

Dorset LDWA Committee Meeting online
Wed 10 January 8pm



Minutes

Committee members present:

Heather Giles (Chair)
Tracey Lang (Walks secretary)
Richard Lang (Events secretary)
Paul Gibbs
Maria Drummond (Group secretary)

1. Chair welcomed everybody to the meeting and wished all a Happy New Year
2. Apologies for absence: none
3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting 17 Nov 2023.
Proposed by Tracey, seconded by Paul. The minutes were approved unanimously.
4. Matters arising from the online meeting 17 Nov 2023. No matters arising.
5. Correspondence. Nothing significant to report. Maria will email committee if there is anything urgent that needs addressing before the next committee meeting and then record it in the minutes of the next committee meeting.
6. Treasurer's report.
 - 6.1. Bank account currently standing at £9,547.93.
 - 6.2. Since last committee meeting - incoming - £467.50 entry fees for 2024 Cerne Giant + £150 from Ramblers Holidays. Outgoing - £266.64 paid out for the trip to Shropshire in October (£133.32 has not cleared through the bank); £240.59 for the Group AGM held in November (£19.36 has not cleared through the bank).
Two donations agreed at the Group AGM for £250 each. The one to NCI St Albans Head has been cleared, whilst the one to the JTYAF has yet to clear, both groups have acknowledged receipt of the cheques and sent a letter of thanks to the group. With these cleared transactions the account balance is currently £9,408.20
 - 6.3. Other cheque payments made but yet to clear the account totalling £76.71 - £15 donation to Ashmore Village Hall for use of their car park on a social walk in December 2023; £61.71 for refreshments on the well attended pre-Xmas social walk (36 participants). With all the currently uncleared cheques the account will be £8,928.81
 - 6.4. Moving the bank account - Santander will only allow 1-person authorisation of online payments, this is not seen by the Group nor the LDWA Nationally as a secure method. NatWest are not currently accepting any new applications for their 'bankline for communities'. Bank of Scotland currently being considered.
7. Walks secretary's report.
 - 7.1. The walks program in December has been quieter but the walks have been popular. Robert Powell led from Ashmore Village Hall with 10 walkers. Ian Brown led the following week from Cranborne with 15 walkers. Rudoff's Round was particularly popular with 34 walkers including several new faces, perhaps encouraged by the mulled wine and nibbles?
 - 7.2. 2024 has started well. Deirdre Flegg led a morning walk from Lytchett on New Year's Day - 21 walkers and 2 dogs attended. All were kindly invited back to Deirdre's home for refreshments afterwards. Robert Powell led from Rockford Common the first Sunday and is leading again, from Cranbourne, the second Sunday, then John Widdowson will lead a walk from Woolland Hill, taking in Brunch at the Dewlish Café.

- 7.3. There is a “Pamphill Cake Walk” which will be 13 miles, at the end of January, this is a shorter walk, with the aim of encouraging new members to come and meet the group.
- 7.4. February and March are fairly full, with more walks under discussion for later in the year for a varied and busy program.
- 7.5. The pool of leaders remains small, the buff offer at the AGM was very popular but has not yet produced additional walk leaders. Colin Utting is running a navigation course in March/April 2024 which may increase the number of potential walk leaders.
- 7.6. A very special mention and thanks goes to Robert Powell, who stepped in at the last minute to lead the Rudolf walk after the leader was poorly, Robert is leading 3 walks in January 2024.
- 7.7. It was agreed that the onus of organising a coach for a linear walk is the responsibility of the walk leader.
8. Challenge events Spring 2024
- 8.1. Cerne Giant 10/24 March – All in hand. A subcommittee meeting was held in December, the next one is on 24 Jan at 7.15pm. There has been a good response to Tracey’s email asking for volunteers. John Widdowson has requested tables for his checkpoint – he has a quote to hire two tables at £5 each from his village hall. Committee agreed this expense.
- 8.2. Dorset Duddle - plan B necessary to include a diversion, probably through Kingston, due to a landslide on the costal path. To be discussed.
- 8.3. Duddle West 2025 – Final checkpoint was previously at Poundbury, no suitable hall has been identified for 2025. To be discussed at next Cerne Giant subcommittee meeting.
9. AGM – 19 Nov 2023 – matters arising
- 9.1. Venue for AGM 2024 (Sun 17 Nov). Heather contacted the Tank Museum. They have a suitable room and can do the catering. Not available on 17 Nov 2024. Suggest we book them for 2025. Heather will email all with costs. All to consider possible venues for AGM this year, check availability for 17 Nov 2024 and costs for room hire and catering. Venue will need – to be central, to have parking, a room suitable for the meeting, catering option on site. Circulate by email so as to make a booking as soon as possible.

