

Dorset LDWA Committee Meeting online
14 June 2023 7.15pm
Minutes



Committee members present:

Heather Giles (Chair)
Ian Brown (Treasurer)
Tracey Lang (Walks secretary)
Richard Lang (Events secretary)
Pete Stockley
Paul Gibbs (Equipment manager)
Maria Drummond (Group secretary)

1. Chair's welcome

Heather welcomed all to the meeting and expressed her admiration of people who had attempted the LDWA 100 event. Heather thanked Paul for taking on the Equipment Manager role.

2. Apologies for absence – none.

3. Matters arising from the previous meeting held on 19 April 2023

10. Use of surplus group funds – as agreed in a previous committee meeting, all information and ideas about possible uses for surplus group funds to be discussed in a committee meeting prior to the AGM and a proposal put together to take to members at the AGM to vote on the use of surplus group funds.

Other than items on the agenda to be covered later in the meeting, there were no other matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 19 April 2023.

4. Approval of the minutes of the meeting 19 April 2023

Proposed by Heather. Seconded by Tracey. The minutes were approved unanimously.

5. Correspondence

5.1. 24 April. Email from Richard Lang confirming that village halls have all been booked for Cerne Giant marshals and main events in March 2024. See item 8.2.

5.2. 23 May Email from Coastguard charity regarding request for funds to Pete Stockley. ACTION: Maria collate requests to bring to committee meeting prior to the AGM.

5.3. 10 June 'Welcome' email sent to 18 new primary members since last committee meeting.

5.4. Heather has been in communication with an entrant to the Dorset Duddle regarding getting from the end (Swanage) back to the start (Weymouth). Richard has received a request from the lady to withdraw from the event. ACTION: Richard will make contact with her.

6. Treasurer's report.

6.1. Since the last Committee meeting; incoming £1,218.00 from SI Entries for Cerne Giant entry fees + £60.00 as a 'partner credit' from Ramblers Holidays (thanks to individuals booking holidays and choosing Dorset LDWA for this donation). Outgoing £436.16, mainly payment of Cerne Giant expenses; £15.00 for use of Village Hall parking on a social walk; and a deposit for use of hall on July 'event' walk. Current balance is £9,888.67.

- 6.2. Barrys Coaches are ceasing trade and will no longer be able to provide the transport for the Duddle 2023. A new booking has been made with Bluebird coaches of Weymouth as they are the only operator in the local area with multiple coach availability, but with only 3 x 53 seater coaches available. This will reduce the number of potential entrants. Bluebird coaches are more expensive for a 53-seater at £495 compared to £425. As we had already set the price for the coach transfer this will impact the potential surplus for the event. The Events secretary is monitoring entry numbers with a view to an earlier cut-off date dependant on the number of entrant coach bookings.
- 6.3. Payment to Durweston Village Hall for the AGM is still outstanding.
7. Walks secretary's report.
 - 7.1. May & June program - Regular walks have been held and feedback from the walks has been very favourable. The walks for the past two months have been less well attended, normally 10 walkers or less, possibly due to members being on holiday or involved with the 100 event. Anne lead a mid week walk to Knepp which was greatly enjoyed by those who attended.
 - 7.2. Elephant, Bear & Bull 100 event on the late May Bank Holiday weekend - Dorset LDWA was well represented. Walkers – Colin (completed the Marshals walk), Alan, Amelia, Ian, Jan, John W, Joy, Maria, Olivia, Paul, Richard B, Robert L, Roger D, Roger F, Sandra, Steve H, Suzanne also Jo and Linda who walk regularly with Dorset group. Dorset members also provided support on the marshals and main event. Many 'followed' the walkers via the online tracker.
 - 7.3. Future walks program - We have only two Sunday spaces for the next two months - 2nd July and 27th August (Bank Holiday weekend). There are several longer walks planned for the summer months including two of John's Pilgrims walks.
 - 7.4. At present we have a very small pool of regular leaders. Tracey is planning to give a short speech at the Social event in July, which will hopefully be well attended, to try and encourage some new walk leaders. ACTION: Having experienced some initial misgivings herself about leading walks, and subsequently come to enjoy it, Heather will put together an email to encourage members to volunteer and to let us know what puts people off volunteering, or what we can do to encourage and support people to come forward and lead a walk.
 - 7.5. Proposed Okehampton trip 1-3 March 2024. The idea is that people book their own accommodation. A short walk will be offered on Friday afternoon, a longer walk on Saturday, and a walk on Sunday (back in time for people driving back home afterwards). Circular walks, some starting at Okehampton Station. Possibly find a venue on Saturday evening to eat together. Being Dartmoor, the weather may pose a problem. It was agreed by the committee that this is a good idea. ACTION: Advertise the event on the calendar and monitor the level of interest.
8. Challenge events
 - 8.1. 2023 Dorset Duddle – (23 Jul & 20 August). First meeting of the subcommittee was held 31 May. Tracey sent an email to members asking for volunteers for the main event, response has been slow. We need numbers for the Marshals walk in order to hire appropriate bus. Closer to the time, Tracey will ask for volunteers to bake for the Duddle.

