

LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION
DORSET GROUP
COMMITTEE MEETING

Virtual Committee Meeting (online), Thursday 28 May 2020 7.00 pm

It was agreed that this meeting was to focus on upcoming challenge events and the social walks programme.

Committee Members present:

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

1. Chairman's welcome

CP welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies, all committee members were present.

3. The Duddle 2020

The committee discussed the difficulties of running the Duddle while complying with current social distancing guidelines and the risks of passing on the Covid 19 virus at checkpoints, on the coaches and in other situations. The decision was made to cancel the event.

RP agreed to cancel the booking for the coaches.

Action: RP

CP agreed to cancel the bookings for Lulworth Village Hall, All Saints Church Hall in Swanage and Homeward Bound minibus hire (booked for both the marshals' and main events).

Action: CP

CP said he would inform SI Entries of our decision and prevent the reopening of the event to entrants, which had been previously suspended until 1 Jun 2020.

Action: CP

It was agreed to offer entrants a full refund, with a time limit of 2 weeks in which to make a claim. Following that, any remaining funds will be used to cover any costs already incurred for organising the event and then the remainder will be donated to the national LDWA IT fund.

RP made the point that the group will need to make a payment to SiEntries to enable them to process the refunds. In response CP said that he would make the payment to SiEntries, by bank transfer from his personal account, and be reimbursed with a cheque from the group.

Action: CP

CP agreed to update the Dorset LDWA website to reflect the cancellation.

Action: CP

4. The Cerne Giant 2021

The committee have previously agreed that the group will run the Cerne Giant on 21 Mar 2021. Given this, CP suggested the opening date for entering the event should be 1 Jan 2021, by which time the situation regarding Covid-19 will hopefully be clearer. This was agreed.

There was some discussion regarding slimming down the event in order to change the nature and quantity of interactions between all involved, both as entrants and marshals. It is clear there are a number of issues which need to be considered and MC agreed to make a list of these for discussion at future meetings.

Action: MC

RP agreed to book the village halls at Cerne Abbas and Buckland Newton for the main event and the committee confirmed there would not be another marshals' event. CP suggested the 31 mile route could be made available to members to walk unsupported as an "anytime" challenge, if they should wish to do so, and the 20 mile route may be added to the social walks programme at some point.

Action: RP

5. The social walks programme and listing in Strider

AB said there had been no further guidance from the NEC regarding the cancellation of planned social walks which, so far, have all been cancelled until the end of June. There was some discussion of issues that will need consideration before social walks resume. It was agreed to cancel all Dorset Group walks until the end of July.

Action: AB

AB said that some members of the group had requested the removal of their contact information from the details of archived walks on the national website, which date back to 2008. She agreed this should be done, as there is a data protection issue, and had inquired if it could be done centrally, but was told this is not possible. This means that each entry has to be amended individually, which is very time consuming. RL agreed to be given access to the website in order to carry out the process and is to liaise with AB on how to do this.

Action: AB and RL

With regard to her email asking for members views on the listing of Dorset group social walks in Strider, AB said that she has had 6 replies stating a preference to retain the listing, so far. Members have until 7 Jun 2020 to reply. It was decided not to submit a list for the next 2 editions of Strider and then to review this, with the membership, at the AGM in November.

6. Date of the next committee meeting 2 Jul 2020

It was agreed to hold this as another virtual meeting and to cancel the booking for the meeting room at Sturminster Marshall Village Hall.

Action: PC

Please note:

- This was an additional (virtual) meeting to make decisions regarding challenge and social walks, which could not wait until the next planned meeting on 2 Jul. Therefore no other items, financial update or matters arising from previous meetings have been included.
- A diary of events has not been included with these minutes due to uncertainty at present with regard to if/when events will take place.