



North of Scotland LDWA committee meeting

Thursday November 7th 2024 7.00pm

Attendees: Graham Smith (GS) Alison Collins (AC) Pete Mitchell (PM) Lorna Sproates (LS) Jan Adamson (JA) Julie Cribb (JC) Roger Boston (RB) John Henderson (JH)

Apologies: Bea Jefferson (BJ) Karen Meikle (KM)

Chair: GS
Recorded by: AC

Agenda:

- 1 Committee update/matters arising
- 2 Membership update
- 3 Treasurer's update
- 4 Social walks
- 5 Challenge events
- 6.Larig Ghru feedback
7. Feedback from Outdoor First Aid course and actions arising
- 8 North of Scotland Group merchandise
- 9 Annual Joint Walking weekend with the Heart of Scotland Group
- 10 The upcoming AGM
- 11 Token of appreciation for Rachel Mitchell
- 12Local group bi-monthly meetings
- 13 AOB,
- 14 Date and time of next meeting.

Agenda		Action Items	who	when	Status	Comment
1	Committee Update	GS Welcomed everyone.	GS			
2	Matters arising from previous minutes	Nothing to be dealt with that is not covered in the Agenda.				

3	Membership	118 members				
4	Treasures update	LS would like the Speyside 100 account linked to our account in the Bank of Scotland to dissappear. JC advised that LS could do this. Thank you to Rikky Beck who has kindly checked off the account for the AGM	LS			LS to liase with the bank to remove the Speyside 100 account
	Account Ballance	Current Status £2480	LS			
5	Social walks	PM has been planning next year's walks. We are needing someone to lead a walk the weekend of February 15th/16th. PM will send an email to the walk leaders.	PM			PM to email all walk leaders to encourage them to put on a walk in February
6	Challenge events	Laich O'Moray Challenge event 2025 PM had nothing to report. JC asked if the walk could be done in reverse starting at Lossiemouth. PM said that this could be possible depending on the tides. JH said later in the meeting that he would look at the tides to find a possible date for the Challenge event. Coast to Coast Challenge Event June 28th 2025 GS reported that JC will be the main contact for the CtC Challenge event. Entries will open on 01.01.2025 on SiEntries. The organising sub group being GS, JC and KM. JC is in communication regularly with Anna at Argay Community Hall. There will be 2 pieces in the next Strider about the walk and it was also mentioned in the LDWA newsletter. The checkpoints will be knockdampth, Schoolhouse MBA bothies and Croik. We will give a donation to the MBA for using their bothies. GS has been in touch with the estates and has been given permission to use 4x4 vehicles. Jane Bregazzi may be able to help out with a 4x4 vehicle. KM has booked 2x 53 seat coaches at £450 each. Jo Cowie is organising the catering. GS has done a draft route description which will need checking. GS will put something about it in local papers.	PM GS JC KM		On going	

		Rachel Mitchell has designed a badge Logo for the event. There is no date for the Marshals' walk as yet. There are 3-4 land estates involved and permission has been given to use the area with the river crossing.				
7	Lairig Ghru Feedback	GS had sent all committee members a copy of the Accident and Incident Report following a call to Mountain Rescue on the Larig Ghru walk on September 21st. Following this BJ had sent an email considering lessons to be learnt from any incidents for any walks which have a greater potential for risk in remote areas, well away from roads and ? No phone signal. There was some discussion regarding Health and Safety and risk assessments with contributions from all committee members. JH said that it was an incredibly challenging sequence of events for the walk leader GS on the day and that both him and the rescued participant managed the situations that arose well. JC said that all LDWA Challenge events have to have a written risk assessment for insurance purposes. Insurers need to see that we have made the walk safe for everyone. Other topics discussed were... Fitness of the participant to do the walk. Risk assessments for walks in remote areas with no escape routes and no phone signal. Pre walk information given to participants before a walk, with information about equipment needed, which was given to walkers, in detail, on the Lairig Ghru walk. In the absense of BJ it was decided that the Health and Safety topic would be further discussed at the next meeting.	GS			Topic of Health and Safety to be discussed at the next meeting
8	Feedback from Outdoor first Aid course and actions arising	AC will create first aid kits that are 'fit for purpose' following the weekend outdoor first aid course. This will involve a checklist so if stuff is taken out of the first aid kit, AC will be informed and the item can be replaced. JA drew attention to expiry dates on items. The checklist will include expiry dates. The vision was to have 3 first aid kits for walk leaders, which will be updated and 3 shelters for walk leaders. The walk leaders first aid kits will be kept in 3 geographical areas, Moray, Inverness and	AC			AC will make the first aid kits 'fit for purpose'.

		Brora/Tain. Then there will be a bigger first Aid kit for Challenge events. JH will bring his 2 man shelter to the AGM for us to look at.				
9	Group merchandise	JC is chasing Peco for a link to the on-line shop. We will then circulate this link to members and in the newsletter and facebook. JC showed the merchandise that had been agreed with GS and AC with the committee.	JC			JC to get the on-line shop link.
10	Annual Joint weekend with the Heart of Scotland Group	It is our turn in 2025 to host the Annual Joint Weekend with the Heart of Scotland Group. BJ has suggested Tomintoul. There is a variety of accommodation there are also both low and High level walks. Someone is needed to organise this event. This involves getting information about accommodation to all participants and organising a meal on Friday and Saturday evening.	GS			PM will send an email to all walk leaders to try to get someone to organise this event.
11	The upcoming AGM	North Kessock Community Hub has been booked from 2-4pm on Sunday 17 th November. There are now 15 members coming to the AGM. An email will be sent next week about the AGM.				
12	Token of appreciation for Rachel Mitchell	AC said that Rachel Mitchell had designed 3 wonderful Logos for our group. It was decided to buy Rachel £100 worth of vouchers as a token of appreciation.	AC			LS will buy vouchers for Rachel
13	Bi-monthly meetings for local group updates.	GS has kindly agreed to attend the next meeting which will be on 12.11.24	GS			
14	AOB	JH suggested that some Practice Navigation Events be organised so that the participants of the Glenmore Lodge Navigation Course do not become deskilled.	JH			Practising Navigation events to be added to the walks Programme.

[illegible]

