

# HIGHWORTH & SWINDON WALKING CLUB

## MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MTG, HELD ON 30 MARCH 2026, 2pm

**Present:** Andrew Snowden, (AS, Chair), Marilyn Todd (MT, Sunday Walks Coordinator), Don Webster (DW), Pat Kenyon (PK, Membership Secretary), Zoe Brown (ZB, Treasurer), Annie Willett (AW, Minutes Secretary)

**Apologies:** Sue Aiken (SA, Wednesday Walks Coordinator)

We welcomed Zoe Brown, the new Treasurer and Annie Willett, the new Minutes Secretary, to the committee.

### 1. Previously Minutes

Matters arising :

Finance balance £2,465.01 and £788 in cash. Minutes were accepted

### 2. Membership Numbers and Renewal Update

68 members have renewed their membership at the meeting date.

The new cards are purple, more plastic pouches needs to be ordered.

### 3. Finance Update

ZB has taken the Treasurer role on from Dave Hazel.

The Metro Bank account and authorised signatory have been changed over from DH to ZB. The Ramblers account owner has also been changed from DH to ZB.

Communication and mailing lists for both have also been changed from DH to ZB

Howden's insurance has been renewed for this year via BACS; and ownership has been changed over to ZB

Flickr account has been renewed for 2 years

Awaiting invoice for Membership cards

Balance stands at £1,398.37, with membership fees incoming

### 4. Walk Coordinator reports

#### Wednesday programme

1 space to fill

#### Sunday programme

2 spaces to fill

Get together with Peter Saunders to streamline online form input

### 5. Footpath Liaison Update

There have been 2 incidents with electric shocks on fences.

- DW spoke to Peter Gallagher to find out who to contact for the Oxfordshire area to report shocked received by 2 members walking in Coleshill. As yet there has been no reply, the landowner is Lord Farringdon.

- On a separate occasion 3 members were on a walk reeve and came across electric fences, which they photographed and contacted the National Trust who have said they will contact the farmer.

- Reporting incidents to Oxfordshire Council is extremely difficult, there is no phone number or email address, after several weeks claims are rejected.

- DW will contact the local HSE branch

In Highworth a Wragg Barn right of way footpath has been adopted.

## **6. Part Year Subscription**

As had been discussed at a previous AGM subscriptions had been charged at 50% off if 6 months or less remained.

Going forward it was agreed to charge:

- 100% April - October
- 50% October - end of January
  - No charge February -April

## **7. Highworth Walks Booklet**

It was agreed to take some to the council Visit Highworth shop. Some committee members were interested in buying them, the remainder Marilyn will store.

## **8. Coach Trip**

It was agreed that AS will send an email/add to newsletter a note to say that as no volunteers had come forward, there would not be a coach trip this year.

## **9. Club Walking Weekend Away in Autumn**

AS is looking at Hadrians Wall, staying in Hexham, possibly in October

## **10. Safety and Governance Obligations from Ramblers Affiliation**

Points to consider:

- We do have an incident reporting system
- We do have liability insurance
- We have run leadership navigation workshops
- Workshops need to be friendly and need to consider, navigation, what walk leaders do, risk assessments, parking, etc
- Check out price of Highworth Council Offices to run workshops from (DW)
- Access to more Ramblers on-line resources on their website, how to log-in?
- Who could run workshops? Suggestions, were discussed and to be followed up by committee members
- All committee to think about who and what they cover

## **11. First Aid Plans**

Make sure everyone knows how to use the first aid kits

MT asked if more of the medium first aid kits could be ordered

AS has identified a possible trainer for face-to-face courses

## **AOB**

- **Meet up points:** Keep as they are
- **Membership and General Enquiry Forms - Additional Info:**  
Add Please contact the Walk Leader

AS closed the meeting at 15.53