



HEART OF ENGLAND – LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION
Minutes of Committee Meeting 31 Via MS TEAMS internet engagement
at 7.00 pm on 22/10/2025.

In attendance:

Clive Wainwright (CW) Chair * *minutes taker*
 Neil Bromley (NB) Deputy Chair
 Michael Buckley (MB) Membership Secretary
 Robin Richmond (RR) Data Officer

David Hood (DH) Group Secretary
 Rupert Connolly (RC) Property Officer
 Yvonne Court (YC) Treasurer

Apologies:-

Graham Jones (GJ) Walks Secretary

Circulation

All above plus Group Membership (and via web site)

Item	Description	Action/date
31	* Deferred meeting from 15th October planned date	
31.1.	Introductions & apologies	
31.1.1.	GJ	Note
31.2.	Approval of previous minutes 30 (20th August 2025)	
31.2.1.	none required	Note
31.2.2.	Proposed by RC	Note
31.2.3.	Seconded by NB	Note
31.3.	Matters arising (internal or external with Committee)	
31.3.1.	Following on from the last meeting - Noting our 30th Anniversary of our HoE Group is next year the Committee to make the BCC our anniversary event with an extended different route of 30 miles. It may well be that the Committee develops a separate weekend away somewhere as well. Consideration to be aired with members also at this year's AGM on the event.	All Note
31.3.2.	'Cookhill' village hall for our AGM location this year as last year - date being 6th December. Now all fully set up. CW has achieved a PAT test on the projector for the day.	All Note
31.3.3	DH to look into our current constitution paperwork as our formal document with the NEC (i.e. on our present website dated 2015) or if amendment is required post this time. Latest update ongoing.	DH
31.3.4	NB confirmed Colwall village hall has again been booked for the Malvern Midsummer Marathon (20th June 2026), together with up front fees being in place. NB to consider any	

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	outstanding arrangements of possible clashes for the day i.e. any car parking arrangement issues or adjacent cricket day agreements for parking etc. Or any other issues with the event.	NB																																												
31.3.5	Outcome of meeting with the 'A Coventry Way' Committee on 23rd Sept. to discuss any support/help required from HoE for next year's event. Similar requirements & support from HoE members as this year, principally at their HQ & HoE running checkpoint 5 again.	All Note																																												
31.4.	Chairs report (with deputy input)	CW/NB																																												
31.4.1.	Focus on communication & running Group going forward.	Note																																												
31.4.2.	Consideration of new chair replacement post this year. Noting all committee members as officers in their individual roles can be endorsed or challenged in their respective role for change through the AGM voting on the day.	All Note																																												
31.4.3	The chair requested committee members think about putting together their annual reports for review Nov + (no later than next meeting if possible) for generating before AGM time.	All Note																																												
31.5.	Treasurer's report	YC																																												
31.5.1.	Interim accounts see appendix 31.12.1	All Note																																												
31.5.2	Heart of England Walking Group Annual Accounts Balance Sheet as at 30th September 2024 <table><thead><tr><th></th><th>2025</th><th>2024</th><th>movement</th></tr><tr><th></th><th>£ p</th><th>£ p</th><th>£ p</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Current Assets</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Cash in bank</td><td>11,196.40</td><td>10,341.15</td><td>855.25</td></tr><tr><td>Cash in hand</td><td>68.95</td><td>118.95</td><td>-50.00</td></tr><tr><td></td><td><u>11,265.35</u></td><td><u>10,460.10</u></td><td><u>805.25</u></td></tr><tr><td>Represented by:</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Cumulative fund</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Balance as at 30th September 2024</td><td>10,460.10</td><td>7,149.09</td><td>3,311.01</td></tr><tr><td>Add surplus of receipts over payments for the year</td><td>805.25</td><td>3311.01</td><td>-2,505.76</td></tr><tr><td>Balance as at 30th September 2024</td><td><u>11,265.35</u></td><td><u>10,460.10</u></td><td><u>805.25</u></td></tr></tbody></table>		2025	2024	movement		£ p	£ p	£ p	Current Assets				Cash in bank	11,196.40	10,341.15	855.25	Cash in hand	68.95	118.95	-50.00		<u>11,265.35</u>	<u>10,460.10</u>	<u>805.25</u>	Represented by:				Cumulative fund				Balance as at 30th September 2024	10,460.10	7,149.09	3,311.01	Add surplus of receipts over payments for the year	805.25	3311.01	-2,505.76	Balance as at 30th September 2024	<u>11,265.35</u>	<u>10,460.10</u>	<u>805.25</u>	All Note
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31.5.3	YC requested to apply a small footnote in the final Treasurer's report outlining the principal reasons for the difference in final figures between 2024 & 2025.	YC																																												

