

Minutes of East Lancashire LDWA Meeting

Date: 14th February 2023 at 8pm Venue: Doffcocker Inn, 780 Chorley Road, Bolton, BL1 5QD

Present:

Pauline Melia	Chair
Jeanette Banks	Secretary
Caroline Tennant	Events Secretary
Viv Lee	Social Secretary
Nick Halford	Walks Secretary
Hilary Scott	IT Secretary
Gordon Stone	Ordinary Committee Member
Paul Banks	Ordinary Committee Member
Roger Jackson	Ordinary Committee Member
Alma Walsh	Ordinary Committee Member
Dave Walsh	Ordinary Committee Member
Tony Clark	East Lancs LDWA member
Phil Chapman	East Lancs LDWA member
Andy Griffin	East Lancs LDWA member
Paul Raine	East Lancs LDWA member

1 **Apologies:** No apologies received

2 **Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes were accepted as a true record of the October 2022 meeting by Alma and Dave Walsh

3 **Matters arising:**

Help for walk leaders: Nick continues to add a note to communication that support can be given to future walk leaders (ie navigation skills). He has also included this information on the Meet Up website.

GPX files: Jeanette to contact Iain Connell to suggest he takes issues he has raised regarding GPX files to LDWA NEC, as the committee feel that this is a national matter for discussion.

Merchandise: Pauline has received the agreed number of red EL LDWA T-shirts for marshals at events.

Road Crossing Signs: Andy Griffin has sourced road crossing signs for the Two Crosses event. He also has a number of filled sandbags to weigh them down in place.

Meet up: Caroline has communicated with Julian White, regarding Meet Up. The first year funding provided by NEC for Meet Up ran out in December 2022. The NEC has now funded an additional year for the 3 LDWA groups who wished to continue with the trial, which will run until December 2023.

Caroline will copy Gordon Stone into the next communication with Julian. Gordon to raise the subject of Meet Up at the next NEC meeting.

Event catering: The committee requested that Caroline add a disclaimer to communication with entrants to Two Crosses event that we cannot guarantee that food is free of allergens. Individuals with allergies to be encouraged to provide their own food at their own cost. Caroline has actioned this.

Viv Lee and Alma Walsh to complete catering qualification. Viv will do this in May. Alma has looked at this and will complete the training before the Two Crosses event.

Two Crosses/ 100 party: Jeanette has emailed members for venue suggestions/volunteers to open their house for the party. No responses received to date. Action: to discuss at next meeting.

East Lancs 40th birthday. Roger Jackson led the Edenfield Round on Sunday 5th February. 25 people attended the walk. Photographs have been taken which can be submitted to Strider following the next commemorative event 'The Spanners Round – 40th Anniversary Walk', to be led by Steve Clark on 7th May 2023. Paul Allen will find posters used when the walk was undertaken for the 25th Anniversary. Photographs will be taken with banners and posters commemorating the 40th year. Roger will print off certificates for attendees. Pauline/Jeanette will send a report and pictures to Strider.

Communication with Derek Magnall: Jeanette did respond to Derek's email regarding EL article in the Bury Times, and his suggestions regarding East Lancs LDWA 40th Anniversary.

4 **Chair and Secretary's update:**

Pauline said that it was with sadness that the committee have learned of Ian Hamilton's recent passing away. Funeral arrangements have not yet been confirmed.

Pauline also stated that the group remains active with many people attending walks.

Jeanette had no information to add.

5 **Treasurer's update:** No report has been received.

6 **Events Secretary's update:** Caroline discussed and submitted the following report:

'Redisher wood update: Received quote of £1500 for the bridge over the stream from Dave Chadwick.

We have £900 left to spend (£1000 from NEC, only £600 spent so far, plus £500 from EL). Dave Chadwick has been asked if the council are willing to fund the remainder. Dave is away at the moment, so we have not heard back yet.

Two Crosses: *Entries so far - 249*

All up to date with preparations.

