

Minutes of East Lancashire LDWA Meeting

Date: 4th April 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
Steven Clark	East Lancs LDWA member
Sue Boardman	East Lancs LDWA member
Paul Raine	East Lancs LDWA member

1 **Apologies:** Edwina Hill and Chris Greene

2 **Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes were accepted as a true record of the February meeting by Alma Walsh and Viv Lee.

3 **Matters arising:**

First Aid Certificate: Viv has confirmed that her local Fire Services no longer provide this training. She will approach St John's Ambulance regarding training and fees charged. Alma Walsh will also contact Atherton Fire Service, who may still provide the training, regarding availability of training and fees.

Funds from last year's 100 event. Pauline has confirmed that EL LDWA received £300.

Application for funds from Martyn Greaves bequest to the NEC. Pauline received a response today. The case will be discussed by the NEC at their next meeting on 6th May 2023. It was confirmed that EL LDWA are not putting any of their own moneys in to the project – Pauline will email NEC treasurer to advise this.

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

Pauline expressed her delight at the success of the Two Crosses Challenge Event. It was well received by participants, many of whom have praised EL LDWA for their organisation of the event.

Pauline stated that since the last meeting, EL LDWA have had lots of positive publicity in both the Bury Times and LDWA Strider publications.

Well done to Nick Halford who received an Innovation Certificate at the last NEC AGM, for introducing and welcoming Meet Up walkers into EL LDWA group resulting in new LDWA membership.

Pauline said that the Summary of Output from the Local Groups Weekend in November 2022 has only been received by Chairs and Secretaries on 30th Marh 2023. Jeanette will forward the notes from the weekend to EL committee members. Any member can access the information from the LDWA website. It is found in the Local Groups section of the Toolkit under 2022 Groups' Weekend.

Jeanette has been sent a number of spare Strider magazines for distribution to non-members attending events ad interested parties. Dave and Alma will take them to their next two walks to distribute to non-members as appropriate.

5 **Treasurer's update:**

Paul Allen reported that though there is £1356.17 currently in the main current account. Bury Council are still to be paid £900 for works done in Reddisher Woods. Some Two Crosses Event bills are outstanding. Approximately £100 will remain in this account once outstanding outgoings are paid.

There is £5166.30 in the savings account, which includes moneys coming in from the Two Crosses Event.

The balances for the Midland 100 and the Hathersage trip accommodation has recently been paid. As not all places have been filled, there is a shortfall in funds. For the Midlands 100 there is £23.67 extra for each person to pay as there is one male place not filled. This will be collected by Viv along with contributions to the food kitty. Jeanette is to readvertise this trip to members. For the Hathersage trip Jeanette is to advertise that there are 3 remaining places. If not filled, there will be approximately £22.50 added to attendees fees and paid with the kitty to Viv.

Scottish 100, 2024 – 15 places have now been filled, with just 3 places remaining. Money has started to come in to the treasurer for this accommodation. There is enough moneys received to reimburse Viv, who has paid the deposit from her own funds.

Paul advised the group that a letter of thanks has been received from Air Ambulance, for donations sent in memory of Ian Hamilton.

Paul Banks asked if individuals could make payments to the EL LDWA by bank transfer, due to difficulty obtaining cheques. This was confirm. However, it would be helpful if payers could notify the treasurer before making the transfer.

6 **Events Secretary's update:** please see pdf link for the feedback of the Two Crosses Challenge Event.

A discussion took place regarding a proposal to extend the time allowed for entrants to complete the Two Crosses Challenge Event. The consensus of the meeting is that there will be no change. This will be reviewed annually post-event.

A discussion took place regarding any excess food that remains following future events. The quantities of food purchased has been reviewed and this will be reduced for the next Two Crosses event. Any foods that are unopened and have a long use-by-date will be donated to a local food bank. Food that has been opened or with a short shelf-life will be offered to marshals/volunteers of the event and not to entrants. Carolyn proposed this it was seconded by Nick.

