

MINUTES OF MEETING - Tuesday 25th March 2014

Present: J Billingham, J Brogden, S Killeen, S Knaggs, P Robinson

Apologies: S Collins, M Hardy

Matters Arising From Last Meeting

The Minutes from the last meeting were verified.

1) Learn To Navigate

S Knaggs (Chair) has at her house the group GPS's, two storm shelters and maps.

Foothills are offering "Learn to Navigate" courses. It was agreed J Brogden would block book with them, giving everyone in the group the opportunity to attend.

The Rambler's organised course in York would not be taken up.

2) Report from Treasurer

Accounts presented to meeting - correct at time of viewing.

3) Weekends Away

a) Howgills

At the Howgill's weekend approx 17 more people stayed in external accommodation. The weekend broke even and was a success, it was agreed the Bunk Barn was a good venue and the booking should be repeated.

b) Llanberis

The charge for Llanberis is set at £35 in case not enough places are taken up. At the time of the meeting there are three spaces left. There will only be walk availability for the people booked at the Chamois Centre as smaller groups are required in case the weather is not good ensuring the safety of members.

c) Dent

Thanks to Keef for starting the ball rolling with the annual Dent Beer and Music Festival, 27th & 28th June 2014. S Knaggs has now taken over the organisation and has initially booked 20 places. The campsites at Dent have always been good with group bookings and are prepared to accept higher noise levels. It is difficult to find a campsite in other locations who take group bookings; they are always very keen on noise levels.

d) August Bank Holiday 2014

Hostel/Campsite in Shropshire near Clun. Jude Flannigan to draft the details onto the website as soon as possible - the money is not to be collected through the group but independently by Jude. There are 10 people interested so far.

e) Seahouses May Spring Bank Holiday 2015

Deposit Paid.

f) New Year 2014

A question was raised about New Year 2014 - nothing resolved.

4) Socials

a) Colin Percival has offered to organise a social at a venue off West Street including a band. There has been problems' sorting out a date. Now looking at May.

b) Christmas 2014 - a question was raised but no discussion.

5) Up to Date Email Addresses

P Robinson to put a newsflash on the website asking people to update their email addresses as after the latest Ramblins we had approximately eight emails returned with address not known.

6) Report from Website Editor

a) Grid Reference on Walk Templates

S Killeen spending a lot of time sorting grid references on streetmap. The Grid Reference prefix has been missing on a number of walk templates recently - this fails to convert on streetmap as it could apply to a number of maps in our region with SD, SE and SK prefixes. The prefix is in large blue type on the top left corner of an OS map.

b) Photo's

P Robinson now updated photos from November 2013 to February 2014 on website. P Robinson to load photo's sent to group by email onto website. He will not be putting them on Flickr. He would like photo's sending in a zip format and would like only a small selection (eight approx.) because there is not that much web storage capacity.

c) Facebook

S Killeen to put her walk details on Facebook, as a trial. This is expected to enable people to see who has signed up for walks and to arrange lifts. After the trial people will be able to enter their likes and comments and see what interaction there is.

d) Message Board

Should there be a Facebook link to Message Board? The current Message Board is not being used much. Members now encouraged to use Facebook.

e) Hotmail Account

Discussion about having two email accounts, one general and one for walk templates as the group email is becoming overloaded.

f) Backup for When P Robinson on holiday

S Killeen to meet with P Robinson with a view to her keeping the website updated whilst P Robinson on holiday.

g) Entering SWG40s Walks on Ramblers Website

At present P Robinson does not have the extra time available to do this. The meeting felt there was no need to advertise elsewhere as current membership is high.

7) Report from Walk Leader Co Ordinator's

a) Walk Leader's Guidance

The Committee agreed that the updated Walk Leader's guidance presented to the meeting should be forwarded to all existing and new Walk Leaders.

b) Balance of Walks

The Walk Leaders are trying to ensure a balance of walks but as holidays come along - especially June - this may become difficult as the longer walk leaders will be away in Llanberis and Scotland.

c) Walk Specification

Thought was given to putting an extra category in the walk specification - slow, medium and fast.

8) Article in Rambler's Magazine re Footpath Repair

If approached by the Sheffield Rambler's group in the future, the message from SWG40s will be it recognises what the Ramblers are saying and we realise we need help and guidance in footpath maintenance. To be discussed further at next meeting. S Killeen to contact the Rambler's Association for advice.

9) Date of Next Meeting

6.45 p.m. Wednesday 14th May 2014 at S Knagg's house.