9.2. Timings for 2024 AGM

8 weeks before	22 Sep	Send out notice of AGM, invitation to send motions, charity nominations and committee nominations by 20 Oct
4 weeks before	20 Oct	Motions and nominations to be received by secretary
2 weeks before	30 Oct	Committee meeting
1 week before	10 Nov	Send out finalised agenda (with motions and nominations) and summary of accounts
	17 Nov	AGM

- 9.3. Item 4.4 drop box of archived documents. Chris Pitt is still the administrator. It was agreed at the AGM that members who need access to past planning documents can email a member of the committee to request this. Heather will have a look before next committee meeting to see what is in the drop box. Heather will liaise with Richard & Chris to and to consider GDPR issues and decide what should remain in the dropbox and who should be the administrator.

- 9.4. Broadening participation - we discussed a possible survey of members to ascertain barriers to people coming out on walks and barriers to leading a walk. It was concluded that we have a full and varied program of social walks and good numbers attending, including people walking with us for the first time. People attending for the first time say they find the group welcoming. If there is a decline in number of walks on offer or people attending - we will consider surveying members about barriers but there is no immediate need to survey members.
EDI (equity, diversity and inclusion) is a separate topic which is being addressed by the LDWA nationally and an EDI policy is available on the national website for local groups to use.
- 9.5. Summer event – 4 August 2024. Similar format to last year – walk, lunch stop in a village hall, afternoon walk. Invite past and current members. All to consider possible venues and communicate by email to decide a venue and get it booked before the next committee meeting.
- 9.6. Donations to charities have been made and acknowledged by the recipients.
10. Nominations for special award. Tracey will investigate what the criteria are and report back at the next committee meeting.
11. Constitution. Changes to the constitution need to be finalised at the next AGM. Please read Ian's detailed email. Bring any concerns to next committee meeting.
12. Exchange weekend. No further action necessary at this time.
13. First Aid coverage for walks / in the village halls etc as brought up by Deirdre Flegg by email. Maria to circulate the email before the next meeting for discussion.
14. Leadership courses for prospective new walk leaders. Colin Utting is running a navigation course.
15. AOB
- 15.1. National AGM. Anybody can go but the group historically has paid for one representative. Heather and Ian are both willing to go and will liaise regarding who will go as our representative.
- 15.2. Purbeck Plod support – Heather and Geraldine White have offered to run a check point and will liaise directly with the organisers
- 15.3. Next committee meeting. Wed 20 March 7.30pm
- Meeting closed at 21:20

Future Dates:

- 24 Jan 7.15pm Cerne Giant sub committee meeting
20 March 7.30pm Dorset LDWA Committee Meeting
10 & 24 March Cerne Giant marshals & main event
May LDWA 100 Speyside Hundred hosted by North of Scotland Group
23 June Purbeck Plod
4 August Summer Group Social Event
18 August Duddle
9-10 Nov Local Groups weekend
17 Nov AGM
- 2025 Spring Duddle West (linear)
2025 May 2025 East Anglian Hundred hosted by Norfolk & Suffolk Group
2025 August Duddle

2026 May Hunnypot Hundred hosted by Kent Group

2027 May Jurassic Coast 100 hosted by Devon & Cornwall

Action points

WHO?	WHAT?	WHEN?
MDr	Email all with any urgent correspondence	12 Jan
RL	For Cerne Giant sub-committee agenda – possible venue for final checkpoint for Dorset West 2025	24 Jan
HG	Bring a quote of costs to hold AGM at the Tank Museum in 2025 for committee approval	20 Mar
ALL	Research possible venue for AGM 2024. Email costs to all.	31 Jan
HG	Liaise with Richard & Chris to decide what should be stored in the dropbox and who should be the administrator.	20 Mar
ALL	Consider possible venue (village hall with parking, good walking, fairly central) for summer social event. Email all so that a booking can be made as soon as possible.	31 Jan
TL	Investigate criteria for 'special award'.	20 Mar
ALL	Read Ian's detailed report on the changes to constitution. Bring any concerns to the next committee meeting.	20 Mar
MDr	Circulate Deirdre's email re First Aid for discussion at next meeting.	20 Mar
HG & IB	Liaise re who will go as Dorset representative to national AGM	31 Jan