

**Crook & Weardale Ramblers**  
**Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday 24 May 2021**

**Venue – Oakfields. Hunwick at 10am**

Attendees: Steve Musgrove (Chair), Mike Knipe (Secretary ) Alison Musgrove, Liz Walton, David Balmer, Dennis Ebdon, Christine Ebdon

Apologies for absence: Kath Wright

Previous Minutes – accepted with no outstanding matters arising

Chairman's report

Very sad to report the passing of two Crook & Weardale members recently.

Grahame Rose our most valued Footpaths Officer who will be sadly missed and Peter McGarry who hasn't walked with us for maybe 3 years or so with his wife Rose who has had poor health for some time now.

Our thoughts are with families. We had a representation of 5 at Grahame's funeral on Friday which was a very sad occasion. Our group raised £290 for their chosen charity the Great North Air Ambulance. We are also considering a memorial seat for Grahame with support and maybe funding from Mike Currah a C&W member and new councillor in Crook and also DCC Groundworks as Grahame did lots of work in and around the town with litter picks in Kittys Wood and stile repairs on Dowfold hill

Dave Jackson was going to try to contact Rose McGarry to pass on our condolences and as he was not walking yesterday, I don't have an update

As a group we continued to walk locally during Covid lockdown which were reasonably well attended by members only and recently when restrictions were eased noticed a spike in attendance as walks became more adventurous and further afield with regular guest walkers and new membership which Dennis will cover

Our normal walks program begins on 6<sup>th</sup> June for a 3-month period and reverting to fortnightly walks with an influx of new walk leaders and a variety of new and old walks. Dave will be working on the next program soon covering the period September – November

Bus trips are still on hold for now until the final restrictions are lifted on 21<sup>st</sup> June and clearer guidelines are provided for bus and travel companies

We are also hoping to plan a xmas dinner again and will make contact with the Park Head to see if they have opened for business as usual

There are other great initiatives in the pipeline which will be covered in other sections

### Membership Secretary's report

At the time of the meeting membership has increased from 69 members to 75 which is a significant increase.

The recruitment strategy agreed last year has been on hold due to Covid 19 restrictions but we can now go ahead with Bishop FM advertisements and attendance at Hunwick show and Stanhope Show, plus the printing costs for walks programmes.

The committee agreed that this should go ahead. A sample Bishop FM advertisement had been distributed to committee members prior to the meeting and it was agreed to go ahead with this.

### Treasurer's report.

Kath submitted the information given below which includes details of the finance bid for next year. This was approved by the committee including the bid for funds for next year.

This continues the recruitment and awareness- building strategy currently being implemented following a pause due to Covid 19 restrictions

#### 1) **BANK BALANCES**

##### **Unity Trust Bank as at 15.5.21**

| <b>Date</b> |                        | <b>£</b>        | <b>Date</b> | <b>Cheque</b> |   | <b>£</b>        |
|-------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------|---|-----------------|
| 1.10.20     | <b>Opening Balance</b> | 43.63           |             |               |   |                 |
| 20.10.20    | 1st Q Payment          | 162.80          | 28.11.20    | 13            | D. J. Ebdon<br>(Car Stickers promotion) | 100.00          |
| 20.1.21     | 2nd Q Payment          | 162.80          |             |               |   |                 |
| 20.4.21     | 3rd Q Payment          | 162.80          |             |               |   |                 |
| 20.7.21     | 4th Q Payment          |                 | 15.5.21     |               | <b>Closing Balance</b>                  | <b>432.03</b>   |
|             |                        | <b>£ 532.03</b> |             |               |   | <b>£ 532.03</b> |

