

Minutes from Helensburgh and West Dunbartonshire Ramblers Group Committee and Walk Leaders Meeting held in Helensburgh Parish Church, 5th June 2025 at 7pm.

Present

Sheena Arendt, Mike McManus, David Clark, Idris Scott, Mike Carder, Catherine Duda, Jack Tarr, Pat Anguelov, Gerry Marshall, John Gildea.

1 – Apologies

Ian McCall, Bernadette Devine, Trish Schooling, Miles Walsh, Roy Lewis.

2 – Minutes

No comments.

Minutes were proposed by Jack Tarr and seconded by Mike Carder.

3 – Matters Arising

A note regarding the questionnaire results will be put onto the website and into the programme.

4a – Treasurer

Ian was unable to attend the meeting so sent these figures.

MAIN ACCT: £1301-15 (£1007-23)

SOCIAL ACCT: £575-35 (£435-35)

For Trish's walk to Inchcailloch we are subsidising the £10 ferry charge at £5 per head. (approx 22 walkers).

4b – Access Officer

The only thing Pat had to report was that the cycle path between Bowling and Dumbarton was closed.

4c – Membership Secretary

We have 2 new members, 2 have resigned and 1 has not renewed membership so the total is now 109.

4d – Secretary and

4e – Group Chair

Not much to report this time. David led a walk at the recent gathering and enjoyed meeting walkers from different groups.

Ramblers Scotland latest newsletter is encouraging groups to be open to all who would like to walk. Our group felt that we are very welcoming and encouraging to any new walkers.

5 – Publicity

The publicity continues as usual via the Community Magazine.

The number of followers on the Facebook page in the last 28 days is up by 60% which takes the number to 119. There have been several good reactions and comments.

6- Events

The walking trip to Newton Stewart from Monday 29th September to 3rd October is now organised. There are 20 members on the list now. There have been several suggestions for various walks so a meeting to organise these will be held in early September.

7- Walks programme

The last 2 programmes struggled a bit to arrange walks so one walk per week will continue.

Walk Leaders Registration

David and Mike C attended a webinar session run by Ramblers as they are setting out a new approach to becoming a Walk Leader. David emailed the information given at the session to all walk leaders and committee members.

Proposed changes are leaders should register and can do so when the training is completed by having one of the following: -

Completed Ramblers training,
A Qualification e.g. Mountain Training,
A record of walk leadership experience,
plus

All leaders must have read the Handbook.

Leaders must be registered to appear on the walks manager.

The group discussed this and felt that the best way forward was to complete the Ramblers training.

This has to be renewed every 3 years.

Risk Assessment

There is no Ramblers risk assessment Pro Forma but there are guidelines set out in the handbook.

David sent out a Pro Forma to the Leaders. First Aid was discussed and the need for some training. David will contact Jeannie Cranfield and ask if a course could be arranged for the group in Helensburgh.

8 – AOB

Idris was sent some Ramblers ICE cards for anyone who would like them. He handed some out at the meeting.

The AGM in November was mentioned so an email will go out to the committee asking who will be willing to continue with their post next year.

9 – Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting 11th September 2025.