

RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION – WIRRAL GROUP

MINUTES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 08 JANUARY 2018

The Merebrook, Bromborough commencing 19.30hrs

Present:	Gordon Clarke	Chairman	(GC)
	Brenda Jones	Vice Chairman	(BJ)
	Lyn Francis	Joint General Secretary	(LF)
	John Ackerman	Treasurer	(JA)
	Josie Nichols	Bookings Officer	(JN)
	Marcela Bellenand	Social Secretary 2	(MB)
	Angie Holmes	Rambles Secretary	(AH)
	Terry McKenna	Website Manager	(TM)
	John Baker	Committee Member	(JB)
	Berny Goodheart	Committee Member	(BG)
	Sue Martin	Committee Member	(SDM)

1. Apologies for Absence received:

	Alice Cutts	Joint General Secretary	(AC)
	Linda Starkey	Membership Secretary	(LS)
	Keith Morris	Footpaths Officer	(KM)
	Helen Clarke	Committee Member	(HC)

2. Approve Minutes previous meeting held 06 November 2017

Agreed as a true record. Proposed TM seconded AH

3. Matters arising from Minutes

None

4. Matters arising from AGM

(a) Encouraging coach use/Proposal for a coach pick up in Liverpool

Discussion re a coach pick up at Old Roan (close to Aintree Station). This venue is used successfully by several Liverpool walking groups. Committee were in favour of this addition to the existing pick up points for coaches going North with effect from the new Spring/Summer programme 2018.

Suggestion from JB that a "Wirral Ramblers" sign be placed in the front and side windows of the Sunday Coach.

JA to approach Cass Coaches regarding these two points

JA action 01/01/2018 & 02/01/2018

(b) Selection of walk venues

AH stated that the programme is written by a subcommittee of 6 experienced walkers representing A, B plus, B minus and C walks. She also sends the suggested venues to D leaders for their input (although welcome to join the group if interested). The subcommittee try very hard to find venues that appeal to all our groups and any suggestions are welcome.

(c) Leadership concerns

All leaders and potential leaders should be familiar with the Leaders' Handbook (an updated version of which is currently being finalised). Additionally, a new Walk Leader's checklist card is being issued. The club also holds annual walk leader and navigation courses. However, if anyone has a specific complaint about a leader, to let the committee know so that they can consider it. The committee will also consider whether there should be a requirement to ensure that all new leaders have read the Leadership Handbook, receive a hard copy of same and whether they should be accompanied by a "chaperone" on a first lead. Committee were also anxious that new leaders should be welcomed, encouraged and feel supported.

(d) Programme card

Questions were raised regarding the distribution of the club's programme card and an email reiterating the disquiet of some members was received by the Secretary from one member.

The committee, whilst standing by its decision to no longer post the Area mailings together with the programme card for the reasons previously stated, is concerned to resolve this matter. Proposals were put forward and it was agreed that the committee should consider them and return to the subject at the next meeting.

5. Officers Reports

See attached document.

TM Website Manager raised the subject of whether the Route Descriptions being added to the website should have "open" or "restricted" access. The committee to consider further.

6. Cancellation of coach seats guidelines

A question was raised concerning the operation of the coach cancellations policy.

JN stated that she applied the policy agreed by the committee, publicised on the web and circulated on the coach. The committee fully supported the criteria used by the Bookings Officer re cancellation of coach bookings.

7. Disco venue for 2018

MB reported that possible venues for this event were being investigated as The Lauries, Birkenhead was unavailable for the preferred 2018 date. **MB action 03/01/2018**

8. Facebook administration/publicity

BG confirmed that he was now the Administrator for the Club's Facebook page. Any members wishing to post items to the page should contact BG.

9. Appointment Keith Morris - Footpaths Officer

The committee welcomed Keith Morris as the new Footpaths Officer.

10. .Complaints procedure

Consideration of this matter was deferred to the February 2018 committee meeting.

11. Review Action Log

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

12. Confirmation date of future committee meetings and of the AGM 2018

5 February, 5 March, 9 April, 14 May, 4 June, 2 July, 3 September, 1 October, 5 November.
AGM 29 November

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.25hrs.

Signed:

Gordon Clarke
Chairman

Lyn Francis/Alice Cutts
General Secretary

Officers Reports attached