

Essex & Herts LDWA Committee Meeting

Thursday 6 June, 2024, 1pm, Writtle Village Hall

Draft notes

Present: Lizzie Bridge (LB) Jackie Burnett (JB) Richard Haynes (RH) Kirsteen Newell (KN) Elaine Oddie (EO)
Jane Skinner (JS) Maggie Stevenson (MS) Peter Tremain (PT).

1. **Apologies for absence.** Ginny Powell (GP)
2. **Minutes** of Meeting on 15 March 2024 were approved.
3. **Matters arising** from previous Minutes – None.

4. **New Secretary**

JB has kindly agreed to continue as Interim Secretary until the AGM in February 2025 as no-one has come forward thus far. KN will undertake some of the operational tasks. JB and KN to discuss succession planning.

5. **Financial Update, Finance Sub-Committee**

The members of the Finance sub-committee will all be able to act as signatories for the banking transactions with Lloyds Bank and this is in the process of being arranged.

Treasurer's report:

The current balance stands at £16,276. The Essex Walker on 14 April grossed £3,055.77, with outgoings of £1,578, netting a surplus of £1,477.63.

£5k has been allocated for special events in the Golden Anniversary year.

Storage of E&H Equipment (KN)

Kirsteen has sourced quotes from Selfstore: a company that provides lock-up self-storage units in Edinburgh Way, Harlow. The quotes are for 25 square feet – roughly the size of a small garden shed. LB thought a slightly larger space would be easier to operate from.

<i>Size:</i>	<i>cost</i>	<i>annually</i>	
25 ft sq	£17.63/week	£916.70 + VAT	approx. £1k p.a
Year 2:	£25.19 per week.	£1,309.80 +VAT	in excess of £1.5k

MS recommended we take a year's rental in the first instance and review.

Inventory: Current equipment list to be updated after the Herts Hobble

6. **Golden Anniversary plans**

A copy of the meeting notes taken on 23 April is attached.

Appendix 1

Anniversary souvenir – neck warmer

The attractive neck-warmer in green and gold is made from recycled material.

For 600 units, the cost is £3.35 - £2,00.10, +VAT and a design fee of £18.

Distribution: neck warmers will be distributed at our Christmas events, the Stansted Stagger and social walks

Publicity: LB had several good ideas here: A photo competition to promote the neck warmers' use, eg Most far-flung. Most novel use/wear. The prizes would be free entry to a challenge event.

Catering for special events

LB will investigate purchasing a Costco card (£33 for a year).

A cost-effective and bespoke decorated cake service can be provided by Costco.

WALKS AND EVENTS in the Golden Anniversary year - 2025:

Golden 50: 50 mile Figure-of-eight challenge walk. Saturday 26 to Sunday 27 July 2025

Based on Manuden Village Community Centre . PT to confirm booking.

The Marshals' Walk for this to take place on 28/29 June 2025

Coastal Social Walk: Coastal walk between Clacton, Frinton and Walton-on-the Naze – Saturday 2 August 2025

Free Ice-cream for participants & ending with an optional Wetherspoons visit.

St Peter's Way in a Day (45 miles) - Saturday 25th August, 2025.

As this is not a circular walk, mini-bus hire is required at the end of the walk.

2 x 16 seater minibus hire @ £250 = £500.

Village hall hire (x2) £100

Meals (Breakfast and tea) £120

Total outlay £720

Bowling afternoon, Southend. Saturday 6 or Sunday 7 September 2025

There would be a social walk beforehand. Afternoon tea and finger buffet. £5 charge per head (subsidized by LDWA 50th Anniversary funds).

Heritage train and walk from Ongar – September 2025 – to be confirmed.

LB has now researched a heritage train event between Epping and Ongar. It is possible to book a cream tea for up to 25 people or a fish and chip meal can be booked for up to 100 people).

Cost for fish and chips and the train ride is £29.50.

The Committee discussed offering the event at a discounted price of £15.00.

Away Weekend, 2025 28-31 March, HF Selworthy, Exmoor. Maximum 36.

LB suggested a prosecco welcome on the Friday as part of the Anniversary celebrations.

7. Social walks update

Secret Santa Walk - Sunday 8 December 2024 –

JB to organize a route to include several churches for Carol singing – either Sawbridgeworth or Little Hallingbury circuit of about 12-13 miles.

