

**Minutes from
Helensburgh and West Dunbartonshire Ramblers Group Committee meeting
held in Helensburgh Parish Church, 11th September 2025 at 7pm.**

Present

Sheena Arendt, Mike McManus, David Clark, Idris Scott, Catherine Duda, Pat Anguelov, Gerry Marshall, Ian McCall, Bernadette Devine, Trish Schooling, Roy Lewis.

1 – Apologies

Miles Walsh, Mike Carder, Jack Tarr, John Gildea.

2 – Minutes

No comments.

Minutes were proposed by Idris Scott and seconded by Catherine Duda.

3 – Matters Arising

The questionnaire results are now on the website.

The away trip is now organised and walks are being arranged.

The First Aid training is on the 16th November.

Committee members were emailed and asked to indicate if they are willing to continue on the committee next year.

4a – Treasurer

The Main Account stands at £1061.03 against last year at £1165.23. This is slightly lower than last year despite having our contribution from Ramblers Scotland. The outlay is mainly recce expenses.

The budget set for the First Aid courses will come out of next year's budget.

The Social Account is £575.35 against last year at £435.35. We continue to receive money from Ramblers Holidays.

Recce expenses were discussed. How much is paid per mile? This is set at 25p per mile. How many times we can claim if a walk needs to be recced more than once? Some discussion took place and a vote was taken. The majority voted for recce expenses being paid if it is necessary to do more than one recce on a walk. This will be made clear at the AGM.

4b – Access Officer

Pat reported that the Three Lochs Way path was still closed between Balloch and Helensburgh.

4c – Membership Secretary

At the end of August we have 103 members. This is 6 down from the last meeting, 3 members did not renew, 4 resigned and we have 1 new member.

4d – Secretary

As it is Ramblers Diamond Jubilee groups were asked if they would be marking it with an event. Our group will highlight this on Facebook and for our AGM will provide a Jubilee Cake

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4e – Group Chair

David ran through the details for the AGM on the 15th November. A walk will take place in the morning. The small hall is booked for 1.30pm. A Jubilee cake will be provided. David

went through the candidates being put into the calling papers sent out by Mike McM which will invite any members to put their names forward if they would like to take up a position on the committee.

The convener's report was talked about as to what format it should take. It was felt that the AGM business should be covered first and then maybe some photos/pictures to follow with tea and cake. David will look at how to combine the two.

Survey

The survey has been published on the website and the results show several members in favour of a central meeting place where lifts can be arranged. This subject will be raised at the AGM to see how members feel about 1 or 2 meeting places.

5 – Publicity

There has been a couple of our walks put into the Helensburgh Advertiser in the What's On Section and had not come from Idris. There was no contact information provided and it was a worry that someone might turn up for a walk ill equipped. For the same reason there was a question as to whether A walks should be advertised. It was felt that the walks should still be advertised and anyone enquiring about a walk would be advised of the equipment etc necessary.

6- Events

Some Committee Members and Walk Leaders will stay and make arrangements for the walking trip after this meeting.

7- Walks programme

Nothing to report on this. David handed out some more Walk Leaders Handbooks.

8 – AOB

Mike McM asked if AGM calling papers were to go out via email. The papers will be sent via email except for a few who do not have email addresses.

9 – Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting 8th January 2026.