scotland.

Sept Issue: Articles singled out :

*Take action on 'out of control ' vehicle tracks.

* Know your rights.

Oct.Issue:

* Are your Volunteer roles recorded ? Updated too ?

* Know your rights.

* Get 10% off at Ramblers Shop.... Online.

b. Ramblers GB Volunteer Newsletters

Sept. Issue:

DOGS on walks:.....at discretion of each Group. - Dog owners arrange own walks?

* Registered Assistance dogs on walks.

* Ramblers Scotland –let your MSP know that control of hilltracks matters to you.

* P2

* Oct.Issue:

*Ramblers Shop- please take advantage of current 10% discount.

*New telephone system –a gentle reminder of the new Ramblers Office numbers.

* Ramblers Scotland – please register to join a free training event on Scottish access rights.

4.Group Support.

Persons under the age of 18.

“ We no longer accept anybody under the age of 18 on walks unless they are accompanied.. This was changed across GB last year on guidance from Children 1st,to avoid being in regulated work with 15-17 yr olds.

Please refer to our safeguarding toolkit which clearly states:

Everyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult with parental responsibility.

We no longer accept unaccompanied young people aged 15-17 on Ramblers activities even with written consent from a parent or guardian, and the consent cards we previously issued are no longer valid.”

5. Area AGM: to be held on 26th January 2019. 10am for 10.30am. In Coatbridge Indoor Bowling Club,[Main Hall] Quarry Street, Coatbridge .ML5 3PU

Karine Davison

19/11/2018

