

## **RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION – WIRRAL GROUP**

### **MINUTES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 3 SEPTEMBER 2018**

**The Merebrook, Bromborough commencing 19.30hrs**

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#### **1. Approve Minutes previous meeting held 2 July 2018**

Agreed as a true record. Proposed Committee member (B), seconded Social secretary 2

#### **2. Matters arising from Minutes**

None

#### **3. Officers' Reports**

See attached document.

#### **4. Coach Tender decision**

A small sub group had been formed to oversee the tender process. The tender document contained the Autumn/Winter walking programme together with various other requirements. Four companies were invited to quote. After due consideration of price, responses to the tender questions and a check of the public information re the financial viability of the various companies, the contract was awarded to P&O Lloyd. The Chairman thanked those members of the committee who had taken part in the process.

#### **5. Constitution**

The Chairman reported that the current Wirral Ramblers Constitution has been invalid for several years. There is a standard model available from the Ramblers Association which has been adopted by other groups including Liverpool. A draft Constitution incorporating a few amendments to this standard model had been circulated to the committee prior to the meeting for their comments. After discussion it was decided that the various points raised at the meeting would be incorporated into a revised draft document which would be considered at the October meeting with the aim of bringing a motion to the AGM to adopt the new Constitution.

#### **Action point 01/09/2018**

#### **6. Motions for AGM**

- 1 Constitution – see item 6
- 2 Composition of committee – there are currently 14 voting members of the committee and a discussion took place as to whether the composition should be revisited:
  - (a) currently there are 4 members without portfolio and possibly this could be reduced to 3.
  - (b) there is currently no Social Secretary 1 and the committee discussed whether removing this post from the committee may encourage a Club member to fill the role.

### **Action point 02/09/2018**

Further discussion on motions for the AGM to be held at the October committee meeting.

### **7. Reports for the AGM to Chair for October**

Members were reminded that their reports for inclusion in the AGM Agenda booklet should be with the Chairman by the October meeting.

### **8. Vacancies on the committee**

Committee vacancies for the year 2018/2019 were listed as follows:

Chairman, General Secretary, Bookings Officer, Route Descriptions Officer, Social Secretary 1 (see item 7 (2b), one Committee member.

Bulletins for the AGM to be issued in respect of the vacancies.

### **9. Correspondence**

The Chairman had received correspondence from a member re the severe adverse weather protocol in the proposed Sunday Coach Rambles Manual, which had been replied to.

Wirral Borough Council had been approached regarding a possible upgrade of a footpath and naming it, or a section of it, in memory of a member who had left a bequest to the Club. The Council had requested a specific proposal from Wirral Ramblers in this respect.

### **10. Sunday coach rambles emergency telephone contact procedure**

After a lively discussion the committee decided that the existing dedicated mobile telephone should be given to the coach driver to be used as a point of emergency contact by all groups. All leaders to have this telephone no. in their phones. (No change to the number – 07895 152 449)

### **11. Sunday Coach Rambles Handbook**

For the sake of clarification it was decided to rename the Sunday Coach Rambles Handbook “Sunday Coach Rambles Manual” to clearly differentiate it from the “Leaders Handbook”. Discussion over the various comments received by Committee member (A) from committee members and the issues were resolved and wording finalised. He will incorporate these changes and finalise the documents ready for publication on the website and printed copies of the Leaders Handbook.

### **Action point 03/09/2018**

The Chairman thanked Committee member (A) for the vast amount of work he had undertaken in producing these documents.

### **12. Route Descriptions Officer handover**

A volunteer has come forward to take over this role from the end of September for the two months until the AGM.

### **13. Review Action Log**

The log was reviewed, and all items were either complete or on schedule.

### **14. Any other business**

There was support within the committee to encourage representatives of the varying elements of the club to be invited to attend committee meetings. It is thought that these different groups e.g. Wednesday walkers, Evening walkers, may have their own issues at times and they should be allowed to put them to the committee directly. The Chairman agreed to make this suggestion in his annual report.

Christmas Disco – the caterer and DJ from last year had been approached and were happy to be involved in this year's event.

The Ramblers Association membership fees were due to increase from October 2018:

Individuals – currently £35.00 rising to £35.85  
Joint – currently £46.50 rising to £47.85

Bookings Officer was concerned that on a couple of occasions recently new walkers had joined the coach with inadequate clothing and equipment. The advice is clearly shown on the website but the Website Manager reported that he had added a statement on the bookings page "New walkers should read the information and advice in our "New to Walking" section". It was hoped that this addition would help to address the issue.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 22.00hrs

### **Confirmation date of future committee meetings and of the AGM 2018**

1 October, 5 November. AGM 29 November

Signed: ..... ..

Gordon Clarke  
Chairman

Lyn Francis/Alice Cutts  
General Secretary

Officers Reports attached