

East Yorkshire and Derwent Area Ramblers Association

Minutes of Area Council Meeting held via Zoom at 7.30 pm on 23rd February 2021

Present: Peter Ayling [Chair], Sam Borman, Richard Bramall, Tony Corrigan, Tom Halstead, Penny Hudson, Steve Lack, Ann Laing, Gary Malcolm, Joe Neal, David Nunns, Kate Plumb, Ian Reavill, Geoff Richardson, Marian Thomas.

Apologies: None



AC 1/21 Chairman's Welcome, Attendance and Apologies

PA thanked members for joining the first virtual AC meeting of 2021. He informed members the Zoom licence was available for all groups to use and should be arranged with MT for code details.

AC 2/21 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- a. Minutes of the previous meeting [1st December 2020] were accepted without amendment.
Proposed/Seconded: SB/AL
- b. Draft minutes from Area's AGM of 23rd January 2021 were discussed. PA commented that attendance by Trustee Malcolm McDonnell had been very helpful.

Being unable to fill vacancies of Chairman and Secretary meant Area going into 'abeyance' was a critical risk. This was only averted at the last minute, thanks to PA and MT volunteering to fill the roles. Such a situation could occur again and members were reminded vacancies of Vice Chair, Publicity and Webmaster remain unfilled.

Volunteer recruitment to Area and Group committees was discussed, it generally being acknowledged that a personal approach on a led walk often presents the best opportunity.

AC 3/21 Delegates - General Council 17th April 2021

Two delegates can be nominated for this event that will be online. AL and MT expressed interest in representing Area.

Proposed/Seconded: PA/DN

Agreed: Delegates will be AL and MT

AC 4/21 Reports from Officers and Groups

a. Finance – Area Treasurer's Report

SB summarised his financial report, advising Area's bank balance was sufficient to meet foreseeable expenditure. PA commented Great Givendale and Millington churches were extremely grateful for the small donations from DW's fund.

b. Additional Bid for Funds for a Finger Post - Beverley Path Minders

JN outlined work done at Wansford in clearing a permissive path alongside Driffild Canal, land owned by Driffild Navigation Trust. He suggested a finger post plus information boards acknowledging Ramblers contribution to improving and maintaining it could promote Ramblers. The quoted cost for signage is £311.40.

Proposed/Seconded: SB/AL

Agreed: Bid approved

PA thanked JN and the team for their splendid effort in improving the permissive path.

c. Membership Report

AL gave a brief overview of Area and national membership numbers, the latter figures rising steadily from July 2020 to the year end, followed by a dip.

Insight Hub membership statistics: - July [97,626] Dec [99,408] and Jan [97,275].

ACTION: - Report noted

d. Environment Report

PA's circulated report concerning a major planning application near North Ferriby was noted. PA added the Area Environment and Footpath (Hull & East Riding) sub-committees unanimously opposed this application.

e. Area Walks Co-ordinator Report

GR outlined Ramblers current direction [23rd February] on led walks i.e. still suspended. Members discussed HM Gov's published four step intention of easing restrictions. Tentative dates of March 29th [rule of 6 outdoors resumes] and May 17th [30 maximum outdoors] were seen as significant for resumption of led walks. GR stated there was flexibility in how many months the next published programme of walks could include.

Group numbers, vehicles in villages and public perception of large groups were factors to be considered by leaders.

KP summarised the outcomes from Pocklington's Walk Leaders meeting and plans for a draft programme ready to implement when appropriate. Existing and prospective leaders were encouraged to try Ramblers online training module.

ACTION: - Await directions and guidance from Ramblers CO. When known and if necessary an Area meeting can be arranged at short notice for further discussion.

f. Group Reports

Useful reports from Pocklington and Scarborough were noted. GM added that Scarborough's intention is to reunite with members and early indications are such contact is appreciated.

IR gave a brief verbal review of York's activities and updated members on the 'SlowWays' project created by Daniel Raven- Ellison. Due to lockdowns there has been little progress to date. IR also mentioned York's committee meeting on 25th February includes a presentation by Dominic Tooze, Ramblers DLYW Programme Officer: chairmen of other groups being invited.

Area's Camping Weekend is in the planning stage and hopeful of going ahead on the weekend of 11th-14th June.

AC5/21 Correspondence

Nil

AC6/21 Any other business

- a. Goodmanham railway line path claim - TC informed members the Planning Inspectorate had dealt with objections to ERYC's footpath order by way of written submissions [planned public inquiry not

being possible]. Order with amendment confirmed and notices now displayed. If no objection to Inspector's adjudication early March will see conclusion.

- b. DLYW – TC advised the response to an item in Area News for volunteers was disappointing.
- c. Knapton FP04 – DN updated the meeting that a public inquiry concerning the path is scheduled for 22nd June 2021.

AC 7/21 Future meeting dates

Area Council - all on Tuesdays commencing 7.30pm

25th May 2021: Location **via Zoom**

24th August 2021: Location to be arranged

30th November 2021: **via Zoom**

NB: 2020/2021 AGM will be at York on Saturday 22nd January 2022 at 2:00pm