

**Committee Meeting 12th September 2022** held at 16:00h on Zoom

**Present:** Val B (Chair), Gill L (Treasurer), Lynda K (Secretary), Joy W, Phil B.

1. **Apologies:** Richard W
2. **Minutes of Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022:**

These were agreed by the Committee.

3. **Matters arising:**

- The Summer coach trip to Topsham was very successful and enjoyed by everyone who took part. It even made a profit of just over £100 because it was fully booked so we would like to say a big thank you to Colin and Heather for organising it all.
- The group session on the use of the OS Maps app had to be postponed so it will be rearranged for Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September from Trull.
- The waymarkers for the West Deane Way have now arrived and are ready to be put where needed along the route. Lynda and Phil will liaise to sort out some fixing nails and do the stretch between Staplegrove and Kingston St Mary where several were missing as a start.

4. **Officers' reports:**

- **Treasurer's report:**

| <b>Cashbook</b>          | <b>Main</b>   | <b>Self-funded</b> | <b>Total</b>    |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Opening balance          | 635.29        | 934.85             | <b>1,570.14</b> |
| Surplus/(deficit) on R&P | -61.87        | -59.00             | <b>-120.87</b>  |
| <b>Closing balance</b>   | <b>573.42</b> | <b>875.85</b>      | <b>1449.27</b>  |

- We aimed to break even with the coach trip as we did not expect to sell all the seats. As the trip was well supported we ended in profit.
- The waymarkers have now been purchased.
- The OS Map app is now in use. We need to decide if we will renew the membership next year.
- A donation of £30 given by members was made to a Ukraine charity in recognition of the work Dave Patten had done in his role as TDR Webmaster.

- **Membership secretary report:**

1 June 2022 – 31 August 2022

TDR membership is steady at 259 members and 2 Affiliated members.

Since 1<sup>st</sup> June: 8 new members (7 new to Ramblers, 1 New to Area). 1 member has rejoined and 8 members have left (2 Lapsed, 5 Resigned and 1 Moved) so an increase of one.

- **Footpath officer:**

Report from Phil:

I have received a small number of consultations on proposed footpath diversions. The most significant has been at Hill Farm, Knapp, where farm buildings across the route have effectively made path T17/61 unpassable for probably 50-60 years. I have responded to the consultation supporting the proposed diversion, and it is now up to the local planning authority to decide whether to grant permission for the redevelopment that would remove the existing buildings and open up the path.

There has also been a consultation over the proposed closure of footpath WG17/17 that crosses the railway at Longforth Farm, Wellington. I am not really happy with this, as it involves a significant increase in distance for walkers, but in reality there is probably little choice, given that the development to which the path relates was permitted many years ago. It seems a legal anomaly that development can be permitted while leaving associated rights of way diversions to be agreed many years later, in effect presenting Ramblers and other interest groups with a *fait accompli*.

## **5. Autumn Walk Programme**

The Wednesday afternoon walk programme is in place until the end of October thanks to Richard's hard work. Carol is also doing well with the programme for all day Sunday walks. There is not much progress with the Sunday afternoon and Friday evening walks. Gill has put together a quiz involving a walk around Taunton which she will organise for a Sunday afternoon.

## **6. Walk Attendance register**

It was decided to keep taking a register of names and contact numbers on our walks and the individual walk leaders will retain these with the walk risk assessment.

## **7. Resignation of Social Secretary**

There is now a vacancy on the Committee following Jane's resignation which hopefully can be filled at the AGM in November.

## 8. TDR AGM

### **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm at the Friends' Meeting House in Bath Place, Taunton**

Lynda will book the venue from 6.30 to 9.30pm. We will provide tea, coffee and nibbles. Joy offered to go to the WI shop and buy some cakes. The room will need setting out with chairs before the meeting. Documents will be posted on the website the week before the meeting to allow time for reading and to avoid the need for printing copies. We will just print some copies of the Agenda. An email will be sent out with nomination forms for those who wish to stand for Committee posts, similar to last year. It was suggested that the walk box should be brought to the meeting and maybe a poster display using the display boards. These display boards need to find a new home if anyone has room to store them.

## 9. Christmas meal

Val had made enquiries with the White Horse at Bradford on Tone and also the Quantock restaurant at SCAT. The Quantock restaurant only had one date available 9<sup>th</sup> December and this was for lunchtime so it was decided this was unsuitable. At the White Horse they could cater for 40 people maximum: 2 courses for £20.95, 3 courses for £23.95.

Joy had enquired at the New Mill at Bathpool and they could cater for 40 people in a separate area: 2 courses £24.95, 3 courses £27.95. They had evenings on 9<sup>th</sup> December and 16<sup>th</sup> December available.

We had been to the White Horse previously and so it was decided to book the New Mill on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December, 6.30 for 7pm. A £5 deposit each will be required by 1<sup>st</sup> December and menu choices given. Joy will book this. An email will be sent out in October and places booked on a first come, first served basis.

**Please note:** Following the meeting Joy contacted the New Mill and the booking has had to be changed to **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December** as they are not able to cater for a large party on 16<sup>th</sup> December. They have also requested that we arrive for **6pm**. The maximum number is 40 and they will want our £5 per head deposit and menu choices two weeks before, by 25<sup>th</sup> November at the latest.

## 10. Area AGM Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2023 2pm at Hatch Beauchamp Village Hall

As hosts, we will need to arrange for a speaker to talk for about half an hour on a topic relevant in some way to members eg environment or conservation. Lynda will contact Les Stather to inform him of the date and venue so it can be advertised on the Area website. We will also have to lead a short walk from Hatch Beauchamp on the morning of the AGM.

## 11. Any Other Business

None

## 12. Date, time and place of next meeting :

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 16:00h on Zoom.

Meeting closed at 17.17h