



Signed as a true and accurate record
of the meeting:

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Eric Evans - Chairman

SOUTH DEVON RAMBLERS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY 3rd August
CHURSTON GOLF CLUB 6.30/7pm

Present

Eric Evans
Karen Howes
Celia Broom
Paddy Jewry
Janet Evans
Val Rose
Nicky Ward
Bob Ward

Apologies

Julian Fisher

1. **Committee were welcomed by EE and apologies from Julian conveyed.**
2. **Matters Arising from last Meeting**

KH ran through the action points. Most pending issues were tabled for this meeting.

The Dartmoor Way launch had taken place and considered by Area to be 'successful' with around 200 attendees.

AOB's – Templer Way Walk – BW to look at for Spring 2023

Walks Leaders Course – BW to set up in March 2023, for Summer programme.

SWCP Challenge – October 8th, Tq to Brixham. To be promoted on email, website and on walks.

Children in Need – It was felt there was a lot going on already around this time, so no formal fundraising event planned this year.

Secretary@ and Chairman@ working well as contact for public

The minutes of 6th April were therefore agreed and signed off by EE. KH will retain the signed copy and one set of Committee Papers, otherwise storage will be electronic via Dropbox, rather than in the Minute Book in future.

3. **Reports from all Officers** Received and all read. EE Thanked all for their input.

EE – Stated how successful Pembrokeshire trip, Anniversary Event, Canoe Trip and SWCP walks had been.

CB - Confirmed the financial situation was healthy.

DW - Advised that since June there have been two cancellations due to heat – the first time on record. Tea Shop walks title to be reviewed next year, may need to reflect pub meals. Numbers are buoyant, Thursdays still the most popular in terms of attendance, although numbers were not thought to be the only indicator of success, variety of walks and areas covered should be included.

BW – Requested an edit 'Tim Spray has *not* called for more meetings'. Some positive feedback being received on JMHT currently which he is working on.



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VR/JE – Canoe and Anniversary Events very successful. Gin Experience and Christmas Lunch all in hand and flyers underway. All commented on the excellent cake, cut by RW. EE produced Herald Express article submitted by KH, showing group picture and RW with the cake.

KH – Confirmed some updating of the website, would discuss with JF another time. Requests to support local initiatives and charities; whilst some commendable, it was decided we should not email details to membership. Dry Boot Company have asked for an image on the hardcopy of Walk Programme. NW agreed it would be done.

Social Media to be tabled later. Some concerns.

4. **Feedback on 40th Anniversary Event**

Positive comments had been heard from members ref the walk and lunch and all agreed it had worked out very well on the day. Two articles published to date as well as a Facebook post that generated comment from Kate Ashbrook (RA). Another short article in 'The Beach Hut' to follow in September. A letter submitted to Walk Magazine but unlikely to be published KH thought.

5. **Lake District Holiday Update**

EE said all was in hand, he would email shortly to membership outlining pick up points and general plan. Minimal pup's preferred. ETA 3-5 pm.

BW liaising with the Hotel to double check details; arrival time, meal time, key allocation, coach drop off etc. *update – Hotel confirmed rooms already allocated, keys ready to collect on arrival, menu will vary with vegetarian option for each course.*

RB to meet us there and support leading walks.

Choice of walks each day.

Quiz on the last evening – optional

42-seater coach should allow plenty of room for rucksacks, poles etc.

6. **Holiday 2023**

BW proposed Portugal. Coast and mountain walking. Work needed on pricing, flights, etc. BW to pursue and feedback to Committee before any decision finalised. Hays Travel would be able to co-ordinate and a professional guide would organise and lead walks. Show of hands suggested at AGM to assess interest.

7. **40th AGM**

Room booked at the Livermead House Hotel, Wednesday 16th November. 7-9 pm Committee Meeting in October, to ensure planning time. KH to create Agenda, JF to distribute via Mailchimp. Suggested order:- Welcome/Officers Updates/BW ref Holiday/SWCP Update – A & TS/. No input from Area this time.

JF to collate Officers info and any images for slideshow.

8. **Change of Walk Start Time for Winter**

As previously agreed, Sunday walks to start at 10am to ensure they are not rushed. Thursdays can remain 10.30. Website to draw attention to this.



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9. Blue Plaque Suggestion

It had been suggested to EE that we should request a Blue Plaque via the Torbay Civic Society for JM. Some discussion ensued on the criteria and whether he would have wanted that. The idea of the JMHT was not his specifically, SV was instrumental in creating it and getting the funds moved from RA to SDR to enable it. BW suggested Bill Becher be asked to pitch the idea for further consideration. EE to follow up.

10. AOB

- a) Mileage allowance. BW queried whether any increase? All agreed it should be. CB to explore with Lesley Fysh, RA. *Update – reply not really helpful, LF felt the figure was ‘sufficient’.*
- b) First Aid Course – KH had received query from a member (CW) whether an update planned. To be considered for 2023, there would be a cost but could be offered to members at a reasonable charge. It was thought to be 3 years since the last one which did prove very popular and ran on two days. To plan for 2023.
- c) Walks Manager System - NW advised she was signing up for the pilot, so that she could use the new system (replacing GWEM) to put SD walks on the RA website. EE said he would too. *Deadline 10th August.*
- d) Social Media – Some discussion and concern over non-members looking at our site. KH explained that it is a closed ‘group page’ but members of the FB page do not have to be paid members of the Club. This is the way it was set up originally and how most similar pages work. However, we *do* have access to the list of ‘members’ names and can remove any if posts or comments not appropriate. It is no longer an ‘invite only’ set up. There are 400+ members of the site. EE queried some of them being legitimate and the sort of posts appearing. PJ advised someone had ‘seen her’ yet was nothing to do with Ramblers. KH offered to check if a name provided.
Update – KH has enhanced the joining question to say ‘if you do not answer this Q we cannot admit you to the site’ and will monitor closely. Reasons for joining vary from wanting to walk to wanting to learn about the area, thinking of moving to Devon, wanting to meet people etc. KH to discuss with JF ref security. TS still has access.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm

11. Date of next meeting

Weds 26th October. Churston Golf Club 6.30 for 7pm start. Drinks to be arranged at the *beginning* of the meeting.
KH to confirm and provide Agenda.