##### **Barclays Bank as at 15.5.21**

| <b>Date</b>    |                        | <b>£</b>      | <b>Date</b> |  | <b>£</b> |
|----------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------|--|----------|
| <b>1.10.20</b> | <b>Opening Balance</b> | <b>644.74</b> |             |  |          |
| 1.10.21        | Interest Paid          | 0.01          |             |  |          |

|         |               |        |                |                        |               |
|---------|---------------|--------|----------------|------------------------|---------------|
| 0       |               |        |                |                        |               |
| 1.11.20 | Interest Paid | 0.01   |                |                        |               |
| 2.12.20 | Interest Paid | 0.01   |                |                        |               |
| 2.1.21  | Interest Paid | 0.01   |                |                        |               |
| 3.2.21  | Interest Paid | 0.00   |                |                        |               |
| 2.3.21  | Interest Paid | 0.00   |                |                        |               |
| 1.4.21  | Interest Paid | 0.01   |                |                        |               |
| 1.5.21  | Interest Paid | 0.01   |                |                        |               |
| 1.6.21  | Interest Paid |        |                |                        |               |
| 1.7.21  | Interest Paid |        |                |                        |               |
| 1.8.21  | Interest Paid |        |                |                        |               |
| 1.9.21  | Interest Paid |        | <b>15.5.21</b> | <b>Closing Balance</b> | <b>644.80</b> |
|         |               | 644.80 |                |                        | 644.80        |
|         |               |        |                |                        | 0             |

## 2. Planned Budget Expenses for 2020/21

We were successful in obtaining an increase from our basic annual budget of £167.72 to £651.20 to cover:

|   |                        |         |
|---|------------------------|---------|
| A | Promotion              | £250    |
| B | Printing of Programmes | £165    |
| C | Web                    | £63.21  |
| D | General Expenses       | £172.99 |

## 3. Outstanding Anticipated Expenses for 2020/21

|   |   |                |
|---|---|----------------|
| A | Web Hosting                               | £63.21         |
| B | Programmes (2)                            | £80            |
| C | Waymarkers                                | £100           |
| D | Hunwick and Wolsingham Shows expenditures | £80            |
| E | Bishop Auckland FM Radio promotion        | £60            |
|   | <b>Total</b>                              | <b>£383.21</b> |

## 4. Monies Available with Unity Ban

|  | £      | £      |
|--|--------|--------|
| Current Balance as at 15.5.21 (Item 1)   | 432.03 |        |
| 4 Q Payment (Item 1)                     | 162.80 |        |
| Minimum Anticipated Expenditure (Item 3) |        | 383.21 |
| 50% of Annual Budget for                 |        | 1      |

|                         |        |            |
|-------------------------|--------|------------|
| Reserves                |        | 100.0<br>0 |
| <b>Possible Surplus</b> |        | 111.6<br>2 |
|                         | 594.83 | 594.8<br>3 |

## 5. Draft 2021/22 Funding Bid

|                        | £             |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Web Hosing             | 60.00         |
| Web Domain             | 40.00         |
| Reserves               | 100.00        |
| Promotion              | 250.00        |
| Printing of Programmes | 180.00        |
| General Expenses       | 200.00        |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>830.00</b> |

It was agreed that Kath should submit the budget in Section 5 as it stands and we await decisions by the Ramblers finance staff.

Secretary's report.

The main pressing issue is the replacement of Grahame Rose as Footpaths Secretary. Chairman agreed to ask some named individuals to see if we could recruit a Footpaths Secretary and , possibly an assistant.

Walks Co-Ordinator Report

The Summer walks programme has been published and Dave Balmer is now working on an Autumn programme of one fortnightly Sunday walk from September through to November.

It was agreed to enhance this with long walks on 29 September and 27 October with short walks in between.

Any Other Business

As detailed in the Chairman's report discussion was around a memorial seat for Grahame Rose. Committee discussed the provision of a bench on Dowfold Hill. This could be funded by Councillor Mike Currah from funds he has personal access to and installed by Groundworks. There was a need to obtain firm estimates and information on and permission from who owns the land and Durham County Council would be asked to assist in this matter. The committee agreed to proceed with a project to install a memorial seat on Dowfold Hill and Chairman would take the lead in this.

Next Meeting: Monday 26 July 2021 at 10:00 in Wetherspoons Crook