

**Minutes from
Helensburgh and West Dunbartonshire Ramblers Group Committee Meeting held in
Helensburgh Parish Church, 22nd February 2024 at 7pm.**

Present

Sheena Arendt, Mike McManus, Mike Carder, Peter Knox, Idris Scott, Ian McCall, David Clark, Bernadette Devine

1 – Apologies

Michael Mason, Pat Anguelov

2 – Minutes

No comments.

Minutes were proposed by Ian McCall and seconded by Mike C.

3 – Matters Arising

Matters arising will be covered in the walks programme section.

4a – Treasurer

The accounts are much the same as last time. The Main Account is at £882.48 (last year £905.93) and the Social Account is at £335.35 (last year £298.35). We will be receiving our quota from Ramblers Scotland this year.

Ian is now submitting the new authorisation paperwork to the bank to enable the group to use internet banking.

4b – Access Officer

Pat sent an email advising us that Forestry and Land Scotland reported that access to Conic Hill from Balmaha is closed due to storm damage, and Walkhighlands also reported that the route through the forestry SE of Gouk Hill is currently closed due to storm damage.

4c – Membership Secretary

Last time we had 107 members. This time 4 did not renew, 2 resigned and we have 6 new members which means we still have 107 members.

4d – Secretary

There was an email sent from Ramblers regarding training courses.

4e – Group Chair

The Scottish council is on the 16th March which David, Pat and Michael M hope to attend.

5 – Publicity

The Community Magazine continues to give good publicity for our group. While we thought that the new posters had attracted new members it turned out that, when asked, the new walkers had learned about us through the Community Magazine.

6- Events

The group discussed various areas for our usual walking trip in September. David will find out about accommodation and possible walks in the Whitby/Scarborough area.

7- Walks programme

Monthly programme

The group wondered if the programme should go back to 4 monthly. Most felt that either monthly or 4 monthly would suit them. It was felt that a walk leaders meeting should go ahead as there hadn't been one for a while. It was decided to carry on as before until the Ramblers Guidance Document came out. When this is published a combined walk leader and committee meeting will be arranged.

Walk discipline

There has been some concern about the group splitting when out on a walk. If anyone decides to leave the group, the Leader should be informed, and they will be made aware that they will no longer be part of the walk.

Car Sharing

It was suggested that there should be meeting points for car sharing. The system we have at the moment seems to work well. Anyone who would like a lift can contact the walk leader and it will be put on the Over The Hill WhatsApp asking if there is anyone available to offer a lift.

Programmes

The programmes will continue to be sent out by email. Any information regarding alterations in the programme will be on the website.

8 – AOB

Jeannie Cranfield suggested groups could use social media to recruit new members but this would need an administrator and might not attract any more new members.

Mike McM had information for anyone affected by Lyme Disease. He will email this to members.

9 – Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on 25th April 2024 at 7pm in Helensburgh Parish Church.