

**LDWA East Lancs Group**

**Minutes of the Meeting Held at 8pm on Tuesday 12th January 2021**

**A Zoom meeting hosted by Gordon Stone.**

**Present:**

Hilary Scott (HS)	Chair / IT Secretary
Roger Jackson (RJ)	Secretary
Nick Halford (NH)	Walks Secretary
Caroline Tennant (CT)	Events Secretary
Pauline Melia (PM)	Ordinary Committee Member
Gordon Stone (GS)	Ordinary Committee Member (Host)
Paul Wadsworth (PW)	Ordinary Committee Member
Alma Walsh (AW)	Ordinary Committee Member
Dave Walsh (DW)	Ordinary Committee Member
Mike Bushby (MB)	Ordinary Committee Member
Steve Clarke (SC)	Sue Boardman (SB)

**Apologies:**

Paul Allen (PA)	Treasurer
Viv Lee (VL)	Social Secretary

**The Group was quorate and the meeting opened at 8.00 pm and closed at 08.55 pm.**

**1. Minutes of the Last Meeting:**

The Minutes were accepted as a true record of the October meeting.

**2. Matters Arising:**

**20.04 Plaque for Redisher Woods' (19.01 re-opened)**

Following the completion of the work to improve the Redisher Woods'. steps, which East Lancashire LDWA Group, funded together with Long Distance Walker's Association, the Ramblers and Bury Council, HS has investigated the possibility of having a commemorative plaque. The cost would be around £20 which the group meeting agreed East Lancs would pay. Suggested wording for Redisher Wood signpost **'2020, Redisher Wood Staircase, Footpath improvement funded by the Long Distance Walker's Association , it's East Lancashire Group, The Ramblers and Bury Council '.**January 2021 Update: HS now has the plaque and will arrange for it to be placed on the designated post after this lockdown finishes.  
**Ongoing**

### **3 Chair and Secretary Update:**

Well, it is a New Year but not a happy one regarding the resumption of social walking. All we can do is wait for the situation to change and take it from there.

On a more positive note, the small resumption we had did have good responses both from leaders and participants. Plus, some members have now built up a portfolio of social walks they can offer once we can resume.

Thanks to those who have helped keep the club running during this period.

### **4 Treasurers Report**

The Treasurer had sent his apologies, as he was unable to attend the meeting, and provided an update on the group's financial position to HS / RJ, which Hilary read out. The group continues to hold a healthy balance. There has been some movement since the AGM due to a repayment of Ghyll Head monies for which he moved money from the Savings to Current Account. Paul has also corrected the balance on the Red Rose account, pointed out since the last meeting. It appears to be a longstanding matter going back some years.

### **5 Events Secretary**

The actual Two Crosses event cannot go ahead as permission from United Utilities will not be granted, due to Covid-19.

A decision needed to be made if we could run it as an anytime event. 'It would basically be an administrative task but would need support from Facebook members to create some interest in entrants. The following drawbacks needed to be considered.

- Covid-19 -should we be encouraging travel ?
- Blackburn footpath works at Entwistle due to end of April 2021 so May would be the earliest time we could run the event.
- Only LDWA members can enter, and only those 'local'. Only 40% of 2020 Two Crosses entrants were LDWA members.
- Lockdown currently only getting worse.
- Profit would be insignificant. It would be for the members, not for the money.

Following a discussion and vote, there was a unanimous decision made not to go ahead.

Caroline to cancel event via SI-Entries and contact all entrants. VL to contact Christine at Greenmount and cancel the hall booking.

VL has donated all long-dated food to Ramsbottom foodbank as it will be out of date before the next event. So, more will need to be purchased for 2022, as we will have no stock left over.

Route description virtually finished but may need tweaking after Entwistle works completed. Blackburn PROW advised 13/01/2021, that the work is to cut back diseased trees.

**6 Walks Secretary's Update:**

We attempted to re-start in late November, got a good response from leaders and walkers but , due to another lockdown, two days later had to cancel again. The positive side is we are in a good position to restart as soon as we get the go ahead from the NEC / Government.

**7 Social Secretary's Update:**

Viv sent her apologies for not making the meeting and gave HS a brief update, which she read out.

Nothing going on re Social Activities this year. She has tried to contact Longtown Activity Centre by phone unsuccessfully. She is going to formally write to them and request the money back for this May's LDWA 100 Breakfast Checkpoint booking.

**8 IT Secretary's Update:**

Nothing new to report.

**9 Pastoral Care**

Alma has contacted quite a few members in December and has started again this month. No problems reported.

**10 Publicity**

Due to the current situation no new developments on publicity front

**11 Rivington Terraced Gardens Sponsorship**

PW gave a brief outline of the 'Rivington Terrace Gardens Sponsorship Programme' which was recently featured on Granada Reports He suggested we contributed to each of the 5 areas within the gardens that can be sponsored, which could be covered for a total of £100. This was unanimously agreed by the meeting. **Action: HS/PA to progress**

## **12 AOB**

### **12.1 Red Rose 50 (a suggestion from a member)**

The suggestion was put forward, by a member, for consideration at the meeting that the RR50 might be brought back for 2021 in order to satisfy a possible renewed (post-vaccinations, probably) demand for 'real' 50s in the later part of the year. But if there is a lack of willingness to run / lead it in its 'real' form, perhaps it might still serve as an Anytime Challenge which would also be a qualifier for the 2022 LDWA 100.

After careful consideration, the following was unanimously agreed.

Firstly, a real one presents many issues. At the moment United Utilities will not grant permits for any events on their land. A permit would be needed for the RR50 so that would be a real risk to organise and then that be refused. Plus, the booking of village halls, HQ, would entail financial risk to the club.

Re the Anytime. There is risk asking people to self-support over 50 miles which would likely involve night walking. Plus, should we be encouraging that? Also, it would be difficult to get someone to lead the event certainly no one at the meeting was willing to take on that responsibility , so unfortunately it will not be feasible to run the event.

### **12.2 Contribution to Bolton Mountain Rescue.**

PM suggested that with the local voluntary sector currently struggling for funds we could give a contribution to the Bolton Mountain Rescue Service , an organisation strongly associated with walking. It was unanimously agreed to give £120. **Action: HS/PA to progress**

## **13 Next Meeting**

March 2nd Zoom Meeting.

