

MINUTES OF THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AREA RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE SHERWOOD FOREST YOUTH HOSTEL, FOREST CORNER, EDWINSTOWE ON SUNDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2015 AT 2.00 PM

The record of attendance showed that 47 members were present at the Annual General Meeting. See Appendix I.

31 members took part in the morning walk led by Keith Wallace. The weather was kind with the sun shining and no rain/snow. Thanks were given to Keith for leading the walk.

A basic first aid course was held by the St John's Ambulance from 10.00 am – 1.00 pm and nine members attended – all nine members passed and will be receiving certificates in approximately four weeks.

Raffle tickets were sold before the meeting and all raffle prizes had been collected. The raffle raised £60.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF AREA OFFICERS

David Hunt, Area Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Mansfield & Sherwood Group for hosting the event.

David introduced the Area Officers to the meeting and Jackie Hayhoe, Walking for Health Programme Manager.

2. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING ADDRESS

David was very grateful to Area Council for making his life as Chair both easy and enjoyable. The Area Council Meeting on Tuesday 20th January 2015 was threatened by snow but 17 members attended and with their focus and discipline enabled us to get through the meeting's agenda finishing at 8.42 pm. We all managed to get home safely although the snow had started to fall.

David told members that he would not be standing for Chair at the AGM in 2016.

3. OVERVIEW FROM THE AREA PRESIDENT

Paddy referred to: Ramblers membership holding up nationally; devastated Rights of Way budgets; General Election 2015; Coastal Path.

Paddy asked everyone to let their prospective MP/Councillor know the benefits of walking – emphasise health benefits, tourism, etc.

The Ramblers had worked hard to keep the Coastal Path on the Government's Agenda.

4. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from: James McGill, Newark Group; Kath Rogers, Ravenshead & Hucknall Group; Jan Tilsey, Broxtowe Group; Jenny White, Notts & Derby Group; Gay Wood, Gedling & Dukeries Group; Charlotte Woodsend, Notts & Derby Group.

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM (16th February 2014)

The minutes of the previous AGM were passed as a true record.

Proposed: Allan Rogers

Seconded: Keith Wallace

**6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM
16th February 2014)**

10.2 Add Report on Motions Passed the previous year to Agenda – Jenny had done this.

11.1 Area Webmaster be made a Nottinghamshire Area Council Committee position – this had been done.

7. REPORT ON MOTIONS PASSED AT THE PREVIOUS AGM (16th February 2014)

There had been no motions passed at the AGM on 16th February 2014.

8. PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS (2013 – 2014)

The Area Officer's Reports and the Accounts had been included in a special edition of the Nottinghamshire Walker.

8.1 Area Treasurer

Copies of the Independent Examiners Report to the Annual General Meeting of the Nottinghamshire Area Ramblers Association was available please take a copy (on table at the front).

The deficit in the accounts was due to the fact that Jack had been told that the Nottinghamshire Walker was not coming out again – it did.

Jack had held a successful Group Treasurer's meeting last year and he would be arranging another one in the next six weeks.

The report and accounts were accepted as a true record. Jack would arrange for someone to independently examine the accounts 2014/2015.

Proposed: Chris Thompson

Seconded: Alex Staniforth

9. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Thirteen officers and two committee members were elected. See Appendix I

**10. RAMBLERS GENERAL COUNCIL 28th & 29th March 2015 (Robinson College,
Grange Road, Cambridge CB3 9AN)**

Ramblers' Central Office will pay for two delegates and Nottinghamshire Area will pay for two visitors to attend General Council.

One of the delegates would be the Area Secretary, as agreed at a previous AGM.

This year the following members had put their names forward to attend: Judith Anson; Rod Fillingham; David Hunt; Chris Thompson. The meeting were asked if anyone else was interested in attending General Council especially encouraging someone who had not attended General Council before – Chris Sweetman put his hand up.

After a discussion it was agreed that: the two voting delegates would be Jenny Fillingham and David Hunt; two visitors paid for by Area would be: Rod Fillingham and Chris Sweetman. Judith Anson and Chris Thompson would pay for themselves.

11. MOTIONS

11.1 Motions relating to Nottinghamshire Area – None received.

11.2 Motions for General Council – None received.

12. SPEAKER – Jackie Hayhoe, Walking for Health Programme Manager

Jackie's power point presentation included: Ramblers 80 year anniversary; Ramblers helped establish National Parks, National Trails; helped put paths on the map; get access to the countryside; helped people go walking; Ramblers Resources; membership from 107,584 up 569; creating one coast for all through award winning campaigns; over a million people visit the Ramblers website; state of the art system for group walks and events; support more short health walks than any other organisation; welcoming health walkers into the Ramblers; Ramblers meet a senior politician every week; Ramblers supports its members to help other members do the things they love; Ramblers are guardians of the path network; Pathwatch – launching Spring 2015; Ramblers has asked members to complete survey on line of the 'Vision' and 'Governance'. She thanked members for everything they do with the Ramblers.

