

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AREA RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MEETING TO
BE HELD ON TUESDAY 18TH JULY 2017 AT 7.30 PM AT BILSTHORPE MINERS
WELFARE & INSTITUTE, THE CRESCENT, BILSTHORPE

Minutes

Present Judith Anson, (Area Sec & Membership), Martin Gawith (Chair), Steve Parkhouse (Minutes Sec, Newsletter Ed), Barbara Dobson & David Dobson (Nottm), David Hunt (Council), James McGill (Groups Officer), Allan Rogers (Council), Chris Thompson (RoW Sec), Alan Wilson (Rushcliffe), Rachel Drewery (Notts & Derby), Keith Jacobs (Broxtowe), Jack Prust (Treasurer), John Young (Vale of Belvoir)

1. Apologies - Jim Norris (Vicechair, Countryside Officer & Gedling & Dukeries), C. Adams (Collingham) Diane Munro (Worksop), Alex Staniforth (Mansfield & Sherwood)
2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (*Tuesday 18th April 2017*)
Approved
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting
3.1 Area AGM, 4.2.18 – Ravenshead & Hucknall Group have booked the hall and are organising walks. (NB we need to make have a computer projector & screen available.)
4. Area Officers Reports
 - 4.1 Chair Appendix I – Need to attract new members.
 - 4.2 Secretary Appendix II –
New National President is willing to attend events.
Concern about proposed trial of Local Organisers appointed by Central Office, not necessarily Ramblers members – welcome volunteers to help but they need to coordinate with local work.
 - 4.3 Treasurer Appendix III
The following resolutions approved
 - 4.3.1 'Area Council agrees that Area reserves are too high at present and agrees to submit a zero budget for the 2017/2018 financial year, with the exception that group budgets will be passed on as part of the area budget'
 - 4.3.2 'Area Council approves the application for expenses submitted by Mr Steve Parkhouse, backdated to October 2016 for the amount of £467.00.'
 - 4.3.3 Signatories to bank account.
'Area Council agrees that the following officers of the Area Council should be appointed as signatories to the bank account, and they will also be given access to the online banking facility.
Jack Prust – Area Treasurer
Martin Gawith – Area Chair
Jim Norris – Area Vice-Chair
David Hunt – Area Council Member'
- 4.4 Rights of Way Secretary Appendix IV
Area asked to organise walks with MPs. Paddy Tipping willing to organise a walk with the Nottingham City MPs. Other Groups to organise walks but coordination needed where MP constituencies overlapped into several Groups - CT to arrange.

- 4.5 Countryside Officer Appendix V – Report prompted discussion of the rail crossing issue – referred to the Rights of Way Group for a report
- 4.6 Membership Secretary Appendix VI – Groups thanked for recruitment successes.
- 4.7 Groups Officer Appendix VII – James McGill to arrange educational event for potential ROW volunteers.
- 4.8 Communications Subcommittee Appendix VIII – no questions
- 5. Group Reports Appendix IX
Broxtowe flagged up Rail crossing issue. Rushcliffe will have 14 walks in a 6 week period.
- 6. Deposits in Archives Alex Staniforth – Area records now with Notts Archives. Appeal for a copy of the May 2010 Notts Walker which is the only missing copy. Surplus materials should be recycled if no one wants them.
- 7. Any Other Business - None

Break

- 8. Review of Structure of Area Council & Purpose of Meetings Appendix X
Verbal report given from Mansfield & Sherwood Group. Reports received supported 4 meetings per year, having a longer break in the middle to socialise/connect, Group reports could be shorter, venue OK.
Decisions and action after wide ranging discussion
 - 8.1 Network with other Areas – useful to know how they operate (Chair)
 - 8.2 Four Area Council meetings per year plus AGM.
 - 8.3 Officer Reports to be first part of meeting and timed – 45 minutes maximum. Officers only to raise issues that had arisen since they wrote their report. Urgent items to be taken as AOB.
 - 8.4 Have a longer networking session in the middle of the meeting.
 - 8.5 Main part of meeting (after the break) to be a discussion on a specific topic, notified in advance, so Groups not attending could submit their comments. Suggestions for future topics Network Rail & Level Crossing issues, membership & recruitment, walk programme production.
- 9. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 17th October 2017 at 7.30 pm