



Nottinghamshire Area Ramblers
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**MINUTES OF THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AREA RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT COLLINGHAM VILLAGE HALL
ON SUNDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2025 AT 2.00 PM**

The record of attendance shows 72 members were present at the Annual General Meeting, see Appendix 1.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF THE AREA OFFICERS

Joyce Pedersen, Chair of the Newark Group was in the chair for the AGM.

Joyce spoke to the tribute to Sue Rick, Area Chair from February 2022 to her sad death in March 2024. Members held a minute's silence.

Joyce welcomed everyone to the AGM at Collingham Village Hall and particularly Paddy Tipping, Area President and Erin McDaid as the keynote speaker. Joyce informed members that the year had been particularly difficult for the Area Officers and thanked them for their work. Joyce thanked the Newark and Collingham Groups for organising the day and the walk leaders. Special thanks were due to members who provided the hot drinks and baked the excellent cakes.

Paddy Tipping, the Area President and Area Officers were introduced to the meeting.

2. OVERVIEW FROM THE AREA PRESIDENT

Paddy Tipping thanked the Area Officers for their diligence in working beyond their official roles during a challenging year to keep Area functioning. Ramblers had been represented at the House of Commons event celebrating the 75th anniversary of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act. The Access to Nature Bill would include reference to increased access to the countryside but it needed further work.

A key success in year was the removal of the 2031 deadline for the registration of rights of way. In Nottinghamshire Chris Thompson and Steve Parkhouse had worked hard to submit Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMOs). Local elections were being held in May. Nottinghamshire Ramblers had a good relationship with Nottinghamshire County Council, but greater priority should be given to rights of way. Paddy encouraged members to ask prospective Councillors for their views on rights of way and tell them about the benefits of walking in the countryside.

Joyce thanked Paddy for his remarks and for agreeing to continue as President for a further year.

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Steven and Jackie Evans, Vanessa McGrath, Janet Ross, Margaret Shaw, Adrian Amer, Linda Honey, James McGill and Jim Sinclair.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM

The minutes of the previous AGM held on 4th February 2024 were approved as a true record.

Proposed: Paddy Tipping

Seconded: Alan Wilson

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM

There were no matters arising.

6. REPORT ON MOTIONS PASSED AT THE PREVIOUS AGM

There were no motions last year.

7. PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS (2022 – 2023)

The Area Officers Annual Report and Accounts covering the period 1st October 2023 – 30th September 2024 had been published on the Nottinghamshire Area website. Judith Anson commented on the walk leader training with Groups being concerned the requirements would be a deterrent. On the Area ROW Secretary Report Sue Jones remarked that Steve Parkhouse had submitted over 400 DMMO applications (recently the majority had been in Lincolnshire) and was concerned that Steve's work was not being adequately recognised. A report should be received by Area Council. Joyce thanked Sue for her remarks and said the Area Council would discuss how the DMMOs should be handled.

Diana Munro spoke to the Membership Report and confirmed the national membership was rising slowly. Locally, new members joined but the numbers replaced those who had left for a variety of reasons. Neil Stafford confirmed Andrew Bolton was willing to continue as the Independent Examiner for 2024/25. Dave Johnson apologised for not submitting a report from the Robin Hood Way Flexi-Group. The Robin Hood Way was important to Nottinghamshire and reminded members there was a guidebook available.

7.4 The Report and Accounts were accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Tom Munro

Seconded: Alex Ellis

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Officers were elected as set out in Appendix II with the proposer and seconder. Chris Thompson encouraged members to come forward for the vacant posts and particularly the Publicity Officer role. Judith confirmed the

Rights of Way structure was being developed and would be considered by Area Council in April. Members were encouraged to put forward an expression of interest and an appointment could be made Ex Officio during the year. The proposed roles were: Area Rights of Way Protection Officer and Area Footpath Maintenance & Improvement Officer. Alex Ellis was proposed as Area Chair in the meeting and Joyce thanked Alex for coming forward.

9. RAMBLERS' GENERAL COUNCIL 5TH APRIL 2025

General Council (GC) was to take place at the NEC, Birmingham. Regrettably only two voting delegates appointed by the AGM would be allowed to attend; no visitors. Under standing orders one of these would automatically be the Area Secretary, Judith Anson. It was agreed the second representative would be Neil Stafford, Area Treasurer. The AGM was reminded the nominated delegates remained in place for a year.

10. MOTIONS

10.1 Motions relating to Nottinghamshire Area – none received.

10.2 Motions to go to General Council 2025 – none received.

11. EAST MIDLANDS MAYOR AND CHANGES TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Tom Munro asked about the impact on Ramblers of the election of the East Midlands Mayor and changes to the local government structure in Nottinghamshire. Paddy confirmed he was working closely with Claire Ward, the new Mayor and Ramblers had already approached Claire about the importance of walking and rights of way. The White Paper on the changes to local government had been published but there were differing views on how Nottinghamshire might be affected. The changes were expected to be introduced in 2027. Paddy felt the real issue for Ramblers was access to the countryside and rights of way protection.

