

**Minutes from  
Helensburgh and West Dunbartonshire Ramblers Group Committee Meeting held in  
Helensburgh Parish Church, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025 at 7pm.**

**Present**

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

**1 – Apologies**

No apologies

**2 – Minutes**

No comments.

Minutes were proposed by Jack Tarr and seconded by Mike Carder.

**3 – Matters Arising**

David contacted Walk Leaders via WhatsApp regarding the first aid kits.

The Questionnaire was sent out to members.

A note is now in the programme and on the website regarding members walking at their own risk.

**4a – Treasurer**

The Main Account stands at £1148.15 against last year at £823.23. The main reason for an increase is because we are again receiving our quarterly allowance from Ramblers Scotland.

The Social Account is at £515.35 and last year at £335.35. We are still receiving donations from Ramblers Holidays. One member asked if their holiday contribution had been passed on to us, but Ramblers do not do individual donations, it is done as a block donation.

As we have adequate money Jack wondered if a minibus could be used for some of the walks. There are new regulations regarding the driving of minibuses which would make it difficult to organise.

**4b – Access Officer**

Pat regularly updates members through the WhatsApp group on any path or access issues. Nothing more to add currently.

The Three Lochs Way is now passable.

**4c – Membership Secretary**

One member has not renewed their membership, 2 have resigned, 1 transferred, and 1 joined and then left but we have 13 new members bringing the total to 111.

**4d – Secretary and**

**4e – Group Chair**

David attended the Scottish Council as planned.

**5 – Publicity**

The publicity is doing well as usual with the Community Advertiser publishing each walk individually.

Destination Helensburgh was mentioned as another means of advertising, but it was felt that this was not necessary at the moment.

Catherine continues to run the Facebook page. She reminded members of this on the WhatsApp group. We had 99 followers and now have 103 which means that now she will get some statistics regarding the page.

## **6- Events**

David thought we should start to think about the walking trip. The committee discussed several locations e.g. Patterdale, Galloway, Hexham and Arran. We decided to stick with the Monday to Friday option as this worked well. Locations were narrowed down to Arran and Galloway. Bernadette will look into availability in Arran and Ian, Galloway. The suggested dates were 29<sup>th</sup> September to 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

## **7- Walks programme**

We have 9 Walk Leaders and 3 occasional Leaders. The programme has been doing well except the for the last programme which struggled a bit to get leaders so we will continue with one walk a week for the time being.

The average number out on walks this year, from January to present is 19 against 14 for the same time period last year. This led to wondering if this was too many as sometimes the group splits up at times. It was felt that the numbers were fine, but members should support each other, respect and stay with the leader.

## **8 – AOB**

Idris sent out the Questionnaire to all members and collated the information. The response was that we are doing mainly what the members want. Members will still book to come on a walk. Some would like a central meeting point. This was discussed at length, covering various points e.g. where to meet, central meeting times, and start times in the programme. This led to some confusion when it was done last time so a vote was taken. The result was that we will continue using WhatsApp to arrange transport.

## **9 – Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting 5<sup>th</sup> June 2025.