**Minutes of East Lancashire LDWA Meeting**

Date: 9th January 2024 at 7pm Venue: Doffcocker Inn, 780 Chorley Road, Bolton, BL1 5QD

1 **Present:**

Pauline Melia Chair

Jeanette Banks Secretary

Hilary Scott IT Secretary

Viv Lee Social Secretary

Nick Halford Walks Secretary

Caroline Tennant Events Secretary

Alma Walsh Treasurer

Dave Walsh Ordinary Committee Member

Paul Banks Ordinary Committee Member

Roger Jackson Ordinary Committee Member

Stephen Clark Ordinary Committee Member

Sue Boardman EL LDWA Member

**Apologies:**

Gordon Stone Ordinary Committee Member

2 **Minutes of last meeting:**

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the last EL LDWA meeting by Nick Halford and Paul Banks.

3 **Matters arising:**

None.

4 **Chair and Secretary’s update:**

Thanks to Hilary for arranging Graham from the Rivington Trust who delivered a presentation on the history of Rivington Gardens, which was well received by members. Pauline suggested that if anyone wants to volunteer with the Rivington Trust they are to contact Hilary Scott.

A successful Christmas Cracker Walk and meal took place in December 2023. Thanks to Roger for leading the walk. Viv noted that Norman was not able to attend the meal this time and Best Wishes go out to him and Betty.

The New Year Sunday walk programme has started well with 19 walkers attending the 19 mile walk.

5 **Treasurer’s update:** Alma informed the meeting that the transfer of treasurer role from Paul Allen to Alma Walsh was straightforward. The two signaturies for paying out funds are Dave Walsh and Caroline Tennant. Alma is the only internet signatury.

Alma provided the report, as follows:

‘*This is my first report since taking over the Treasurer's role from Paul Allen. Here is the current position of the Club's finances.*

*Current Account balance £808.51*

*Savings Account balance £8609.80 - This includes the Martin Greaves grant from the NEC of £3000. It should also be noted that 4 people have yet to claim their share of the EBB 100 money totalling £117.64. Unless any further monies are owed to Ghyll Head there is a surplus between £2080 collected and £1944 paid of £136. With regard to this year's Scottish 100 accommodation £950 has been collected and a deposit of £500 has been paid therefore £450 is still held in our account. When taking the above into account our net figure over the two accounts is £5714.67.*

*For information only - SI Entry payments received in respect of the Two Crosses 2024 amount to £828.50.’*

6 **Events Secretary’s update:**  Caroline provided the following update on the Two Crosses Challenge Event to take place in March 2024:

*Roger is well on with the rostering.  Times to be confirmed and it can then be shared/published.*

*Viv is ahead with checkpoint preparations and equipment distribution.*

*National trust - permission granted.*

*United utilities - new requirement to fill out an additional form for Natural England to get their approval..*

*NE require rewording to keep dogs on leads.  In future try to hold event before bird nesting season starts.  2 diversions to keep to PRoW and avoid sensitive areas.  One necessary anyhow as a stile has been removed, the other avoids the hidden bog/hole.*

*NE/UU have today agreed the alterations and seem genuinely grateful that we have listened to their concerns and acted appropriately.*

*Diversions have been drawn up and GPX files and maps updated.  One after CP2, onto the Witton Weavers Way, the second, after CP2 across to Entwistle reservoir.  Route description to follow, which will also include updated checkpoint mileages and cut off times for all CPs from CP4 onwards.  Mileages have been increase to now be 18 and 26 miles.  In part due to the diversions, and due also to reflecting a more realistic mileage than the GPX files indicate.*

*Also some changes to the current route.  Paving across Wet Moss and from the Pilgrims Cross.  New gate onto Affetside Road from the legacy fund.  Two other gates installed yesterday.*

*Otherwise all admin in hand.  Practicalities such as printing and CP admin equipment are being organised.*

*Lastly, entry numbers.  This time last year - 148. Today - 206!!!*

The date for the Marshall’s Two Crosses walk was set – Roger will communicate the details to all Marshalls helping on the event.

7 **Walk Secretary’s update:** Nick reported:

 ‘*. . suggested dates for the Winter programme are now filled, and would shortly be asking for leaders for Spring.’*

8 **Social Secretary’s Update:** Viv Lee reported the following:

Viv shared with EL LDWA Committee that the Reddisher Woods improvements have now been completed and photographs seen of the two new wooden kissing gates. Viv will direct Bury Council to EL Treasurer for payment of works carried out. Viv has ordered two plaques at a cost of £50, which will have a commemoration to Martyn Greaves of the LDWA. Once received, they will be fastened to the new kissing gates.

The Two Crosses/ 100 Party (plus 5 significant birthday celebrations) will be held at Hilary’s house on Saturday 22nd June 2024, from 4pm onwards. This will be in the form of a Jacob’s Join, where individuals will bring items of food to share. Viv will ask for food contribution details nearer the time.

Christmas Cracker Walk and Meal 2024 will be held on Sunday 15th December. More details to follow.

New Year Holiday, Llanwrtyd Wells 2024 will be from 29th December 2024 until 2nd January 2025. 12 people have booked to date. Members to book directly with the hotel on 01591 610236 and inform Viv for evening meal bookings.

Patterdale Summer Holiday. This is a 4 night break from Monday 5th – 9th August 2024. A 4 night midweek package has been arranged at the Patterdale Hotel, Lake District, with 3 days of led walks. All rooms will be £298 per person. This includes bed, breakfast and evening meals. 22 people have booked the holiday to date. The hotel still has a number of double bedrooms and 2 twin rooms available. Please note that single occupancy will incur the double/twin occupancy rate. Optional packed lunches are £8 per day. Please book your break directly with the Patterdale Hotel on 01768 482231 and inform Viv Lee.

Jeanette will send out updated events information to EL members*.*

9 **IT Secretary’s update:** Hilary submitted the following report:

*‘Walk reports are up to date.*

*FaceBook is updated regularly and continues to be well supported. It also helps with increasing Two Crosses entries.*

*There is an issue with 2 of the LDWA Committee email forwarders. These have been reported but there is no solution as yet. It seems to be part of the general email system that there is a problem with.’*

10 **Update to the LDWA Group Constitution – does this affect the EL LDWA Constitution?**

The matter was discussed by the EL LDWA Committee. It was agreed that Pauline would compare the new LDWA Model Group Constitution to the EL LDWA Constitution to ascertain if the EL one needs updating.

11 **Car share – Alma Walsh**

Alma has been approached on a walk by a member regarding car share. It was discussed by the committee and agreed that there is no specific LDWA policy regarding this matter. It was agreed that it was individual’s responsibility to make their own arrangements to get to and home from a walk.

12 **Possible Obituaries for the Strider Magazine – Gordon Stone**

Gordon was unable to attend the meeting. However, it was agreed that Viv would approach Norman Thomas to write an Obituary for his long time friend and EL LDWA member for the Strider Publication. Update: Norman is happy to write the Obituary and will send this directly to Gordon Stone, Strider Editor.

13 **Any other business:**

**Family Event proposal:**

Roger presented his proposal for a Family Event that he had prepared. Following discussion, it was considered that the event would not target the age group that we wish to recruit. It was suggested that Roger instead looked at arranging a ‘Kanter’ event.

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

Tuesday 5th March at 7pm at Doffcocker Inn, 780 Chorley Road Bolton.

**Meeting closed at 8.50pm**