12. CLOSING REMARKS FROM THE AREA CHAIR

Alex thanked members for voting for her as Area Chair. Alex had come forward in memory of Sue Rick and was looking forward to the challenge.

Judith thanked Joyce for taking the Chair for the AGM.

13. DATE OF NEXT AREA AGM SUNDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2026

The next AGM will be held on Sunday, 1st February 2026 and a Group was asked to volunteer to host the AGM.

14. THE NEXT AREA COUNCIL MEETING

The next Area Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 15th April 2025 at Bilsthorpe

Working to Create a Wilder Nottinghamshire – 6 decades of promoting and protecting wildlife

The AGM was followed by a talk from Erin McDaid from Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust

APPENDIX I

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AREA RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, SUNDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY 2025

ATTENDANCE LIST

Aldrich	Brian	Newark
Alvey	John	Mansfield & Sherwood
Anson	Judith	Area Secretary
Baker	Jim	Mansfield & Sherwood
Ballinger	Ann	Mansfield & Sherwood
Bird	Rab	Vale of Belvoir
Bramley	Stephen	Mansfield & Sherwood
Brine	Anne	Newark
Brown	Diane	Newark
Bull	Kathryn	Rushcliffe
Carr	Sandra	Newark
Casey	Julie	Mansfield & Sherwood
Cook	Jean	Rushcliffe
Coupe	Richard	Mansfield & Sherwood
Coxon	Keith	Rushcliffe
Crossland	Val	Mansfield & Sherwood
Duesbury	Pam	Rushcliffe
Ellis	Alex	Area Groups Officer
Farrant	Maggie	Collingham
Fenton	Paul	Vale of Belvoir
Garley	Denise	Mansfield & Sherwood
Gill	Martyn	Mansfield & Sherwood
Goodwin	Jo	Mansfield & Sherwood
Hackin	Judith	Newark
Hartshorn	Sharon	Mansfield & Sherwood
Henderson	Anne	Newark
Hobson	Dave	Vale of Belvoir
Hobson	Elaine	Vale of Belvoir
Jewett	Penny	Newark
Jewett	Reg	Newark
Johnson	Dave	Robin Hood Way Flexi-Group
Johnson	Dave	Southwell
Johnson	Polly	Gedling
Jones	Sue	Rushcliffe
Lawlor	Karen	Rushcliffe
Lee	Caroline	Newark
Martin	Joyce	Newark
Moreland	Robert	Newark
Munro	Diana	Area Membership Secretary
Munro	Tom	Worksop Ramblers
Murphy	Bridgid	Newark
Murton	Paul	Newark
Musson	Paul	Gedling

Muxlow	Jo	Nottingham
Muxlow	Trevor	Nottingham
Naylor	Steve	Rushcliffe
Parkhouse	Steve	Not in Group
Pedersen	Joyce	Newark
Pilgrim	Colleen	Gedling
Pratt	Jeremy	Rushcliffe
Rek	Yvonne	Mansfield & Sherwood
Reynolds	David	Newark
Robinson	Peter	Newark
Small	Chris	Newark
Smith	Andrew	Collingham
Somerville	Peter	Southwell
Stafford	Neil	Area Treasurer
Stock	Mike	Rushcliffe
Thompson	Chris	Area Tourism & Heritage Officer
Tipping	Paddy	Area President
Turner	Dave	Newark
Turner	Isobel	Newark
Tuffnell	Brian	Mansfield & Sherwood
Ward	Bob	Worksop
Ward	Thelma	Worksop
Wilkinson	Carol	Newark
Wilson	Alan	Rushcliffe
Woolley	Val	Mansfield & Sherwood

APPENDIX II

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AREA RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, SUNDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY 2025

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Paddy Tipping

The following Area Officers were elected:

AREA CHAIR

Nominated: Chris Thompson

Alexandra Ellis

Seconded: Jeremy Pratt

AREA VICE CHAIR

Nominated: Jim Sinclair

Adrian Amer

Seconded: Alex Ellis

SECRETARY

Nominated: Chris Thompson

Judith Anson

Seconded: Keith Jacobs

TREASURER

Nominated: Michael Stock

Neil Stafford

Seconded: Yinka Soetan

TOURISM & HERITAGE PATHS OFFICER

Nominated: Dave Johnson

Chris Thompson

Seconded: Jim Sinclair

COUNTRYSIDE OFFICER

Vacant

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Nominated: Tom Munro

Diana Munro

Seconded: Alex Ellis

PRESS & PUBLICITY OFFICER

Vacant

GROUPS OFFICER

Nominated: Denise Garley

Alexandra Ellis

Seconded: Dave Hobson

AREA WEBMASTER

Nominated: Stephen Bramley

Brian Tuffnell

Seconded: Sharon Hartshorn

MINUTES SECRETARY

Vacant