

Dorset LDWA Committee Meeting online
19 April 2023 7pm
Minutes



Committee members present:

Heather Giles (Chair)
Ian Brown (Treasurer)
Tracey Lang (Walks secretary)
Richard Lang (Events secretary)
Pete Stockley
Maria Drummond (Group Secretary)

1. Chair's welcome

Heather welcomed us to the meeting and thanked everybody for giving up their time to be on the committee and for supporting her as Chair.

2. Apologies for absence – Paul Gibbs.

3. Matters arising from the online meeting 22 February 2023

Other than items on the agenda to be covered later in the meeting, there were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 2023.

4. Approval of the minutes of the meeting 22 February 2023

Proposed by Ian. Seconded by Pete. The minutes were approved unanimously.

5. Correspondence

5.1. 7 March Email sent to Local Group Chairs & Secretaries re standard LDWA marketing flyers & generic LDWA business cards which have been produced for raising awareness of the LDWA and what we have to offer. They also provide details of how to join the LDWA. Heather has a box of flyers which she will bring to every social walk, so that members can carry some in their rucksacks and give them to people they come across who might be interested in joining the LDWA.

5.2. 19 March Email sent to all Local Group Chairs, Secretaries & Challenge Event Coordinators re Challenge Events Coordinator post - Chris Burrell has now taken over from Tim Glenn. Chris will continue in his role as Social Walks Coordinator.

5.3. 23 March Email from Deirdre Flagg re equipment held for events. Agenda item later in this meeting.

5.4. 30 March Email sent to Local Group Chairs, Secretaries & Members of the NEC with a link to a summary of the output & actions from the 2022 Local Groups' Weekend. Forwarded to committee members 19 Apr. Please see the summary here [LGW 2022 - Summary of Output - FINAL.pdf](#) and let Maria know of any points for discussion at the next committee meeting.

5.5. 2 April Email from East Dorset Ramblers requesting support with the Purbeck Plod (25 June 2023). Sweepers needed for Hill Bottom to Steeple 6.5 miles [2] Steeple to Swanage 10 miles [2] Hill Bottom to Swanage 7.5 miles [1]. Ian has offered to be a sweeper. Maria to put a note on the covering email to draw members' attention to this and direct them to East Dorset Ramblers.

6. Treasurer's report.

6.1. Since the last Committee meeting
Incoming £464.40 from SI Entries - entry fees for the Cerne Giant

Outgoing £1,414.31 for various items for the Cerne Giant

Current balance £9,046.53.

Additional £378.66 to be paid out for Cerne Giant expenses. Event surplus of £561.79, after donation of £185.00 to the LDWA National IT Fund.

Ian PROPOSED that approval be given for the payment of £185 to LDWA National IT Fund, as per Group policy of £5 per non-LDWA entrant to Group Challenge walks, provided that it would not result in the event making a loss. SECONDED by Maria. Unanimously agreed and carried.

- 6.2. 2023 Dorset Duddle transport can be done more cost-efficiently with 3 coaches of different sizes (including 1x 85-seater double-decker). These have now been booked. Ticket prices reflect the increased costs. The transport for retirees on the main event is not yet booked as there is a discussion point in the Duddle report on this. The transport for the Marshals walk will also be booked later.
 - 6.3. Durweston Village Hall has been booked for the Group AGM in November. Payment will be made in due course, prior to the event.
 - 6.4. As agreed at the 2022 AGM and mentioned in the Walks Secretary Report, a contribution is being paid, typically approximately £15 per walk, towards village hall car parking on social walks for Primary Group members. The overall total will be reported with a line item at the 2023 AGM.
7. Walks secretary's report.
- 7.1. March and April 2023 Walks Program - there is a walk for many weekends until the end of June and there are offers to fill some of the vacant Sundays. There is also a good mix of shorter walks, to encourage new members and longer more challenging walks for the summer.
 - 7.2. Many Dorset members have enjoyed the Challenge walks run by other groups, including the Winter Tanners, Punchbowl, Capital Challenge, Woldsman50. The Dorset Challenge walk in March is a separate agenda item.
 - 7.3. The Group contributed for car parking at Broadwindsor, the general feedback is that this is good use of Group funds.
 - 7.4. John W has now arranged walks 2 and 3 of the Dorset Pilgrim's trail, the St Edward's Way is on 16 July and Old Stones Way on 6 August.
 - 7.5. The points from the previous report remain - we are keen to offer mid-week walks. Anne Brown has arranged a trip to Knepp nature reserve on Tuesday 6 June and a summer stroll with the opportunity for an evening meal on Tuesday 27 June, more mid-week walks and evening summer walks are welcome.
 - 7.6. As stated in previous reports, we continue to need to encourage more walk leaders, without putting off group members who would prefer not to lead walks.
8. Challenge events 2023 Dorset Duddle – (23 Jul & 20 August).
- 8.1. It was agreed to swap the dates of the DD Marshals event with the 30th celebration walk in order to avoid doing the Marshals event on the day of the Swanage Carnival.
 - 8.2. Key roles: Tracey will coordinate volunteers. Heather happy to organise catering for checkpoints and to manage IT at the start and finish. Ian and Anne have volunteered to run the Marshals event. Paul has offered to help with checking of the route and route description. Hilary is willing to oversee the catering at HQ.

