

**Minutes from
Helensburgh and West Dunbartonshire Ramblers Group Committee Meeting held in
Helensburgh Parish Church, 9th January 2025 at 7pm.**

Present

Sheena Arendt, Mike McManus, David Clark, Idris Scott, Mike Carder, Ian McCall,
Catherine Duda, Jack Tarr

1 – Apologies

Bernadette Devine, Pat Anguelov

2 – Minutes

No comments.

Minutes were proposed by Idris Scott and seconded by David Clark.

3 – Matters Arising

Committee Meeting

There was no walk/meal to Doune as this was changed to a walk on 21st December to Baron's Haugh Nature Reserve with a meal afterwards.

David will message the walk leaders with a link to a First Aid Kit. Leaders can purchase this and will be reimbursed from the group.

AGM

It was felt that there was a good response to the paper copy of the AGM invitation being put out to members.

Motion to the Scottish Council – see AOB

Questionnaire - see AOB

4a – Treasurer

There is not much to report this time.

The Main Account stands at £1007.15 against last year at £759.98.

The Social Account is at £515.35 and last year at £335.35. There have been a few donations from Ramblers Walking Holidays into this account.

4b – Access Officer

Pat reported via email that she wrote to the Access Team of Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park on 13.12.24 about blocked right of way from West Highland Way in Garadhbhan Forest to Drymen which passes through Mid Shandon and Buchanan Smithy. She has not had a reply but sent them a reminder on 31.12.24. The Helensburgh to Balloch path is also still blocked.

4c – Membership Secretary

We now have 103 members, a slight increase on last time.

4d – Secretary and

4e – Group Chair

David reminded us that the Area AGM is on the 25th January 2025, and the Scottish Council is on the 15th March 2025 in Glasgow.

5 – Publicity

Idris reported that the Community Advertiser continues to be a good source for advertising.

Catherine has set up a Facebook page for the group which now has 71 followers. No faces will show on pictures put on this. There have been a lot “likes” on the site, and we gained one new member through it.

6- Events

No events are planned at the moment. The group will start to think about the away break usually held in September. A couple of suggestions were made, Ulster, Isle of Man and Galloway.

7- Walks programme

The walks programme is doing quite well with a good response for the March programme. We have a couple of new leaders bringing the number up to 10.

The idea of having a walk leaders meeting was raised again. It was felt that a meeting could be called if it was felt necessary for any arrangements.

8 – AOB

Questionnaire

A questionnaire had been suggested previously to find out more about what members would like on the walks. Idris has drawn one up and sent the draft to the committee to look over to see if it would be suitable. The committee discussed this with several points being raised: -

Should we go ahead with this?

Will it change the group?

How will we use the information?

What version to use.

It was decided that a copy will be sent to the committee first to try and then sent out to members. A brief note explaining the purpose of this will be attached.

Motion to The Scottish Council

The role of the Walk Leader was raised again at the AGM and a member suggested putting forward a motion to the Scottish Council for clarity on the responsibility of the leader. The committee talked about whether to carry this forward. It was felt that no more information would be gained by doing this.

A note will be put on the website and the programme stating that walkers joining the group do so at their own risk.

9 – Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting 3rd April 2025.