

Taunton Deane Ramblers
Annual General Meeting – 26th November 2021
Area Representative's Report

Somerset Area activity has again been very limited during 2021 owing to Covid-19. I have continued as Chair, with David Thompson (Woodspring) as Secretary, while Les Stather has continued as Area Footpath Secretary. I shall be standing down at the Area AGM in February 2022.

Ramblers' 2021 General Council was held on Saturday 17th April, at the NEC in Birmingham. Les Stather (Mendip) and Robin Downton (Woodspring) were the two Somerset delegates. The minutes are available on Ramblers' website. In 2022, General Council is scheduled to take place on Saturday 9th April, also at the NEC.

The 2021 Somerset Area AGM was held by Zoom, on Sunday 14th February. 21 members participated, a significant reduction from the number who attended in person in previous years. There was of course no walk, nor refreshments, associated with this event.

The 2022 Area AGM is to be hosted by South Somerset Group in February – details of date and location will be publicised in due course. It is suggested that one topic to be covered will be the 'Don't Lose you Way' initiative as it relates to 'lost paths' in Somerset. This should hopefully be of interest to quite a few members.

Based on previous discussions between the Area Committee and Group Chairs, it will be the turn of Taunton Deane to host the AGM in 2023. This awaits ratification by the 2022 AGM.

In view of proposed changes to the future running of Area – with Groups taking turns to 'host' Area activity – there appears no longer to be a need for a separate 'Area Representative' on the Group Committee. I am therefore standing down from this role, which I have undertaken since 2015, with effect from this Group AGM. In the event that another representative is needed from our Group, it should be possible to co-opt.

Philip Bisatt
Area Representative