- 8.2. March 2024 Cerne Giant - Village Halls are all reserved for events.
Cerne Abbas village hall
24 March 2024. 06:30 to 21:00. £300. £75 deposit paid.
Buckland Newton village hall
10 March 2024. 09:00 to 15:00 Marshals
24 March 2024. 09:00 to 15:00
Prices for 2024 are not yet decided. ("will be closely related to this years"). This years was £60 for each booking.
Sydling St Nicholas village hall
24 March 2024. 11:00 to 18:00
Price confirmed as the same as last year. £94 (£12 per hour + £10 for use of kitchen).

9. Event equipment

- 9.1. Paul has agreed to take on the role of establishing what event equipment the group holds and where (with whom) it is being stored. Food and consumables (gloves, toilet rolls etc) is being managed by catering organisers. Paul has identified and attempted to contact 17 possible custodians of equipment. Eight have replied, two have confirmed they are not holding any equipment, three had not yet given consent for their email addresses to be shared and four had not yet replied to Paul's email. ACTION: Maria to forward email addresses to Paul - there is a legitimate reason for Paul, as equipment manager, to have access to email addresses of people holding group owned equipment.
- 9.2. Issues raised - 20l water containers are too large to handle when full. PAT testing is out of date on some equipment. Survival bags – there are foil ones in the First Aid kits, there are no plastic survival bags. Ian has the 'Walkers on Road' laminated signs.

10. Summer social event to mark 30 years of Dorset LDWA - 30 July 2023.

- 10.1. Ian is leading the walk , route is 15 miles. ACTION: change the details on the website to reflect this).
- 10.2. Catering - Heather has volunteered to be responsible for catering. Stratton Village Hall is booked 10am – 3pm. ACTION: Ian will email contact details of the village hall to Heather so that she can visit to do a risk assessment. Discussion followed regarding food and budget. What do we want to do and what is the budget? It was agreed unanimously to use the Summer BBQ budget (£150). Heather has a contact who does event catering, otherwise finger food. Cake. ACTION: Send a message to primary members, asking them to book so we have some idea of numbers.
- 10.3. ACTION: Tracey & Heather will draft an invitation email to send to members and past supporters.

11. Local Groups Weekend - 10, 11 12 November 2023

- 11.1. Dorset LDWA is hosting this year. Venue - George Albert Hotel, Warden Hill on the A37. LDWA NEC Treasurer has accepted the quote. Walks are open to anybody, only nominated members can attend the meetings (Tracey will amend website to reflect this). Anne Brown has agreed to present her Alpine talk on the Friday. Walks (a longer and a shorter) – Anne has offered to lead one, we need another walk leader please. Sunday – formal groups meeting, ending approx. 1pm. Heather will be at the event in her capacity as Chair of Dorset LDWA and a National role. Committee will nominate Dorset's representative/s in a subsequent meeting.

12. Exchange weekend (advertised in Strider). Carry forward to next meeting. ACTION: Heather to research and brief us in the next committee meeting what this is and what action is required (if any).

13. Date of next committee meeting 9 August 7.15pm

14. AOB.

14.1. Upcoming 100s. 2024 Speyside – Anne & Ian have offered to be volunteers. 2025 Norfolk & Suffolk (following agreement by the members at the 2022 AGM, Dorset have offered to run a checkpoint after breakfast). Get membership approval in principle at the AGM 2023 to offer to run checkpoints at 2026 Kent and 2027 Cornwall and Devon (propose that we run the checkpoint that is in Dorset!).

Meeting closed at 8.50pm

Future Dates:

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

2024 August Duddle

2025 Spring Duddle West (linear)

2025 August Duddle