

OWW Committee Meeting

Monday 16th April 2018, 7.30–9 pm

The Plough, Wolvercote

MINUTES

1. Apologies – Social Secretary, Treasurer, Without Portfolio 3.
2. Minutes from last meeting accepted
3. Matters arising (not separately noted on the agenda)
 - a. Walks booklet – the Area Walks Coordinator has agreed to send copies to individuals on request. Chairman to deal with one recent request. We are not pro-actively offering this.
 - b. Links with 20s & 30s – there are 2 joint walks on the programme plus the Area Picnic Walk on 24th June. **Programme Sec** to make sure the Chairman of 20s & 30s has fully up-to-date details for picnic walk.
 - c. Public Facebook page – ongoing.
 - d. Walk-leader call-forwarding number – up and running well. We can have additional numbers, e.g. for socials, at £1.25/month plus call charges. We don't have an immediate need. **Webmaster** to ensure that Programme Sec can operate the weekly switchover.
 - e. Thank you emails – Chairman is thanking walk leaders by email; well received.
4. Chair
 - a. Guidelines for weekends away – OWW policy must reflect the recommendation by Ramblers that weekends away are open to all members of Ramblers, in the same way that group walks are, and places are allocated on a first-come first-served basis. Head Office also reminded us that our activities are insured providing that they are:
 - i. official Ramblers activities organised by a group or area committee
 - ii. led or organised by a Ramblers member and/or a volunteer registered by Ramblers staff
 - iii. publicised, as a Ramblers activity, in advance in at least one of: Group Walks Finder, a printed programme or the Group/Area website.
 - b. Countryfile Live – 2nd to 5th August, Blenheim Palace. Area will have a stand and will send out an email requesting volunteers to man it. A representative from Head Office will be speaking on one of the stages about Ramblers.
 - c. Walks festival – 26th May to 3rd June, Hidden Gems. **Chairman** to ask if the leader of the walk advertised for that weekend is happy for it to be included.
 - d. Roadshow – 30th June, Oxford. Volunteers are required to help on the day. Without Portfolio 2, Chairman and one other OWW member are going. The talk on GDPR should be useful!
5. Walks programme
 - a. The programme is looking very healthy; we even have two on one day! Walks promise to be varied and new leaders are making great contributions.
 - b. Evening walks – **Programme Sec** will send a request for some evening walks.
 - c. OS subscription – easy to use and working well. Building up a library of routes.
6. Socials programme
 - a. Socials have largely been food orientated - Comptoir Libanais on 3rd February (14 people) Caribbean cuisine (11 people) on 7th April. February's offering at Al Andaluz was cancelled as only 5 people had booked. Eight people saw 'Dracula' (Creation Theatre) and enjoyed it. The Brailes Three Hills Event on 7th May has recently been posted.

7. Membership
 - a. Membership is down slightly at 141 but we are still seeing new members join.
8. Web
 - a. **Webmaster** has been working hard on a replacement website based on the Ramblers template.
 - b. Weekends away will be classed as socials and therefore will appear only on our site, and not the Area site.
 - c. Once the new website is launched, walk leaders will need to register on the Ramblers website in order to submit walks (a one-off process). We have a choice of configuration for the confirmation of submissions. Webmaster and programme secretary will work out what works and what is feasible. However, we will need a confirmation step in order for the programme secretary to replace individual mobile numbers with the walk leader's number. A useful feature is that submitter will see a pop-up showing the location of the grid reference on the map.
 - d. Mobile numbers will have to be collected to allow call forwarding; walk leaders should be asked for mobile numbers rather than landline, so that they can be contacted on the day of the walk.
 - e. Should photos of committee members be accompanied by a few lines from the individual to make the site more friendly? Discussed but no consensus.
 - f. **Webmaster** will make a dummy version available for the committee to test.
9. Treasurer
 - a. Following the second instalment of this year's group allocation from Ramblers, and the clearance of a couple of reimbursement cheques, our current balance is £334.86. An invoice from our web-hosting company is expected soon.
10. Secretary – no additional items
11. Area
 - a. The Area meeting is on 23rd April and an OWW member, and former chair, will attend on behalf of the committee as Chair and Area rep are unavailable.
12. Without portfolio
 - a. Without Portfolio 1 enquired about progress with events for walk leaders but it was felt that this was covered by the course last year and the Ramblers Roadshow. The walk programme is very healthy and so there is no immediate need.
13. Publicity issues (chair)
 - a. An article by the Chairman on the Radio Oxford interviews has been published in South-East Walker.
 - b. The Chairman appeared in the latest issue of the Walk magazine.
 - c. We can promote our walks via Jack FM but it's not designed for recurring events. There is no great need at present.
14. Footpaths (chair) – nothing to report
15. GDPR
 - a. Area has informed us that the contact preferences members send to Ramblers also apply to communications at local level, which raises a question about our Yahoo group. **Chairman** to contact Felix Wilkey, Ramblers Data Protection Officer, to ask if members could opt into local emails but not those from Ramblers. *We have since been told that this is seen as a major issue by many other groups in the Oxfordshire Area and will be discussed at the next Area meeting.*
16. AOB - none

Next meeting

Monday 2nd July, The Plough at Wolvercote, 7.30pm

Monday 3rd September, as above.