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31.6.	Group Secretary report	DH
31.6.1	Through discussion a general review sought for members to receive correspondence & future attendance on social walks. It was noted only a small percentage of members receive engagement through email, only other outcome would be via our web page site or through receipt of 'Strider' magazine. We also have a "whats App" Group but this has minimal membership to those who wish to join. Thought needs to be given to how this can be improved or increased for the benefit of communication.	DH All Note
31.6.2	RC suggested in the interim we also send out a regular newsletter to help remind members about up and coming social walks we have arranged. However if the crux of the matter is email receipt, and 31.6.1 points made then it needs a better overall solution to be found.	All Note
31.6.3	In respect of Social walks development based on demographics also needs to be considered further, our present situation principally has three main areas of membership by percentage - Birmingham, Coventry & Worcester.	DH + committee
31.7.	Membership Secretary report	MB
31.7.1.	MB - Membership - Present status is 490 in number, 15 extra members joining our Group since June, with crossover of annual statistics being the 1st of Sept through SI entries.	MB Note
31.7.2	For the benefit of social walks - NB requested if there was a mapping of members location in our Group (tied in with 31.6.3). To achieve an outcome & following GDPR rules based on postcodes RR to make an assessment with information given by DH.	Note DH & RR
31.8.	Walk Secretary report	GJ
31.8.1.	GJ - Members keep looking at the website & as usual any person wishing to undertake a Social walk for the group gratefully received. Support always given by GJ for leadership. Had some interest for 2026, a couple of walks offered from Mary Dyche. Also had contact from a few other members of the group with potential offerings presently under review. Otherwise, the 2026 calendar is not looking too busy, so the usual request for offerings from members please.	GJ All note
31.8.2	Local Groups meeting outcome held on the 14th October. All points HoE Group have made are still in abeyance, but promised to be discussed at Leamington through the 'Local Groups' AGM on the 9th Nov.	GJ Note
31.8.3	Local Groups are having their AGM in our area (Leamington 7-9th Nov). Two walks required by HoE members to lead for Saturday 8th. Anne Wade has offered to lead a longer one (8:00am) & Richard/Sally Hicks will achieve a shorter one for them. DH/MB to support/help in any outcome.	All Note DH/MB

Item	Description	Action/date
31.9.	Equipment Officer report	RC
31.9.1.	RC - Storage is still an issue. Pursuing Birmingham City Council on a garage arrangement, but they are incredibly slow at responding with their administration. No foreseeable change either with the Council. Through review commercial storage elsewhere does not seem viable financially for the Group, still an individual offering a garage space would be ideal for our needs. New equipment not sought at this present time, more appropriate with storage to wait until 2026. Also if we have a very long event organised, we consider hiring of items.	RC All Note RC
31.10.	Data Protection Officer report	RR
31.10.1	RR - GDPR data obligations as a Group up to date (2023). NEC has advised no further action to update on HoE Groups present data or approach for an annual report. RR/GJ – Following Local Groups meeting Tuesday 1st July. Feedback - The Social Events guidance was briefly discussed at the meeting. Jim Blakelock (BBN) raised concerns that potential walk leaders may be discouraged by the changes and felt that not everything was necessary or essential. He offered to share BBN's thinking with other Local Groups, similar concerns to ours, guidance & registration. HoE had submitted its concerns to the NEC Chair prior to the meeting. This will be a workgroup item for the Local Groups AGM weekend.	Note All Note RR & GJ
31.10.2	Also potential discussion at Local AGM on the use of Local area Groups finances to take place.	Note
31.11.	Any other business	
31.11.1	Publicity Officer (mentioned through the website) - position vacant - a bonus if an individual is available for the position of.	All Note
31.11.2	MMM & BCC as events imminent for uploading to SI entries	Note & RC
31.11.3	RC mentioned volunteer list(s) for our events will be available at our AGM for any one wishing to help in support.	All Note
31.11.4	RC also mentioned by the AGM there may be information available on if the 'Forest Marathon' event could run again next year.	All Note
31.11.5	MB raised the question would another committee member like to take the lead role on running the MMM (after principally 15 years service). A collective approach agreed between DH, NB & MB to go forward. Noting external parties are also always welcome to get involved.	All Note
31.11.6	Meeting closed at 8.55 pm – next meeting date, 19th November 2025 - using MS Teams. DH to send a link. 7:00 pm start time.	DH
31.12.	Appendices	
31.12.1	Latest on account situation.	Note
	Heart of England LDWA - LDWA - Heart of England Local Group	

Heart of England Walking Group Annual Accounts

Appendix 31.12.1

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 30th September 2025

	2025	2024	movement
	£ p	£ p	£ p
Income			
BCC	4,643.32	6,499.22	-1,855.90
MMM	4,428.56	5,063.80	-635.24
Training (1)	565.00		565.00
Flower of Suffolk (2)	500.00		500.00
	<u>10,136.88</u>	<u>11,563.02</u>	<u>-1,426.14</u>
Trfs			
	2025	2024	movement
	£ p	£ p	£ p
	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Expenditure			
	2025	2024	movement
	£ p	£ p	£ p
BCC	-2983.31	-3171.34	188.03
MMM	-2651.17	-3017.27	366.10
AGM 2023	0.00	-73.08	73.08
AGM 2024	-81	-65	-16.00
Equipment	-2114.05	-1862.92	-251.13
Group Expenses	-160.50	0.00	-160.50
Training (1)	-656.07	0.00	-656.07
Flower of Suffolk (2)	-619.53	0.00	-619.53
Audit 2023	0.00	-62.40	62.40
Audit 2024	-66	0	-66.00
Totals	<u>-9,331.63</u>	<u>-8,252.01</u>	<u>-1,079.62</u>
 Excess of Income over Expenditure	 <u>805.25</u>	 <u>3,311.01</u>	 <u>-2,505.76</u>

Note

(1) First Aid Training - £565 Grant from the Martyn Greaves Fund

(2) Contribution from Flower of Suffolk 100 to HofE group for volunteers on the event