

C&D General Meeting

Wednesday 28th May 2025 (via Zoom)

Minutes

Present

Kim L (Chair), Ali R, Tim R, Annette M, Rose W, Gill K, Lorna B,, Ken G, Pearl B, Isobelle B, Ian G (secy), Emma G, Kieran R, Tracey V.

Apologies

Hannah S (Treasurer), Hazel & Terry B, Mary P.

Minutes of General Meeting 16th November 2024

The Minutes were agreed as correct. There were no matters arising.

Reports: Chair

Kim stated that the group was in good health, with a full social war calendar, healthy bank balance and sustained membership numbers. She reiterated that she would be standing down at the AGM in November.

Reports: Treasurer

Financial Statement has been uploaded to our info page. The Statement is skewed because expenditure for the 50 mi Potter around the Otter comes in in this financial year, but income not till the next financial year. Kim commented that our overall cash balance was now somewhat high, and that members should be encouraged to use this surplus constructively. She suggested that walk leaders recceing walks could claim expenses for that activity, and that we should consider putting on more linear walks.

For the upcoming 100, National LDWA will provide us with a £1000.00 'float'. Meeting agreed to make another £1000.00 float available to the Jurassic 100 from our Bank Account. Treasurer to manage.

Related to this, there have been discussions regarding running a series of linear social walks but specifically along the route of the 100, in order to engage and inspire volunteers. Meeting agreed that transport costs to support these linear walks would be funded from our financial surplus as necessary.

Reports: Membership

Ian reported that we currently have 393 members, 466 Associate Members and 846 Meetup members, which represents a slight decline in total membership.

From the floor, it was stated that some members “never receive emails”. In fact, of our 859 primary and associate members, we have no email address for 19 members, and 113 members have opted out of receiving emails. These figures look excessive, but the only way to check is to get a report from LDWA head office. Membership Secretary to action.

2027 Jurassic 100

Confirmed there will be a face to face meeting at Bovey Tracey Library on Sunday 1st June 1400 - 1600.

Julian has suffered a bad leg break, and it's by no means clear that he's going to be able to maintain his organising role. Meeting expressed its thanks to Julian for all his efforts so far and wished him the very best with his recovery. Kieran is available to chair Sunday's meeting.

There was some discussion about various aspects of the 100; these will be picked up and elaborated upon on Sunday. Secretary to circulate minutes of the last 100 meeting to all members as a reminder of Sunday's upcoming meeting.

2025 Challenge Events

Due to unforeseen circumstances we have had to switch this year's Bude Beast Challenge, to 30 mi and 18 mi Social Walks along the same routes. Isobelle stepped in to lead the 18.

Ken remarked that attendance numbers were down on this year's Sidmouth Saunter. He is going to consider whether future changes are needed.

We still haven't had approval from the National Parks Authority for this year's Chagford Challenge route. We are however optimistic that some compromise can be achieved.

Numbers are also slightly down for this year's Potter around the Otter.

A common theme across all these Challenge planning activities has been the significantly increased demand placed on our Organisers from Local Authorities, Police, Park Authorities and Venue Hosts. Going forward, We should actively consider whether

to pair up organisers, or possibly for a single person to take on the role of writing risk management plans for all challenge events each year. Kieran pointed out that he has a shared drive document repository where templates for these types of documents are stored and maintained.

In 2027, we will not run any Challenge events prior to the Jurassic 100; we might run one after.

Because of the demands placed on our volunteers we must review whether we run any challenge events in 2026.

Reports from Walks Coordinators

Cornwall: our three day Bank Holiday Special based in Penzance, proved to be extremely popular; big shout out to Stephanie who led the main walks on the Saturday and Sunday.

There will be another Cornish weekend of walks 9th 10th of August, based around Falmouth.

There was again discussion about putting on shorter walks; Tim commented however that when he had done, so attendance figures were very low.

As at the date of the meeting, 12 days of Social walks have been delivered this year across Cornwall, Devon and Somerset (thats two per month).

South Hams Way

Meeting voted to make £500 available to the South Hams Way which would be spent largely on signage. Post a meeting the secretary contacted the Southam's way organisers and found out that they have exceeded their fundraising budget already; the £500.00 will therefore be retained in our account for future use.

Meeting closed at 20:30