

Committee Meeting 14th March 2022 held at 16:00h on Zoom

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

1. **Apologies:** Jane L
2. **Minutes of Meeting on 10th January 2022:**

These were agreed by the Committee.

3. **Matters arising:**

- Group subscription for OS maps
Gill has purchased this and we currently have 4 walk leaders using it with some good feedback. Gill suggested that we have a group session on how to use it, perhaps a walk recce and training session.
- Updating of the TDR website (see item 7 below)
- Collection for John Ollerenshaw
£80 has been received from members and there followed a discussion about how this was to be given to John. Joy has passed a thank you card to Gill with members' comments added. Gill will contact John

4. **Officers' reports:**

• **Treasurer's report:**

Cashbook reconciliation				
		Main	Self-funded	Total
Opening balance		635.29	934.85	1,570.14
Surplus/(deficit) on R&P		29.67	- 110.00	- 80.33
Closing balance		664.96	824.85	1,489.81

We have purchased the annual OS Maps Group Subscription which is now in use by some of our walk leaders. I have collected all the donations for the retired chairman. We have received some funds from Area and paid out for sending Newsletters to those members without email addresses. Also a £20 donation was received from Ramblers walking holidays.

• **Membership secretary report:**

1 January 2022 – 28 February 2022

TDR membership remains steady at 259 members. Since our last meeting: 4 new members (3 new to Ramblers and 1 new to Area) and 3 members rejoined; 9 members have left (4 lapsed, 5 resigned).

- **Footpath officer:**

There is very little to report since the last Committee meeting in January. I have been chasing Somerset County Council for an update on progress with the re-opening of bridleway T2/11, so far without success. Given that I asked for this in November, this really doesn't seem good enough, but unfortunately it does reflect the scepticism regarding SCC expressed by local resident and member, Mr French. I have also just received feedback regarding a sickly-looking ash tree on a footpath near my home, which took 8 months.

- **Area Officer**

Phil stood down as Area Chairman at the Area AGM in February. After a discussion at the Area AGM about the use of the Risk Assessment form which involved Ronnie Forbes, Ramblers trustee Vice President, Phil agrees with the TDR stance on this which was discussed at our last Committee meeting.

5. Spring Walk Programme

Joy said that the Spring programme is good regarding Wednesday walks where we have walks until the end of April with a few gaps, and walker numbers are usually 20 or more. We are not getting many offers of walks for Sundays and Colin and Lynda are working together to try and get more all day walk offers. Joy is hoping that Friday walks will appear as the weather improves.

There has been some confusion about the change of start time of the afternoon walks from 1.30pm to 2pm. It was decided that in future the start time would change to 2pm when British Summer Time begins in March and change back to 1.30pm when BST ends in October. An individual walk leader can still decide to change the start time of their walk if circumstances require this.

6. Election of new Webmaster

Dave Patten confirmed that he did not wish to continue as TDR Webmaster when the website changed to the Ramblers group website template. He has been the Webmaster since June 2008 and has done a sterling job for the group, particularly since Covid struck and walks have needed to be added to the website more frequently. A collection for Dave will be made and donations requested from members via the Newsletter.

An appeal for a new Webmaster was made in the January 2022 Newsletter. Andy Norris offered his services and was elected unanimously by the Committee.

7. Update of the TDR website

Andy has set up the new website which went live on 1st March 2022. Walks are now added only to the Ramblers GWEM and this links to our website. Andy mentioned that the actual owner of tauntonramblers.org.uk was Roger Conway – a previous member who initially set up the website in 2003. Roger's details have been passed to Ramblers Central Office so that

they can take over ownership of our website name.. This doesn't affect us, but is much better than a local member owning the name.

8. Area AGM 2023

TDR are responsible for hosting this event next year. It is funded by Area but arranged by the local group. It was decided to hold it on Sunday 12th February 2023. The venue chosen was Hatch Beauchamp Village Hall which has ample car parking available and is accessible from both the M5 and A303. A walk led by one of our walk leaders would start at 10.30am and return in time for a picnic lunch at the hall before the start of the meeting at 2pm. Hot drinks and cakes would need to be provided by our group. Lynda will book the hall.

9. Summer coach trip

Val had asked Colin Flood if he would be happy to arrange a Topsham boat trip for our group as he had done in the past. He kindly agreed and has provisionally booked a 29 seater coach and a boat trip for Tuesday 19th July which was one of the few dates available. The cost of the coach was £420 and the boat tickets £6 each. Gill will liase with Colin about paying for the coach. The trip will be advertised in the next Newsletter with tickets £25 a head, payments to be made by bank transfer and an email sent to Colin to confirm booking.

10. Any Other Business

None

11. Date, time and place of next meeting :

Monday 6th June at 16:00h on Zoom.

Meeting closed at 17.22h