

LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION - BEDS BUCKS NORTHANTS GROUP

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE "CATCH UP" ZOOM MEETING THURSDAY 15TH JULY 2021

Present: Terry Brown (Chairman), Gill Bunker (Secretary), Roy Carter, Norman Corrin, Mike Hyland (Events Co-ordinator), Mary Knight, Alan Leadbetter (Membership), Sara Waldron (Social Walks)

- | | ACTION |
|---|--|
| 1. Apologies: Peter Engledow (Treasurer) | |
| 2. Matters arising from May meeting | |
| (a) New Members: Norman is working his way through the latest new members to be welcomed.
Alan has sent Gill a list of new members for the Newsletter. | Norman |
| (b) LDWA Safeguarding: Terry has emailed Karen Pickersgill suggesting a workshop would be an ideal opportunity for questions and guidance. No reply yet. | Terry |
| (c) LDWA Inclusion and Diversity: Terry emailed Julian White following the May meeting discussion. No reply yet. | Terry |
| (d) LDWA Hundreds: No further information on future Hundreds. | |
| (e) Greensand Ridge Benches: Roy emailed Jon Balaam (Greensand Country) after the May meeting and has received an email response, which he read out. <i>Copy attached.</i> It was agreed this was getting rather complicated and that a face-to-face meeting would now be the best way forward. Roy to contact Jon Balaam. Terry will also attend the meeting. | Roy/
Terry |
| 3. Arising after May meeting (via email) | |
| (a) £60 Donation to the Beds Walking Festival agreed.
Gill is in contact Barry Ingram, Festival organiser. Awaiting bank details. | Gill |
| (b) North Bucks rRIPPLE Donate-a-Gate. Gate installed at Stewkley and photos received. Item to go in Newsletter. | Gill |
| (c) Max number for BBN social walks raised to 20. | |
| 4. Covid Rules
LDWA NEC had circulated a statement on the <i>Easing of Covid-19 Restrictions</i> and guidance <i>LDWA Organised Activities Update England Only. Attached.</i> Easing effective from 19th July 2021. | |
| 5. Social Walks
Sara has drawn up a programme of walks to the end of August.,
She will contact all the current leaders to check that they are happy to lead increased numbers. If so, walkers already booked on those walks need to be advised that numbers will be increased to give anyone the opportunity to withdraw if they wish.
No bookings for walks will now be required, unless an individual leader wishes to take a smaller number.
It was agreed that BBN leaders would not be asked to complete a risk assessment for their walk, although a general risk assessment should be considered when planning a walk. Sara felt that having to complete a risk assessment was discouraging members from offering to lead.
Sara will supply an item on the easing of restrictions for the next Tuesday News. | Sara

Sara |

Terry will include the relevant information in her <i>Welcome</i> for the Newsletter, to include a link to both the LDWA update and the Government guidance.	Terry
Eastbourne Trip - 27th/30th August 2021 Roy has a dozen folk booked. There is still room at the hotel. The trip to be advertised again	Gill
6. Challenge Walks	
(a) Chiltern Anytime Kanter Roy had prepared a report. <i>Attached.</i> Roy's thanks and the names of those who recce'd the routes to be added to the results list. Roy's report to be included in the Newsletter. Terry will send photos taken on her CAK walk with Chris Burns. Thanks to Roy and his team for putting on the event.	Gill Gill/ Terry
(b) Pick & Mix Anytime - 24th May-31st August 2021 Lynn and Dave had sent in their report. <i>Attached.</i> The event to be advertised again. There is a warning that some paths are very overgrown on SiEntries.	Gill
(c) Shillington Shuffle - 21st November 2021 Dave and Merrian have indicated they would like the event to go ahead, if the CPs are available. The Risk Assessment will need updating. Terry will contact Dave and Merrian regarding food hygiene. Mary suggested non-touch hand sanitisers. If was agreed this was a good idea. Mary will check the sanitisers used at her workplace. Mike suggested putting the opening date on SiEntries back to 1st September (currently 1st August). Mike will check with Dave and Merrian.	SS Team Terry Mary Mike
(d) Hannington Hike - 6th March 2022 Alan said the halls are booked; he is just waiting to hear from Hannington hall. Mike to check opening date on SiEntries (1st December or 1st January) and email Alan. The SS Risk Assessment can be used as a basis for the HH Risk Assessment.	Alan/ Mike
(e) Triple Challenge (HH, CK, P&M) Alan confirmed to date 4 badges/certificates have been awarded.	
7. AGM – 28th November 2021 Report received from Dave and Lynn. <i>Attached.</i> No arrangements can be finalised yet. BBN constitution: We need to check the length of service of current officers. Terry is willing to stand as Chair for one more year	Dave &Lynn Gill
8. Next committee meeting Thursday 14th October 7.30pm via Zoom	

Item: 2(e) Greensand Ridge Benches – Email from Jon Balaam

From: [Jon Balaam](#) **Sent:** Monday, May 24, 2021 9:28 AM **To:** [roy carter](#)
Subject: RE: Greensand Benches

