

**Minutes from
Helensburgh and West Dunbartonshire Ramblers Group Committee Meeting held in
Helensburgh Parish Church, 19th January 2023 at 7pm.**

Present

Sheena Arendt, Mike McManus, David Clark, Mike Carder, Mary McLachlan, Peter Knox, Pat Anguelov, Idris Scott.

1 – Apologies

Bernadette Devine, Ian McCall

David thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

2 – Minutes

No comments.

Minutes were proposed by Idris Scott and seconded by Peter Knox.

3 – Matters Arising

Trish was to email members regarding getting feedback on why some members have not been walking for a while. This has not been done so far.

We have not heard whether Bernadette has been able to access a navigation course.

Matters arising from the AGM – The Area AGM is to be held in Milngavie on the 28th January but some members did not seem to receive this email. Mike McM will resend the email to all members. David is hoping to attend this meeting.

4 – Officers Reports

4a – Treasurer

Ian was unable to attend the meeting but David felt that there would be little change in the accounts since the AGM in November. There was a couple of outlays – Flowers and a voucher for Trish and a donation given to John Urquart for The Helensburgh and District Access trust.

4b – Access Officer

David is taking on this role. He is meeting John Urquart in early February so will be able to chat to him regarding paths.

The Ardmore point footpath has now been upgraded.

4c – Membership Secretary

We now have 110 members, one more than last time.

4d – Secretary

Nothing to report.

4e – Group Chair

David downloaded the Volunteer Role Profile which he will look over.

Shared learning meeting via zoom.

David attended this and some points raised were:-

Recce expenses – The minutes said that Helensburgh group did not pay expenses. David said that this was not stated at the meeting and they must have got the groups mixed up as Helensburgh do pay out recce expenses.

Walk leaders – the wording on this was a bit misleading saying that the leaders were “tired” but it was meant that we could be doing with a few new leaders. There is a good response for walks from the leaders.

Attracting Walk Leaders – There were a few hints on recruiting leaders but our group have already tried some of these. Pat thought that presenting a previous walk to a member and asking if they would lead it might get a better result as the pressure is off trying to find a walk.

The next Shared Learning meeting on the 27th March is covering Footpath Maintenance which may be of some interest to our group.

Other topics raised

Hermitage Academy are hosting a “Looking to get involved” day on the 4th March but the committee did not feel that this would benefit us.

We spoke about training needs and felt that First Aid/CPR and also a talk from the Mountain Rescue team on what to expect if we find it necessary to contact them would be helpful. David will contact Jeannie Cranfield regarding this.

Eventbrite is on the Ramblers website and lists all the training available. Idris will put a link to this on the website.

5 – Publicity

All is going smoothly with the advertising. The changes to GWEM are still ongoing.

6- Events

The Scottish Council will be held in Stirling on the 4th March. David will attend this but there is still space if anyone else would like to go along.

There are no group events planned at the moment but the committee thought that another weekend away would be good. Mike C said that there are some good deals at Patterdale and he will look into dates and prices for late April.

Another walk/meal is also another enjoyable social event but some suggested areas may require train travel. It was thought that it was best to wait and see if the train strike situation will be resolved.

7- Walks programme

The current format for the walk programme is going well and the March one is ready to go out. It was felt that there is no need for a walk leaders’ meeting at the moment as the WhatsApp group works well.

There was a discussion regarding information on Ticks. Should this be put into the programme? Should it be put on the website? It was decided that members should be made aware of checking for Ticks after a walk and it will be put in both the programme and the on the website.

8 – AOB

David reminded us that there was a walk leaders survey if anyone would like to fill it in.

9 – Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on 23rd March 2023 at 7pm in Helensburgh Parish Church.