



East Cheshire Ramblers’ Committee Meeting

7<sup>th</sup> June 2024

10.00 am.

Meeting called by Maggie Swindells

**Location** 16 Castle Hill Court, Prestbury, Macclesfield, SK10 4UT

10:00 am

<b>Committee</b>	Maggie Swindells	MS	Chair
	Anne Ball	AB	Membership Secretary
	Louise Whittaker	LW	Footpath Secretary
	Gina Thompson	GT	Social Secretary
	Melanie Davy	MD	Committee Member
	Jane Gay	JG	Committee Member
	Sue Munslow	SM	Committee Member
	Keith Anderson	KA	Lost Ways
	Nigel Hersee	NH	Secretary

**Apologies**

Jennefer Mellor	JM	Social media
Colin Finlayson	CF	Treasurer

<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	
	Jenefer Mellor & Colin Finlayson	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes of Last Meeting - approved</b>	
<b>2.1</b>	No comments received	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Matters arising from last meeting</b>	
<b>3.1</b>	None	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Reports from Officers</b>	

<b>4.1</b>	<b>Chair – Refer report</b>	
<b>4.1.1</b>	The motion set out in the Chairs Report (1) is to be proposed. MD to make amendments and send to MS for approval. The proposed revisions to the constitution will be shared with members within the required time prior to formal approval at the AGM in November.	MD
<b>4.1.2</b>	First Aid Training successfully took place. Thirteen people attended and they have all received certificates.	Note
<b>4.1.3</b>	Access to Assemble is as published in the Chair’s report. Assemble is currently under review and there may be changes made to it in the next few months.	Note
<b>4.1.4</b>	Action for MS to re circulate the “New Walk Leader Guide to coordinators.	MS
<b>4.1.5</b>	<p>From the 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024 the Ramblers Walk Leader Guidance requires any potential/new walk leaders to complete three mandatory elements. These are outlined in the Chair’s report. The online mandatory elements are monitored by Ramblers and Central Office. When the system detects that a volunteer has undertaken them it will automatically certify that the required modules have been completed.</p> <p>Volunteers can also complete the mandatory elements offline as part of an ECR training workshop. This allows the ECRs’ Membership Secretary to advise CO that the volunteer has completed the required elements. The new walk leader is then certified by the Ramblers and is able to lead walks.</p> <p>MD to type list of Walk Leaders which will be circulated to Walk Coordinators for editing in due course. MS shared ECRs analysis of the ‘Musts’ ‘Shoulds’ and ‘Coulds’ of the new Walk Leader Guidance and recommendations for ECR going forward. The document will be attached to the minutes.</p>	<p>MD</p> <p>MS</p>
<b>4.1.6</b>	Apps Training is scheduled for 18 <sup>th</sup> July ’24 at Macclesfield Tennis Club.	Note
<b>4.1.7</b>	June Mabon’s funeral was very well attended and ECR members were well represented. The collection taken, which amassed £525, will be donated to Macmillan Cancer Care.	Note
<b>4.1.8</b>	50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Finger Post: Bollington Council has advised that they do NOT allow any commemorative fixtures to path signage. The complaint has been referred to Genni Butler CE PRow officer.	Note

<p><b>4.1.9</b></p>	<p>MS thanked Dave Barraclough for the detailed and informative information concerning “Boundless Plus” membership which was discussed by the committee at some length including the impact of “Boundless Plus” members arriving at a Ramblers Walk in great numbers and potentially with children. Higher number may impact on the Walk leader and require additional back/middle markers.</p> <p>It was agreed that ECR would write to Lucy Armitage Chair of Trustees, using Dave’s information and questions. AB will add a section on her concerns regarding the impact of Boundless membership on the process at group level.</p>	<p>MS</p>
<p><b>4.2</b></p>	<p><b>Treasurer’s Report</b></p>	
<p><b>4.2.1</b></p>	<p>Refer Report.</p>	<p><b>All</b></p>
<p><b>4.3</b></p>	<p><b>Footpath Secretary’s Report – Refer report</b></p>	
<p><b>4.3.1</b></p>	<p>Refer Report</p>	
<p><b>4.3.2</b></p>	<p>A query discussed was to question whether a walk route can still be created on the Ramblers Association (RA) site. As far as we know, you can't access a walks planner on (or through) the RA site. North and Mid Cheshire (NMC) have a link to two walks planners labelled as 'NMC See Map/Plan Route' and 'RA See Map/Plan Route'. Although members can presently plan a walk using ECR's walks planner, there may have to be some changes in the future in the arrangement with Ordnance Survey mapping. Investigation of the arrangement North and Mid Cheshire may have with Ramblers route planning would be useful; MS to ask Roger Fielding if he can contact N&amp;MC.</p>	<p><b>MS</b></p>
<p><b>4.3.3</b></p>	<p>There is an article by Dave Barraclough in this month’s Walk magazine page 12 which everybody should read.</p>	<p><b>Note</b></p>
<p><b>4.4</b></p>	<p><b>Membership Secretary’s Report</b></p>	
<p><b>4.4.1</b></p>	<p>Refer Report</p>	
<p><b>4.5</b></p>	<p><b>Social Secretary’s Report – Refer Report</b></p>	
<p><b>4.5.1</b></p>	<p>Refer Report</p>	
<p><b>4.5.2</b></p>	<p>GT will reissue the Social Calendar which contains an update on the Dolgellau walks. NH will update the copy in the appendices and MS will replace the version</p>	<p><b>GT/NH/MS</b></p>

	on the website.	
<b>4.5.3</b>	The committee discussed the need to expand the number of volunteers/members who organise coach trips/weekends away. GT suggested raising this as an agenda item at the AGM. 'Coach Trips of the Future'. Support guidance is available for anyone who volunteers.	
<b>4.6</b>	<b>Lost Ways Report – Refer report</b>	
<b>4.6.1</b>	This quarter there is no report as summer tends to be quieter seasonally. However, the Lost Ways previously reviewed should be looked at again for potential. KA said he would be standing down from this position at the next AGM.	
<b>4.7.</b>	<b>Social Media Report</b>	
<b>4.7.1</b>	Refer report	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>	
<b>5.1</b>	The committee role overseeing Lost Ways will be up for election at the AGM and as such MS asked if KA could author a "Job Description" if possible.	<b>KA</b>
<b>5.2</b>	Further to the discussions at the last meeting about the safe storage of ECR committee documents and Footpath Committee information, Christian Brennekmeijer has produced a 'pros and cons' document for utilising Google Drive. MS will reconvene the group, which met after the last committee meeting, to discuss the options.	<b>MS</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Future Planned Meeting Dates</b>	
<b>6.1</b>	Committee meeting  27 <sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 10.00 am at MS's house. Agenda items AGM	<b>All</b>

Meeting Ended: 12.11