Hi Roy,

Many thanks – a few points for clarity:

1. The proposed sponsorship of a bench is at Heath Wood/Meadows (a CBC site), not Rushmere. Therefore there is no commitment from the Trust in terms of ongoing maintenance.
2. CBC feel that the site is at maximum capacity in terms of benches and will only permit a replacement, not additional benches.
3. Extending the reach – additional sponsorship income could allow us to go beyond replacing the original 6. I'm aiming for 8, but it would be good to do more.
4. Sponsorship income could also help to maintain the condition of the benches – responsibility for this will rest jointly between yourselves and the Trust. I need to ensure we can do this efficiently.
5. Plaques – we could have a basic plaque highlighting the support of yourselves, GST and GCLP, plus a larger plaque with a dedication message where sponsored by an individual. Or we could have 2 separate plaques.

The above is based on the premise that LDWA sponsorship of the project will be acknowledged through a plaque – please let me know if this is not the case.

Best wishes Jon

Item 4: Covid Rules

LDWA NEC Statement on the *Easing of Covid-19 Restrictions* and guidance *LDWA Organised Activities Update England Only*.

STATEMENT FROM THE NEC:

Easing of Covid-19 Restrictions Effective from 19th July 2021

The National Executive Committee met yesterday to discuss the implications of the easing of Covid-19 restrictions taking effect from 19 July in England.

For both Social Walks and Challenge Events, the LDWA has not applied any Covid-19 restrictions in addition to English Government guidance. Event organisers, walk leaders and walkers must exercise caution and take personal responsibility for complying with English Government guidance.

The 'Leading Local Group Walks' and 'Guidelines for Challenge Events' best practice documents are currently being reviewed to reflect the latest guidance and may be used by organisers as appropriate to ensure the smooth and safe running of any activity.

More details of the changes can be located on the toolkit

- https://ldwa.org.uk/.../ENGLAND_LDWA_Organised_Activities...

The National Executive Committee are in consultation with Local Groups based in Scotland and Wales to discuss how lifting of national restrictions could apply to Social Walks and Challenge Events.

The National Executive Committee would like to thank members for their patience over the last 16 months in trying to recommence organised activities.

Julie Cribb
LDWA Chai

LDWA Organised Activities Update – ENGLAND Only Effective 19th July 2021

Social Walks

There are no Covid-19 restrictions applied to Social Walks by the LDWA in addition to government guidance. Walk leaders and walkers must exercise caution and take personal responsibility for complying with government guidance.

1. Walk leaders must be cognisant of Covid guidance published by the Government.
2. Registers are required for Insurance and any Covid-19 Government legislation purposes.
3. Risk Assessments are no longer mandatory but are considered good practice and therefore encouraged.
4. Walk leaders must communicate to the group to ensure all arrangements are clear and any concerns raised by individuals e.g. covid hygiene measures are properly considered and reasonable adjustments made.
5. Walkers must not attend LDWA social walks if they or close contact has recently been diagnosed with or show any Covid-19 symptoms, are awaiting test results or are self-isolating under current Government guidance.
6. Leading Local Group Walks – general guidelines are still available to support walk leaders.

Challenge Events

There are no Covid-19 restrictions applied to Challenge Events by the LDWA in addition to government guidance. Challenge event organisers and entrants must exercise caution and take personal responsibility for complying with government guidance.

1. Challenge event organisers must be cognisant of Covid-19 guidance published by the Government.
2. Challenge event organisers must communicate to entrants to ensure all arrangements are clear and any concerns raised by individuals e.g. covid hygiene measures are properly considered and reasonable adjustments made.
3. Entrants and volunteers must not attend challenge events if they or a close contact has recently been diagnosed with or show any Covid-19 symptoms, are awaiting test results or are self-isolating under current Government guidance.
4. Guidelines for Challenge Events – How to Organise a Challenge Event is still available to support challenge event organisers.
5. Risk Assessments continue to be required to ensure the smooth and safe running of an event.

Item 6(a) Chiltern Anytime Kanter – Report

Chiltern Anytime Kanter – 12th April to 31st May 2021 – Roy Carter

This year's Chiltern Kanter was organised as an Anytime Challenge because of Covid restrictions in obtaining halls as checkpoints, food sharing, social distancing and limitations on travel outside of local areas. Hence the event was entirely unsupported, there were no refreshments, no checkpoints and no marshals on any of the routes. Participants were asked to bring their own food or obtain refreshment in the villages of Aldbury and/or Wigginton depending on the route they'd chosen. All entrants accepted the conditions of entry and agreed to participate in the event at their own risk as outlined in the LDWA disclaimer. I did receive information which recommended the Wigginton community cafe and another hostelry in Aldbury that welcomed our walkers. It appears they were marvelous places to stops, provided our members with renewed energy and turned a challenge into a lovely day out.

