**Essex & Herts LDWA**

 **Notes from committee meeting held at Writtle Village Hall**

 **Thursday 8th June 2023, 1.00pm**

1. **Members attending.** Gill Struthers(**GS**), Jackie Burnett (**JB**), Elaine Oddie (**EO**), Elizabeth Bridge (**EB**), Ginny Powell (**GP**), Peter Tremain (**PT**), Brian Martin (**BM**).

 Mike Wheatley (**MW**) was welcomed to his first meeting and Rob Struthers (**RS**) was welcomed as a guest

**Apologies for absence:** Richard Haynes (**RH**), Maggie Stevenson (**MS**)

1. **Approve minutes of the meeting held on 9th March 2023**

Proposed **GP**, Seconded **EO**

1. **Matters arising from previous minutes**.

**CP guidelines**: **JB** to continue with this, with input from **EO** – ongoing.

**100 Donation**: It was suggested that a donation is made to the First Aid support on the 100. **EO** thought that it would be to ‘Challenge First’ but she would check and advise.

**Expenses:** info. on the website has been updated.

**Secret Santa**: Carried forward, possible churches to be visited – Willingale, Fyfield, Greenstead. **MW** to sort out a 10 – 12 mile route.

 **2024 Herts Hobble: RH** is sorting out a committee for the 2024 HH.

**Badges:** on order for the Hobble, Shotley, Blackwater and Stagger (but not for the Essex Walker).

**EBB feedback** – A ‘Thank You’ has been received from David Hood and an email ‘Thank You’ has been sent to all Vols.

**Triple Challenge** – Guidelines for claiming to be included in the next Newsletter.

**Single Use plastic** – we will use up what we have and not buy any more.

**Dolores** – Thanks to Lizzie for keeping the group up to date with Dolores’ progress following her accident.

1. **Chair’s report**

We have 2 new leaders – Jane Skinner and Malcom Clapp. We need to encourage walkers to try leading a walk.

Challenge Walks – None since last meeting. **GS** continues to liaise with other groups to avoid events clashing.

1. **Financial report**

**JB** to advertise availability of Food Hygiene courses.

Donations have been made to Essex Air Ambulance.

Proposed **JB**, seconded **MW**.

1. **Social Walk programme**.

Several gaps in the programme after August, we need to keep pushing for new Leaders.

32 people, so far, going to Brecon Beacons for the Away Weekend.

A donation of £50 to Upper Wharfdale Mountain Rescue (ref. Dolores) was proposed.

Proposed **EB**, seconded **PT**.

 **EB** to check conditions for HF advertising in LDWA publications.

 **PT** to change date of the 2024 Stagger Marshals’ walk to Sunday 26th November.

1. **Challenge Events**

**Herts Hobble -** 166 entrants to date (47 on short route). **JB** to reply to **GH** ref. Risk Assessment for the HH.

**Shotley Peninsula 50**. 184 entries to date with eleven people on the waiting list.

N&S will be running CPs at Langham and Shotley Church.

There are 10 people walking the Marshals’ event which will be run under the same conditions as the main event and will also be a qualifier for the 2024 Speyside 100.

**EO** asked if solo walking would be allowed on the marshals’ event. GS said that it would be preferred that a minimum of 2 people walk together.

 **JB** has a draft certificate.

**Blackwater Marathon.** JB to contact Jean to ensure we meet the Strider deadline. Entries open on 1st July - £15 for members, £22.50 non-members

**Stagger 2024 –** Details will be in the August Strider. St. John’s Hall waiting for confirmation of our booking. Brent Pelham VH has Wi-Fi. Quendon VH is booked. Route description is finished, GPX is available but needs checking. £14 members, £21 non members.

**Esses Walker –** PT has routes 22 & 17 miles. Galleywood is booked. Downham VH is booked. Possibly use W. Hanningfield as a CP.

1. **Health & Safety –** The issue ref. Dolores was well handled. EB advised that photos of the location should be taken and the location should include the What3Word code.

Foil blankets are very fragile and all leaders should carry a safety bag on social walks.

1. **Essex and Herts 50th Anniversary** (2025). The 50th anniversary of the exact date that the E&H group was formed falls on a Sunday in February. Propose that we hold our AGM that day, followed by a celebratory tea and anniversary cake, Budget to be agreed at the AGM.

**Ideas – Mugs, B**uffs, E&H badges, Badge for clothing, Boat Trip. Train trip, Re-run of old walks

Earls Colne B/F, Chappel B/F. **MW** to collate ideas.

1. **Any Other Business**.

**PT** reminded the committee that we have an Essex & Herts Golden Fifty planned for 2025 and that, perhaps, this could take the form of a Kanter?

**MW** suggested a return St. Peter’s Way In a Day over the summer of 2025.

 50th Buffs maybe free – **EB** to design, not necessarily green.

 **EB** needs more information on **RH’s** 30 mile Stoop walk for Strider

 **JB** mentioned a 50 mile charity event over three days in September based on the Accuro 50, a long distance path devised by Peter Aylmer

**Date and place of next meeting**: Tuesday Sept 5th at 10:00 at Lorna Doone.