8. Challenge Event updates

Essex Walker: (feedback) Gill Struthers' report has been circulated to the Committee

Herts Hobble: RH reported there were 175 entries to date, with 3 on the waiting list.

Stansted Stagger 2025. Sunday 4th January Bookings open on 2nd September. Checkpoints will be: Green Tye Mission Hall, Farnham Village Hall. Drinks stop at Wright's Green, Little Hallingbury.

The Stansted Stagger next year will be the first event of our 50th year. It has been proposed that gold cloth badges are issued throughout 2025 to mark the anniversary year, along with the neck warmers; see Item 6, above.

Marshals' walk to take place on Sunday 16 November, 2025.

9. Health and Safety.

There are accident report forms at every checkpoint.

10. The Hundred. E&H Herts Checkpoints:

2025 - Flower of Suffolk. E&H have been allocated Knoddishall. Mick Dodge has agreed to be our coordinator

2026. Hunnypot 100, Kent. E&H have been allocated Cowden

2027 Cornwall and Devon. E&H have been allocated Seaton (to be confirmed)

11. AOB

JS had circulated via the E&H WhatsApp group an invitation for our members to attend the Essex Bridleways Association talk to be given by Shirely Anglin, Lead PRow Officer at Essex County Council. Tuesday 2nd July at Keene Hall, Galleywood CM2 8PB from 7.15 am.

Email sdeeran@gmail.com or contact Jane Skinner directly if you would like to attend.

15 Date of Next Meeting

Writtle Village Hall on Thursday 3rd October. Either morning or afternoon. PT to book

The meeting closed at 4pm. Our thanks to Peter and Kirsteen for providing the venue and refreshments

Minutes of the Essex and Herts LDWA 50th year celebration meeting

PRESENT: Peter Tremain, Lizzie Bridge, Peter Aylmer, Jane Skinner and Kirsteen Newell *(via Zoom)*

Tuesday 23rd April 2024

Summary of ideas for the E & H 50th celebratory year:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Person/ people leading event</i>
5 th January 2025	The Stansted Stagger	
23 rd February 2025	E & H LDWA 50 th AGM	Kirsteen and Jackie
June 2025 (tbc)	Herts Hobble	Richard Haynes
23 rd August 2025	St Peter's Way in a day	Mike Wheatley
September (tbc)	Bowling and afternoon tea event	Lizzie Bridges
October 2025 (tbc)	Blackwater Marathon	Jean Bowers

OTHER POSSIBLE EVENTS

Event	Person leading event
50 mile challenge covering Essex and Herts – possible dates are 26 th /27 th July or the first two weekends of August. This will be discussed again at the next committee meeting to ensure there are enough volunteers to cover all of the planned events.	Peter Tremain
Heritage railway train journey with fish and chips event	

Actions to be taken:

- LB to liaise with Mike Wheatley regarding the St Peter's way in a day to confirm the event. (Confirmed – Lizzie has confirmed with Mike Wheatley that he is happy to lead this event. Mike is going to price up mini buses or a small coach to transport walkers on the return journey which will enable us to cost the event and set a budget. The event will be organised for about 27 – 30 walkers).
- LB to find out about the Blackwater marathon. (Confirmed – Lizzie has contacted Jean Bowers and she would like to lead this event again. Jean will confirm a date shortly).
- LB to liaise with Steve Wills regarding the linear walk and a train ride. (Confirmed – Lizzie has contacted Steve and the outcome is that this would be a great social walk rather than a 'special event'. Walkers could either get the train from Ingatestone station to Clacton or drive straight to Clacton. The walk would start at Clacton and continue onto Holland on Sea, Frinton and Walton on the Naze and back to Clacton with a possible Wetherspoons finish. The date for this would be the 2nd August - Lizzie will add this to the calendar. Lizzie has now also researched a possible heritage train event between Epping and Ongar <https://www.eorailway.co.uk/visit/dining-trains/>. It is possible to book a cream tea event for up to 25 people or a fish and chip event can be booked for up to 100 people).
- LB to find out about the price of 500 neck warmers.
- LB to find out about a 'bowling' and afternoon tea event.
- KN to organise a 'thanking E & H volunteers and partners' event
- KN to look further afield regarding challenge events organised by local branches of the LDWA to ensure there are no conflicting dates.
- KN to put the confirmed challenge events on the LDWA Chairs' Whatsapp.
- Put a marshals' walk date in the diary in November 2025 for the January 2026 Stansted Stagger.