Starting Point

The start point was advertised as Pitstone Village Hall which is a public carpark with limitations in parking due to residents using the sports field for events and a new building site taking parking space for themselves. There were no problems reported in this respect. Also the event could be started from any point on the chosen route and some took advantage of this aspect and starting somewhere more convenient and answered the Kanter questions in a different order.

Routes

All three routes were new compared to the 2019 Chiltern Kanter. We kept the tradition of all routes climbing up onto Ivinghoe Beacon albeit on a different route than used in the past. We took the risk of calculating walk lengths using some of the Permissive paths in the area which aren't necessarily plotted on maps except in the latest revisions. I didn't receive complaints that it was a problem and normal paths could be taken although it would have lengthened the route. The only real problem reported was at Hill Green Farm on the 18 & 26 mile routes where the footpath across the paddocks was not clearly waymarked and a deposit of horse manure was dumped at the bottom of their field where it exits onto Hemp Lane. Perhaps they were telling us we weren't welcome?

Si Entries:

There were 71 Si Entries for the event of which 55 entrants recorded their times onto the Leaderboard,

Which meant 16 entrants didn't record their time or didn't participate despite messages to them to do so. It means they will be excluded from the BBN Triple Challenge using the Kanter event information.

Statistics for the event:

Overall Totals			Long Route		Medium Route		Short Route	
Entries	71	100.00%	25	35.21%	17	23.94%	29	40.85%
Non Starters	16	22.54%	2	12.50%	5	31.25%	9	56.25%
Starters	55	77.46%	23	41.82%	12	21.82%	20	36.36%

Finances:

We made a loss on the Chiltern Anytime Kanter to the tune of -£64.74. Income after SiEntries extracted their service fee of £104.16 did not support our expenditure of badges, envelopes and postage.

However, with only 50 badges being posted, we do have around 250 undated badges remaining for the Chiltern Kanter in 2023. So we ought to recover the loss and make a healthy surplus in the next event.

Financial Report:

Finances	Income		Expenditure	
Si Entries	£250.84	Chiltern Kanter Badges	£277.20	
		Postage & Envelopes	£38.38	
Total Income	£250.84	Total Expenses	£315.58	- £64.74

Marshals:

A Marshals' Walk did not officially occur before the Anytime Challenge took place because the Covid restrictions did not allow any groups to walk locally. It was only on 29th March that groups of 2 were allowed to walk outside of their local area. That is when Gill Bunker & Rachel Martin, Anjanee Neat & Adam Neat and Dave Findel-Hawkins & Merrian Lancaster kindly volunteered their services to recce and risk assess the Short, Medium and Long routes respectively, before the event started on 12th April.

They will be added to the Leaderboard as having completed the challenge and their names forwarded onto the new BBN Triple Challenge.

Thanks to them for their help.

Organiser & Route Designer: Roy Carter

Entries & Route Designer: Mike Hyland

Grid References & Questions: Norman Corrin

Designing Badges & Certificates: Roy Carter

Item 6(b), 6(c) and Item 7 – Pick & Mix Anytime, Shillington Shuffle and AGM

Equipment

No-one has informed me of any changes since my last report. **But if anyone knows different, please let me know**

Pick & Mix

This year's event is open as an ANYTIME CHALLENGE from 24th May until 31st August 2021 for LDWA members only. We have rewritten the routes to start within the public car park in Great Missenden and have altered several routes to take account of path closures due to HS2. Our anytime challenge risk assessments have been fully approved by the LDWA for these dates.

PLAN OF ATTACK

- A donation of £207.00 to Thames Valley Air Ambulance has been generated by those who did not reclaim their monies – all documents as such have been sent to our treasurer
- The event is on SiEntries as an ANYTIME CHALLENGE
- We have published the routes, instructions and risk assessments on the BBN website as from Anyone who wishes to walk the event must read the documents and print their routes own as required. Any route amendments have been published as quickly as possible, Big thanks to Gill and Mike
- Once completed, the walker will email Mike with their achievement and a certificate will emailed back to them. If requested, a badge will then be posted free of charge.
- We have already sent some certificates for completions
- We will prepare and send accounts for the anytime challenge in early September.

New Triple Challenge

Alan has arranged to collect the badges from us when he completes the Pick & Mix Anytime.

Wendover Gap Anytime Challenge

This is still removed from our website as no Covid-19 risk assessments exist.

S.S. Walk

We are still waiting for instructions from the team as to what format this event will take. The HQ, extra car parking and 2 of the 3 checkpoints are held over from last year. These halls will need to have confirmation as soon as we know the decision. One checkpoint which was to have been within a school is no longer viable so a new site may have to be found

BBN AGM 2021

Plans for the 2021 AGM are still ongoing.

We have reserved the hall at Ellesborough Village Hall & Parish Rooms, Butlers Cross HP17 0TX. This is to be confirmed once we know the Covid regulations

The Russell Arms opposite is also reserved and waiting until restrictions are clearer.

We will keep the committee fully informed via Terry and Gill.

Big thanks
Lynn & Dave