There were inadequate Marshals in Greenmount kitchen this year. When future Two Crosses Events go live on Si entries, an appeal will need to go out for more volunteers/marshals. Jeanette to forward two new potential volunteers names to Roger.

7 **Walk Secretary's update:** Nick submitted the following report:

'The spring programme is going well, with suggested dates all taken, and some attendancies of over twenty walkers. I shall soon be mailing a request for leaders of the summer programme: June, July and August. Please be ready to respond, particularly Sunday walks as we cannot expect a Ribble Valley Jubilee Trail every season'.

8 **Social Secretary's Update:**

There is no change to the Social Secretary's report previously submitted and those items discussed in the Treasurers Update above. Jeanette to send out updates regarding vacancies on social event to EL group members initially.

9 **IT Secretary's update:**

Hilary had nothing new to report. The website is up to date. Updates are being added to facebook regularly.

10 **Two Crosses Event donations for consideration:**

£100 from funding will be donated to Mountain Rescue.

Alma raised a concern that Greenmount kitchen now has an induction hob, so new pans are required. These will be funded from this year's event. Two new signs will also be funded – to direct entrants to Batridge Barn from the reservoir and for Check Point 7. The missing 'Naughty Corner' banner has been found.

11 **Payment for Expenses to Walk Leaders Procedure - Jeanette**

Jeanette brought copies of the existing 'Procedure: Payment of Expenses to Walk Leaders' to the meeting to discuss the anomalies between the procedure on the EL LDWA website and current practice. It was agreed that only two minor changes are required to the Procedure. A) that the authorisation signature needs to be the Walk Secretary, and B) for individuals to submit one annual application for reimbursements annually by 30th September. The new rate will be 45p per mile for all reccies that result in a EL club programme walk.

Jeanette will create a draft update to the procedure for approval at the next LDWA meeting.

12 **Scottish 100 minibus travel costs – Paul Banks. Volunteer drivers? Food orders?**

Paul shared the cost of mini bus hire and compared this to individual costs for travelling to Scotland in cars. The consensus of the group was that it is not financially beneficial to utilise minibuses.

13 **East Lancs LDWA involvement in 100 events from 2026 (Viv is retiring from the coordination role after the 2025 event).**

Viv feels wishes to reduce some of her EL LDWA workload, initially by stepping down fro the 100 event's breakfast stop coordinator role after the 2026 event. She will have performed this role on 15 concurrent events by 2026. Can individuals please contact Viv if they would like more information on this role, should they be interested in taking over?

14 **Telephone numbers on Walk Registration Forms – Paul Banks**

Paul suggested that it would be helpful for Walk Leaders to ask members if they are happy to share their mobile telephone numbers on the Walk Registration Forms. The walk leader would then carry the form throughout the walk, in case of the need to contact a walker who goes missing. All agreed that this should be voluntary. Nick to contact future walk leaders to make this suggestion.

15 **Any other business:**

Alma Walsh reported that she has now completed her Level 1 Food Hygiene Certificate and attained 100%.

Viv Lee raised concerns about the venue for the Midlands 100 breakfast checkpoint at Kenilworth. She has already raised concerns regarding the lack of equipment and space available at the breakfast checkpoint with the Midland 100 event coordinator. To date Viv has not received any assurances. Pauline to raise this with the NEC 100 coordinator. Viv to forward all communication to date to Pauline.

100 party – Pauline thanked Paul Allen for the offer of the venue for the shared birthday party and 100/Two Crosses Party. Paul would like to know numbers of individuals attending the party. Jeanette confirmed that an email has gone out to members asking them to confirm their attendance with Viv Lee.

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

Tuesday 6th June 2023. 8pm, Doffcocker Inn, Bolton.

A subgroup of Dave and Alma Walsh, Viv Lee and Pauline Melia will take place on 2nd May to discuss concerns further regarding the Midland 100 breakfast checkpoint venue. Venue tbc.

Meeting closed 10.05pm