Jackie brought particular attention to: Walking for Health Accreditation taking place now; least active are 20 – 29 year olds. Walking benefits health and well-being. Aim is to take people through short walks and progress them on to Ramblers Group – from sofa to summit. Ramblers is in a very competitive market; improvement in communication with Public Health England – they wouldn't talk to Ramblers in the past but now they are telephoning the Ramblers; we have to be inclusive; Discount membership and £10.00 voucher for Walking for Health members to join the Ramblers; Volunteer Development Days – Doncaster 15th May 2015/Peterborough 16th May 2015.

Jackie asked if any members had any questions:

Chris Thompson asked what was being done about the cut-off date for recording paths on the Definitive Map. Jackie replied that there was a team working on this. They were lobbying MP's and a lot of work was going on behind the scenes. Waiting for the Deregulation Bill to go through – this will help us to claim paths. Training will be provided.

Chris also asked if he could have a list of current Walking for Health Schemes. Jackie explained that some schemes are not now Walking for Health. Ramblers have spoken to these groups and asked if they would join the Ramblers. Walking for Health Schemes should be updated by the end of March 2015.

Paddy Tipping mentioned External Evaluation – how much it saves the National Health Service.

Chris Sweetman mentioned Loughborough University who are looking at lifestyle illnesses. Walking is not supported at the present time we must make a case for walking; make first level eligible for support. Recreational level very important and should be pushed. Jackie is working towards this and is in contact with Loughborough University.

Rab Bird mentioned that schools should encourage more children to walk or cycle to school. Living Streets are doing some work on this. Paddy said that Notts County Council were working on 'safer routes to school'. Chris Thompson would like to see a lot more alleys/ginnels opened so children could walk to school away from busy roads.

A member asked what the difference between Ramblers' Association and Ramblers is. Jackie explained that they are both the same: Ramblers' Association was the legal name and Ramblers the local name.

David thanked Jackie for an interesting and enthusiastic presentation.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 Area Constitution

The Area Constitution had been updated to bring it in line with the Ramblers' Draft Area Constitution. Copies of the new Draft Area Constitution had been distributed before the meeting. The alterations were in italic and bold. Jenny Fillingham went through the changes. This had been agreed at the Area Council Meeting on Tuesday 20th January 2015 but has to be ratified at an Area Annual General Meeting.

It was proposed that the updated Area Constitution be ratified.

Proposer: Allan Rogers

Seconder: Paddy Tipping

For: 46

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Carried Unanimously

13.2 Gedling Country Park

Official Opening - Civic Opening Monday 23rd March 2015; Public Opening on Saturday 28th March 2015 would take the form of a Family Fun Day: Marquee, displays; activities for children. Sunday 29th March 2015 – Sports; 10k run organised by Redhill Road Runners.

Anaerobic Digester – The applicant firm have been asked to supply further reports. Decision not expected until later in the year and then would have to go through full consultation. Over 700 objections have been received.

Paddy Tipping said that it had taken 20 years of hard work to get this Country Park and it was great to see it come to completion.

13.3 Get Walking Week

Keith Wallace gave details of the work we are doing with Notts County Council to promote walking as a way of getting active and improving wellbeing. After discussions we and Notts County Council will be organising a week of walking at the beginning of May. The

week runs from Saturday 2nd May 2015 to Sunday 10th May 2015. It will be open to other walking groups, including Walking for Health Schemes. Notts County Council will promote the week and we will put the programme together. The emphasis of this event is to encourage people to take up walking and walks will be included in the programme from all around the County.

A launch event will take place on Saturday 25th April 2015 followed by a short walk. *(Update 4.2.15. - The launch event will be at Teversal Trail Visitors Centre followed by a led walk to the Miner on top of Silverhill Wood. An alternative, low-level walk will also be available.)*

Further details will follow shortly and all Ramblers Groups will be contacted to ask them to take part.

13.4 Spring 2015 Notts Walker

Keith Wallace would be producing a Spring Edition of the Notts Walker. This would only be available electronically and on the Notts Area Website.

13.5 Email Address Request

Flyers had been distributed before the meeting asking for members to provide Notts Area with their Email addresses. This was so that Area could communicate with the members directly. This would not result in lots more Emails. Area would be producing a communications policy to be agreed by Groups but it will be a maximum of one a month and probably less.

