

LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION  
DORSET GROUP  
COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee Meeting, online, Thursday 3 June 2021 7.00 pm

Committee members present:

Chris Pitt (CP) (Chair)  
Pat Clifton (PC) (Group Secretary)  
Robert Powell (RP) (Treasurer)  
Anne Brown (AB) (Walks Secretary)  
Richard Lang (RL) (Events Secretary)  
Ian Brown (IB)  
Martin Callow (MC)

1. Chairman's welcome

CP welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked PC for the minutes of the last meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies, as all committee members were present.

3. Matters arising from the online meeting 8 Apr 2021

There were no matters arising, other than those already included in the agenda for this meeting.

4. Approval of the minutes for the meeting 8 Apr 2021

The minutes were approved.

5. Treasurer's report

RP had sent the report to the other committee members prior to the meeting. It stated:

- There were no transactions of whatsoever nature since the last meeting. As a result, the Group bank balance is the same at £10,420.01.
- SiEntries changed its terms and conditions last year, as a result of Covid, such that income is now expected for the Cerne Giant Anytime Challenge 2021 after the event has closed at the end of June.

RP explained that the group should get some income from SiEntries due to running the Cerne Giant Anytime Event, but he was uncertain whether they would retain some funds, to hold on the groups behalf, in line with previous arrangements.

## 6. Social walks programme

AB said that social walking had resumed on 11 Apr, with 20 walks planned between then and 15 Aug. One walk had been cancelled, due to a forecast of thunder and lightning. She continued that some leaders are limiting the number on a walk to 6, in order to avoid completing the Covid risk assessment. Most walks are being led by a few dedicated leaders and we need to encourage more members to step forward. Sadly the Re-Tired walks, on a Wednesday, are no longer LDWA walks, with those taking part possibly preferring to walk as friends and avoid the bureaucracy of the association by doing so.

With regard to new members AB said 43 people had joined since Mar 2020, 17 of them this year. There was agreement that a number of them were coming on walks, with the initiative of holding walks aimed mainly at new members showing good results. CP said that this is important to the health of the group and thanked AB for her efforts.

## 7. The Cerne Giant Anytime Event 2021

RL said that there had been 68 entries so far for The Cerne Giant Anytime Event, but the rate had slowed this week. 18 members had completed the event and feedback had been positive, with many saying they had enjoyed it and found the route good. He added that, so far, 19 entrants had requested certificates by post but more could yet do so.

CP said he would increase publicity for the event on social media before it closes at the end of June. MC commented that it would be interesting to see how the number of entrants for the Cerne Giant compares to those on other anytime events, run by other groups.

Action: CP

## 8. The Virtual 100 in Dorset

Committee members expressed their thanks to those providing checkpoints and otherwise supporting other members to complete The Virtual 100. They also send congratulations to all those completing the event.

## 9. The cancellation of the Dorset Duddle 2021

CP said that, since the last committee meeting, he had contacted the NEC to seek advice with regard to running challenge events. They were unable to give guidance until 21 June at the earliest, so the decision had been taken by the committee to cancel The Duddle for this year. CP agreed to contact All Saints Church Hall in Swanage regarding the group's booking of the hall, for which £94 had been paid, and if possible would try to roll it forward to 2022.

Action: CP

RP had made enquiries with regard to booking coaches for the event and found it would have been possible to do so, but they were not needed due to the cancellation.

IB reminded the committee that, at the AGM 2020, the group had agreed to make a donation of £500 to Cancer Research UK, in memory of Bill Peach, who had contributed a great deal to running the Doddle, and other events, over many years. RP agreed to do this and to contact Sue Peach with regard to this.

Action: RP

RL said that he would cancel the event on the LDWA website.

Action: RL

## 10. Challenge Events in 2022 and beyond

- The Cerne Giant 2022

MC made the point that if the group is going to run the Cerne Giant next year we need to decide on a date and start booking the village halls as soon as possible. He said that for both this and the Dorset Giant planning needs to be started and a team or sub-committee appointed to co-ordinate the work involved. It was agreed that members of the group should be invited to join these teams.

- The Dorset Duddle 2022

The committee did not feel it was necessary to discuss the Duddle 2022 at this point.

- The Dorset Giant 2023

There was some discussion as to whether the group has, at present, the human resources needed to run a major event such as the Dorset Giant. It was generally agreed that members are happy to come forward and help on the day, but individuals willing to take on lead roles are needed. Ideas such as reducing the number of meals provided and limiting the number of entrants, were considered. CP said he will draw up a list of lead roles and the committee could assess how much support there is, within the group, at the AGM.

CP also mentioned that the Dorset group has agreed to run a checkpoint on the 100 in Warwickshire in 2024. It was again agreed to look for support for this at this year's AGM.

## 11. Date of the next committee meeting 8 Aug 2021

The date of the next online meeting was confirmed as 8 Aug 2021.

## 12. AOB

- AB said she intends to stand down from the committee at the next AGM. She made the point that it is good for the group to have turnover on the committee and have new members joining with fresh ideas.

It is already known that both MC and RP also intend to leave the committee at the AGM and CP needs to stand down from being the Chair, as he has already served longer than recommended in the constitution. MC said that a critical situation is developing with regard to committee membership and the group, as a whole, needs to recognise this. There followed some discussion of how members could be encouraged to come forward.

- AB enquired if anyone was waiting for branded clothes orders from Peco, as she was awaiting one item at present.
- CP said he will get some quotes for the new sail banner, the purchase of which has previously been agreed, now that the new logo has been chosen.

Action: CP

- There was a short discussion regarding whether this year's AGM should be online, or an actual meeting in a venue as in the past. It was agreed to postpone the decision until the next committee meeting, because this is after the government's 21 June deadline for lifting Covid restrictions. It was agreed that any booking would need to be made very quickly after 5 Aug meeting.

## **Diary of Events**

12 Apr - 30 Jun 2021 Cerne Giant 'anytime challenge'

5 Aug 2021 committee meeting (online)

23 -27 Sep 2021 Group trip to Snowdonia

7 Oct 2021 committee meeting (online)

1 Nov 2021 possible additional committee meeting (online)

28 Nov 2021 Dorset group AGM