



**Oxon
Weekend
Walkers**

OWW Committee Meeting

Tuesday 19th July 2022 7.30 – 9.00 pm

By Zoom

MINUTES

1. Apologies – Membership/Area Sec and WOP 2. Social Sec unable to attend until later (arrived approx. 8.20). Webmaster not present.
2. Minutes of last meeting – agreed as accurate
3. Matters arising – to be discussed at relevant agenda item.
4. Chair
Will comment at relevant agenda items.
5. Walks
WOP 1 (who has temporarily been managing the walks programme and will hand responsibility back to Walks Sec at end of July) reports,

In the period between the April and July committee meetings maintaining the programme has been made easier by our members volunteering a great pipeline of walks so giving us a full schedule.

We've had a total number of 17 walks on the calendar and these have included 4 evening walks, which have been well attended. Only 16 of the 17 actually took place as we had our first cancellation due to high temperatures.

I was pleased that for the 13 Sunday walks there were 11 different leaders. We had a new leader and our Treasure led, I think, their second walk. Thanks go to:

- the members who contacted me to fill gaps in the programme
- the member who's enthusiastically led 3 evening walks
- the leader of a gentle and very informative tour of nature reserves which was a bit different and very well received
- Chairman liaising with Hike Oxford to arrange a successful Area Picnic walk.

We have two walks scheduled for August (7th & 21st).

Secretary queried if offering Saturday walks would be acceptable. All agreed but advised that when advertised it needs to be very clear it is a Saturday walk, not an incorrect posting.

Chair advised that Ramblers have responded to Walk Secs query and advised that it is acceptable to do a risk assessment without having carried out a recce. For further details contact the Walks Sec.

6. Socials

Social Secretary submitted the following report,

Since our last committee meeting there has been one social (Disc Golf, 10 people joined including 1 new member. It went well and will be repeated (possibly August Bank Holiday). A theatre outing has been planned for 21st July (Shakespeare/Globe on tour). Not sure how many have signed up (we believe 5).

Micron Theatre are back and Chair has put a social on 4th August at the Plough.

A call was put out for more socials back in April/May. I'm not sure that it generated much interest or plans. This could be because, we are out of practice, not wanting to be inside, or as with walks nervousness about leading/fronting something.

7. Membership

Membership Sec not present but had sent in the following report,

We currently have 149 members.

The short evening walks have generated some new interest which a member has responding to and forwarding to me.

I have been trying to email the committee with new members as they sign up to keep you all informed. I also send out the "welcome " email.

8. Finance

We have requested our basic allocation. If we have too much in reserve (£500 is the maximum allowed) we can make a charitable donation. This year income has been £278 and expenditure £237 but there may be more comms expenses to be claimed by webmaster.

Discussion on possible spending to make use of excess finance raises two ideas. 1. To provide walk leaders with secateurs to assist and encourage clearing of paths (probably most useful on recces). 2. To provide first aid kits which could be carried by walk leaders or volunteer first aiders. Chair suggests that someone on committee should "champion" these ideas. Walks Sec agrees to look at secateurs idea and Treasurer agrees to draft email to members on first aid idea. It is noted that if we have first aid kits they will need to be properly maintained and the contents kept in date. Holders of the kits will have to take on this responsibility.

9. Web

Chair advises that the call forwarding issue has been solved but he is still waiting for a response about updating committee details.

Discussion around possible need for alternative ways of managing the website. WOP 1 knows a member who is a developer and will ask him for advice.

10. Publicity

Cards are being handed out.

Secretary has received an email from Age Concern who are managing the "Live Well Oxfordshire" website on behalf of the County Council. We are asked to agree to our group details being published on the website. After discussion we agree it would be more appropriate for Oxfordshire Ramblers to appear on the website which would give the full range of walks across the County rather than just those of OWW. Secretary will send a holding reply to Age Concern and contact Area to take it forward.

11. Membership Sec not present but had sent in the following report,

The last meeting was by ZOOM on Monday 11th July.

Much conversation about what to do in extreme weather. An email went out to all Oxfordshire groups to advise.

Lots more discussion on the walk's booklet and now the walks monthly sheet which is being created in the absence of the usual six-monthly booklet. None of this affecting our group.

We voted on spending approximately £800 to replace some stiles with gates. (This was approved but I can't remember where the gates are. I can update when I'm back from my holiday)

Discussion on the Thame Food Festival which occurs in September. Ramblers will have a stand, but it will be manned by head office and the recruitment company they employ, so no input was encouraged.

AREA picnic was a great success.

AREA Secretary would like info about our AGM dates when we have them.

Finances are still in good health as groups are not spending as much. Budget requests were required by 15/7/22.

12. AOB

Chair has reviewed volunteer roles on Assemble. Only one minor change required. Chair and Social Sec haven't yet revised car park list yet but very good that some members have identified new useful car parks.

Discussion around succession planning. Committee members asked to advise in good time before the next AGM if they do not intend to stand for re-election.

Next Committee meeting to be Wednesday 12th October 7.30 by Zoom.

AGM to be Sunday 20th November at The Plough, Wolvercote ideally with a walk beforehand and some refreshments provided.