8.3. Subcommittee members: Richard, Tracey, Ian, Hilary, Heather, Maria. First subcommittee meeting Wed 31 May 7.30

9. Event equipment

9.1. Deirdre Flegg has sent a list of equipment following the Cerne Giant. We had everything we needed for the Cerne Giant, the equipment is now in various locations. Central storage is expensive and keeping track of all of the movement of the equipment onerous and ineffective. Possibly it would be more practical and efficient to have a master list of what equipment the group has and who is holding each item and for the named person to monitor where the item is (and retrieve it after use). Carry forward to the next meeting – how do we go forward with monitoring the whereabouts of equipment efficiently?

10. Use of funds.

10.1. Pete spoke to Anne from Coast Watch, who are reliant on donations for the work they do. At St Aldhelm's coast watch they have a defibrillator, sell cake to raise funds and give support to any walkers who go by. They are all First Aid trained. They have a hotline to helicopter and coast guard and look out to sea as well as looking out for walkers. Coast Watch would appreciate a donation of funds from Dorset LDWA. Pete will ask them for a proposal for a donation towards a specific project to present at the AGM.

They are happy to look out for people on the Doddle. Richard to make contact to let them know the date.

10.2. Based on discussion at the AGM, there is a precedent for LDWA groups funding projects such as path maintenance, installation of kissing gates and so on. If anybody has any ideas of a need, please let Maria know – it will be put on the agenda for discussion at a committee meeting with a view to taking a proposal for membership approval at the AGM.

11. Summer social event to mark 30 years of Dorset LDWA. Change of date to 30 July. Ian is leading the circular walk from Cerne, via Stratton for extended lunch. Ian to investigate if we can hire the village hall at Stratton in case of inclement weather. Heather volunteered to manage the lunch venue, where refreshments (sponsored by group funds) will be served. The idea is that people can walk the whole route, with an extended lunch stop, or just walk for half of the before or after lunch or just come to the lunch – depending on ability and inclination. Invitation to be sent to people who have been associated with the Dorset LDWA since its founding 30 years ago. Peter Covey, Phil and Jules, Henry...

12. Program to host challenge events in the future

12.1. 2024 Spring - Cerne Giant (circular) Marshals - 10 March , main event 24 March. Richard will book the village halls. Heather will check that the parking will be available again. Price needs to be decided so that the event can go on SI Entries and can be advertised at the Doddle in Aug.

12.2. 2024 August - Doddle.

12.3. 2025 Spring Doddle West (linear)

12.4. 2025 August Doddle

Pete left the meeting at 8.20pm.

13. Local Groups Weekend. No group has volunteered to host the Local Groups Weekend 10-12 November this year. Would Dorset LDWA be willing and able to find a venue and organise and lead two walks? Proposed by Heather, seconded by Maria. Ian, Tracey and Richard in agreement.

Heather will let Karen (NEC) know that the committee have agreed in principle to host the Local Groups weekend in November this year.

14. AGM – 19 Nov 2023. Durweston Village Hall has been booked, Ian will make payment in advance. Heather will approach Deirdre and request her help with catering.
15. 2024 AGM - change of date to a different time of year so as not to get caught up in the lead up to Christmas. The constitution states that the AGM will be held between 1 November and 31 December. The AGM needs to be sufficiently after end of financial year (30 Sep) to allow time for the accounts to be finalised and audited. To move the AGM out of this time frame would require a change to the constitution via a proposal at the 2023 AGM. It was agreed to leave the AGM date as it is. A discussion was held about the possibly of having a speaker at the AGM.
16. Date of next committee meeting 14 June 7pm
17. AOB.
 - 17.1. Exchange weekend mentioned in the Strider. Dorset LDWA is included in this. For discussion at the next committee meeting.
 - 17.2. Nobody has volunteered to lead a summer solstice walk yet this year. Committee agreed budget of up to £150 for breakfast if a walk leader can be found. Tracey will approach some possible walk leaders.

Meeting closed at 9pm

Future Dates:

- 31 May 7.30pm Dorset Duddle sub-committee
 - 14 June 7.15pm next committee meeting
 - 23 July Dorset Duddle Marshals event
 - 30 July 30 year anniversary walk
 - 20 August Dorset Duddle challenge event
 - 10-12 November Groups weekend
 - 19 Nov Dorset LDWA AGM
- 2024 10 & 24 March Cerne Giant Marshals & main event