Route has been recced, no major issues. One minor route alteration for 2023, to use a better route around Gorsey Clough.

GPX and maps have been updated. Route description will be finalised in next couple of days. Once Event is full, all entrants will be sent links to all of this year's information.

All Checkpoint admin has been prepped.

Viv has all the checkpoint equipment under control.

Roger is on top of the resource plan. A few minor changes, but all in hand.

No parking available at the cricket club this year. Now have 70 places at pub and some options being looked at for roadside parking.

Saturday 11th. 11.00 at St Margaret's Church and then 12.00 at Greenmount to set up. We have full use of the hall throughout at a cost of £170.00

Resource plan to be distributed for all marshals to see what they are doing. Also a reminder for the Marshals Walk of the 17 mile or the full route on Sunday 26th February.

Funding application - Martyn Greaves bequest to the LDWA: *Following the Two Crosses recce, 3 stiles have been identified to be replaced by kissing gates. Dave Chadwick has estimated the cost to be £3000.00. An application has been drawn up to send to the NEC requesting the full amount. The group agreed that this can be submitted to the NEC.'*

7 Social Secretary's Update:

5 places remain vacant on the Hathersage trip. Jeanette to send out amended Real Ale Ramble dates members. The Christmas Meal is at Rivington Tea Rooms – not Rivington Barn as stated by Jeanette in the latest email. There are no other changes to the social calendar. Jeanette to send out updated events email to all members.

8 IT Secretary's update: Hilary submitted the following:

'There's nothing new to report. The website is up to date and I've started posting on FaceBook again.'

9 Walk Secretary's update: Nick submitted the following report:

'Suggested dates for Spring walk programme, March/April/May, are all taken. No leader for this Sunday, 19th February. (Nick) Tried messaging Meetup members but without response.'

10 Donations in memory of Ian Hamilton:

A donation of £100 will be made by EL LDWA in memory of Ian Hamilton who recently passed away. Paul Allen will forward moneys to the relevant Funeral Director once this is known. Ian and his family have chosen Air Ambulance and Mesothelioma UK as charities for donations.

11 Payment for expenses:

The meeting discussed payment of expenses for leaders recceing walks. Currently, walk leaders receive 25p per mile to cover the costs of travel to recce a walk. This applies to the second and subsequent walks they lead annually, providing the walk is included in the club programme. This amount has not changed for many years and does not reflect the increased costs of fuel. The NEC currently pays 45p per miles for NEC business travel. Nick Halford proposed that EL LDWA also pay 45p per mile. This was seconded by Dave Walsh. Nick also proposed that all reccies that result in a led walk (ie, to include reimbursement for a first recce per year). Dave Walsh seconded the proposal. Jeanette to amend the current procedure and send to Hilary to put on the EL LDWA website.

17 **Any other business:**

First Aid:

Paul Raine brought up the subject of First Aid training for marshals. Viv will approach Horwich Fire Service to establish if they are still running the courses.

Thanks:

Tony Clark expressed thanks for donations received in memory of his brother, Stephen. He thanked EL LDWA and those members who attended the Christmas Cracker Walk who generously donated. Moneys were equally divided between the Motor Neurone Association and Air Ambulance.

Funds from 100:

Pauline confirmed that funds have been received from last year's 100. Pauline to ascertain how much has been received. The allocation of funds will be discussed at next meeting.

Scotland 100 in 2024:

Paul Banks raised the concern over the cost of transport for EL marshals who volunteer to help at the Scotland 100 next year. The distance return is more than 650 miles for many EL members, which will be a significant expense for individuals. Three possible proposals mentioned: Hiring a minibus; using funds from previous 100s to mitigate the costs; and, EL committee to subsidise this. This will be considered and discussed further.

18 **Date, time and venue of next meeting:**

Tuesday 4th April. 8pm, Doffcocker Inn, Bolton.

Meeting closed 9.10pm