

MINUTES OF THE GEDLING & DUKERIES GROUP RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 8TH MARCH 2018 AT 7.30PM IN THE MEETING ROOM RICHARD HERROD CENTRE

PRESENT: Graham Dicker Brian O'Neill Pat Rogers
 Brian Torr Alex McGowan
 George Wood Jonathan Ankers
 Jim Norris Malcolm Costello

APOLOGIES: Julie Najuk, Heather Darwent, Liz Pritchett .

1. CHAIRMAN

Brian Torr was elected chairman for the meeting.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record.

Proposed Pat Rogers, seconded Alex McGowan, and passed.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

George had the entertainment for the Annual Dinner in hand.

A replacement cheque had been sent to the charity Maggie's and receipt confirmed.

4. MEMBER'S REPORTS

Secretary's Report

1. An e-mail had been received advertising the Bishop's Castle Walking Festival.
2. Come and join the Big Welsh Walk, supported by players of People's Postcode Lottery, on Saturday 2 June 2018 and discover the wonders of the Cambrian Way and Devil's Bridge. Register by 2 May and receive your Ramblers member £5 discount.
3. Notts County Football in the Community (FITC), are an independent charity linked to the football club. We offer a number of different projects ranging from Cancer Rehabilitation, Refugee Project, Mental Health, primary schools and much more. FITC are hosting a Sponsored Walk to take place on Saturday 17th March between Mansfield and Nottingham. To tie in with the Notts County FC vs Mansfield Town FC match at Meadow Lane, all participants will receive complimentary tickets to the game and free travel from Meadow Lane to the One Call Stadium to start the challenge. The route is still being finalised but will be approximately 17 miles and with a 1pm Kick Off it will mean setting off early in order for us to get back into Nottingham in time for the match to start and all participants receive a match ticket, travel and FITC Supporter T-Shirt. We would also ask participants to try to raise sponsorship with all proceeds going towards FITC and the amazing projects we run throughout the County.
4. Area AGM: Paddy Tipping talked about an end to the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) that had dictated land management since Britain joined the European Union. He spoke of some land owners receiving more than £1 million a year from the CAP to do nothing with the land. Paddy then went on to talk about the opportunities provided by Brexit for the Ramblers to engage with land owners to explore new ways of looking after, maintaining and using arable and other land in the country.

5. Area AGM: The new Chief Executive, Vanessa Griffiths had been appointed early in 2017 and there had been a determination to bring antiquated systems up to date with a new focus on the core priorities. Richard detailed the action taken during 2017 and the Board of Trustees were very positive about the future. Richard turned to what was planned for 2018. There was a new 'one team' concept aimed at bringing together the 16 databases held at Central Office and ensuring all departments could communicate electronically in an efficient way. The project had been funded by the Post Code Lottery. Richard also spoke of the need to prepare for the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) coming into force in May 2018. Further information would be sent to Areas and Groups about GDPR but they would need to start reviewing the data held and checking data storage was secure.
6. Area AGM: Richard May (Trustee) spoke of the urgent need for discussions about permissive paths. Many hundreds of these currently exist and all could be put at risk by the ending of the CAP.
7. Area AGM Sunday 3rd February 2019. Gedling had been invited to host.
8. I have responded, on behalf of the Group, to the PDGLA request to take part in the consultation on the TRO for Wetton Hills in Shropshire.

Treasurer's Report

Balance 8th March £245.56 including coach deposits received to date. The Area grant is overdue, however the Area treasurer has been unwell.

Room hire for committee meetings will increase to £10.50 per hour from 1st April.

Walks Programme Editor

There had been no negative feedback about the new programme and no remarks on the removal of the Dukeries references. The quality of the cover had improved from the new Printer.

Footpaths Secretary's Report

Nothing to report.

Membership Secretary's Report

31st December 2017

Total	214
Annual Individual	119
Annual Joint	85
Life Individual	5
Life Joint	2
Payments Pending	2
Members no longer in the group	0
New Members	3
Members Reinstated	0

Social Sub Committee Report

The Annual Dinner was nearly full due to room number constraints.

Coach Secretary's Report

Polly was also taking cheques for the coach trips.

Publicity

Flyers were being posted around the area.

Area Liaison Officer's Report

A vote was taken on the proposal to host the Area agm in 2019. **This was carried.** Alex would book Lowdham Hall for the purpose 3rd February 2019.

This Report incorporates the Area Council on 16th January 2018 and the Area Annual General Meeting on 4th February 2018.

There was an informed discussion at the Council Meeting on the subject of environmental issues of interest to Ramblers in Nottinghamshire. Members identified the following issues: sand and gravel extraction; house building on green belt land; house building on flood plains; fracking; fly tipping; traffic pollution; solar panels and wind farms; HS2.

James McGill has been elected as the Area Chair and Judith Anson has been formally elected as the Area Secretary. The Rights of Way Officer Role is now a job share between Alan Rogers and Steve Parkhouse. Chris Thompson is now Tourism and Heritage Paths Officer.

After much poring over maps, it became clear which parts of Nottinghamshire are suitably part of the Gedling Group's jurisdiction.

One development which has occurred because of the move to new members joining on-line is the increased number of people who are not allocated to a Group at all – it is up to 67. Consideration is being given to seeing how these members can be incorporated into Area activities sine at present they are not directly represented.

Lastly -and probably most importantly- the Gedling representatives at the AGM were requested to take back to their Committee a proposal to be the host Local Group for the 2019 AGM on 3rd February 2019.

Webmaster's Report

The scrolling widgets on the front page are provided by a third party. The company now wish to insert adverts. Graham is working on a method of eliminating the adverts.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Alex would book Lowdham Hall for the Gedling Group agm on 4th November 2018.

Jonathan confirmed that the Group walks had been uploaded to the Ramblers Walks Finder.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Thursday 10th May 2018.

The meeting closed at 2100.