13.6 Area Rights of Way Secretary

Chris explained that the District Coordinators want to work with the Groups.

13.7 Host Group Needed for AGM 2016

A Group was needed to host the Nottinghamshire Area AGM on Sunday 7th February 2015. If no group comes forward then Area will organise the AGM.

14. DATE OF NEXT AREA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The next Area Annual General Meeting would be held on Sunday 7th February 2016.

The meeting closed at 3.30 pm.

APPENDIX I

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AREA RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** **SUNDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2015**

ATTENDANCE LIST

Judith Anson	Area
Peter Ball	Mansfield & Sherwood Group
Rab Bird	Vale of Belvoir Group
Antony Bond	Mansfield & Sherwood Group
Heather Bond	Mansfield & Sherwood Group
Stephen Bramley	Mansfield & Sherwood Group
Lorraine Bramwell	Mansfield & Sherwood Group
David Clarke	Rochdale Group
Keith Coxon	Rushcliffe Group
Felicity Crofts	Gedling & Dukeries Group
John Crofts	Gedling & Dukeries Group
Angela Dobie	Rushcliffe Group
Barbara Dobson	Nottingham Group
David Dobson	Nottingham Group
Jenny Fillingham	Gedling & Dukeries Group
Rod Fillingham	Area
Sue Gamble	Mansfield & Sherwood Group
Jackie Hayhoe	Ramblers' Central Office
Dave Hobson	Vale of Belvoir Group
Elaine Hobson	Vale of Belvoir Group
Maralyn Hughes	Mansfield & Sherwood Group
Michael Hughes	Mansfield & Sherwood Group
David Hunt	Nottingham Group
Joy,?	Mansfield & Sherwood Group
Marie Legg	Newark Group
Jim Norris	Gedling & Dukeries Group
Quaine O'Neill	Mansfield & Sherwood Group
Russ Osborne	Mansfield & Sherwood Group
Susan Page	Broxtowe Group
Stephen Parkhouse	Gedling & Dukeries Group
Jack Prust	Nottingham Group
Mick Rawdin	Gedling & Dukeries Group
Allan Rogers	Ravenshead & Hucknall Group
Martin Smith	Rushcliffe Group
Alex Staniforth	Mansfield & Sherwood Group
Marian Staniforth	Mansfield & Sherwood Group
Mike Stock	Rushcliffe Group
Rita Swales	Mansfield & Sherwood Group
Chris Sweetman	Rushcliffe Group
Dennis Syson	Broxtowe Group
Chris Thompson	Nottingham Group
Paddy Tipping	Area
Rob Turner	Rushcliffe Group
Keith Wallace	Mansfield & Sherwood Group
Nigel Waring	Mansfield & Sherwood Group
Carol Wilkinson	Newark Group
Alan Wilson	Rushcliffe Group

APPENDIX II

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AREA RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following area officers were elected:

AREA PRESIDENT Nominator: David Hunt	Paddy Tipping	Seconded: Jenny Fillingham
AREA CHAIR Nominator: Jack Prust	David Hunt	Seconded: Judith Anson
AREA VICE CHAIR Nominator: Jim Norris	Rod Fillingham	Seconded: David Hunt
AREA SECRETARY Nominator: Judith Anson	Jenny Fillingham	Seconded: David Hunt
AREA TREASURER Nominator: David Hunt	Jack Prust	Seconded: Allan Rogers
AREA RIGHTS OF WAY SECRETARY Nominator: Jenny Fillingham	Chris Thompson	Seconded: Allan Rogers
AREA COUNTRYSIDE OFFICER Nominator: Jenny Fillingham	Jim Norris	Seconded: David Hunt
AREA MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY Nominator: Alex Staniforth	Judith Anson	Seconded: Jack Prust
AREA PRESS & PUBLICITY OFFICER Nominator: Judith Anson	Alex Staniforth	Seconded: David Hunt
AREA GROUPS OFFICER Nominator: Stephen Parkhouse	James McGill	Seconded: Chris Thompson
AREA NEWSLETTER EDITOR Nominator: Judith Anson	Keith Wallace	Seconded: Jenny Fillingham
AREA MINUTES SECRETARY Nominator: James McGill	Jenny Fillingham	Seconded: Allan Rogers
AREA WEBMASTER Nominator: David Hunt	Rod Fillingham	Seconded: Alex Staniforth
AREA COMMITTEE MEMBER Nominator: Chris Thompson	Stephen Parkhouse	Seconded: James McGill
AREA COMMITTEE MEMBER Nominator: James McGill	Allan Rogers	Seconded: Stephen Parkhouse