



North of Scotland LDWA committee meeting

Thursday August 15th 2024 7.00pm

Attendees: Graham Smith (GS) Alison Collins (AC) Pete Mitchell (PM) Lorna Sproates (LS) Bea Jefferson (BJ) Karen Meikle (KM)

Apologies: Jan Adamson (JA) Julie Cribb (JC) Roger Boston (RB) John Henderson (JH)

Chair: GS
Recorded by: AC

Agenda:

- 1 Committee update/matters arising
- 2 Membership update
- 3 Treasurers update
- 4 Social walks
- 5 Walk Reports
- 6 Challenge events
- 7 North of Scotland Group merchandise
- 8 Skills for the Hills update
- 9 The upcoming AGM
- 10 10th Anniversary of the group
- 11 First Aid kits
- 12 Local 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 new committee member Karen Meikle (KM). GS thanked BJ for setting up the teams meeting.	GS			
	Matters Arising from last meeting that have	No matters arising from previous minutes that will not be dealt with on the agenda				

	been dealt with					
	Matters arising still to be dealt with	Nothing to be dealt with that is not covered in the agenda.				
2	Membership	We now have 115 members.	AC			
3	Treasures update	We have received £3,760 from the Martin Greaves fund	LS			
	Account	Current status £4242 (£2560 of that is from the Martin Greaves fund to pay for the Skills in the hills courses so in effect the true balance is £1682). £1200 has been paid out of the Martin Greaves fund for the deposit at Glenmore lodge for the navigation courses. There was an expense of £33.79 for the Events phone from the Speyside 100. It was reported by PM that hiring the Osprey bus for the Coast to Coast had resulted in a loss of £37. The bus charge will go up to £20/head in future depending on where the journey is. There was some discussion about the end of the financial year for the accounts. BJ reminded us that the accounts need to be examined by an independent examiner. Tanya McIvor has been approached and has agreed to do this so GS will contact Tanya. LS highlighted the fact that the North of Scotland account still has access to the Speyside 100 account. She would like this to be sorted as she would prefer not to have access. GS will ask Madeline Watson to try to solve this.				GS to contact Tanya McIvor to look over the accounts. GS to contact Madeline Watson regarding the bank account access.

4	Social walks	GS thanked PM for doing a marvellous job. PM said that the walk for August 31st has been changed. There needs to be at least 8 people on the walk to make the Osprey bus viable. At the moment there are 4 booked on. There are plenty of walks, but PM is looking for more in Oct/Nov/Dec. KM has some walks to add and AC also has some midweek walks to add. KM kindly agreed to organise the Christmas walk which would be around the rosemarkie area. GS and KM will work on a route. The walk will be on either the 14th or 15th of Dec. GS said that there were 30 folks booked onto the Larig Ghru on September the 21st. The coach taking walkers from Colyumbridge to Linn of Dee. He has suggested having 2 groups, Striders and WASP (walking at a slower pace). This seemed like an excellent idea.	PM			
5	Walk reports	AC asked about the walk reports. The only mandatory part of the walk reports is the register. The other parts are optional.				
6	Challenge events	Following the success of the Coast to Coast walk on July 6th this year, it is was proposed by GS that we put this walk on as a challenge event, the provisional date being Sat June 28th 2025. A sub committee has been set up JC, KM and GS to run this event. They have already had a meeting with Ardgay village hall, the folks there were very helpful. The event will go live on SI entries on Jan 1st 2025. 15 hours to do the 36 miles. KM has already made approaches to coach companies for travel from Ardgay to Ullapool. BJ suggested that we address the potential financial risk of putting on this event. The coach is expensive and weather could be a factor with a river crossing on the route. There may also be few entries. It was decided to look at cancellation and refund policies when looking at the coach companies and the village hall and entries. It is proposed to put on the Laich O'Moray 50 mile challenge again next year. There are no qualifying events in Scotland for the 100. It is proposed to do this with limited support. There are plenty of villages on the way round, and the idea is to have a	GS		On going	

		support vehicle. PM wondered what is the minimal support that is required by the LDWA to put on an event. GS suggested that Chris Burrell be contacted for advice. GS said that JC was interested in promoting a Tri Nation Triple challenge, with a 50 mile challenge in England, Wales and Scotland over 3 years.				
7	Group merchandise	JC unable to attend the meeting but she has provided an update. She just has to make one phone call to get us started.	JC			
8	Skills for the hills	Navigation courses at Glenmore Lodge on 14th/15th September for a group of 12 people, split into 2 groups of 6. A beginners and a more advanced course. This bespoke course will be at a cost of £200 each. A deposit of £1200 has been paid. We have 10 people interested at the moment. Outdoor First Aid course by Outfit Moray 26/27th October. At a cost of £88.00 each. A total of £1060. Edinkillie village hall has been booked. 10 people are interested at the moment. AC is concerned that there will be some empty spaces and thought it would be a good idea if the courses were on the web site so that folks could see them. It was agreed that this would ok.	AC			AC has put the courses on the web site.
9	The upcoming AGM	The AGM is now in Rafford Village Hall on Sunday 29 th September. PM was thanked for booking the hall. Everyone at the meeting was happy to stay on the committee. AC was wanting to host the AGM on zoom. There was some discussion about it being available on zoom, due to potential issues regarding microphone and a zoom license it was decided not to offer the zoom option.				
10	The 10 th	The 10 th Anniversary of the North of Scotland LDWA is in November 2025. Our first			On going	

	Anniversary of the group	walk was on Saturday 28 th November 2015. It was Castles, railways and rivers. A 14 or 8.5 mile walk. The walk is a loop. The idea is to repeat this walk for the Anniversary and to ? Book Edinkillie village hall and have some food and cake, or to book Logie Steading. GS will put something in Strider.				
11	First Aid Kits	There are 4 first aid kits that were bought for the Speyside 100 by our group. One is large that can be used for Challenge events (AC has this one). The other 3 are smaller and will be good for walk leaders (JC has these). BJ suggested that we organise the distribution of the first aid kits after the first aid course in October.	AC			Distribution of first aid kits to be done after the first aid course
12	Bi-monthly meetings for local group updates.	There are going to be bi-monthly zoom meetings to assist with communication. The first meeting is on Tuesday September 10 th . AC said that she would attend the first meeting.	AC			AC to contact Madeline Watson to say who is going to attend the meeting
13	AOB	BJ shared with us the Moray Way Association Project, 'Arts in Moray' working with artists. A book was found in wastebusters by the chair of the Moray Way Association chair..... 'Pilgrimages in Moray' 1924... it describes routes around Moray and historical sites. There are no maps or illustrations. Working with artists to re-invent loosely described walks. BJ is looking to focus on a long route and she thought the Laich O'Moray would be good and asked if that would be ok . Everyone was happy with this. Work with the artists will finish in March and that will work well with running the Laich O'Moray in October.				
14	Date and time of the next meeting	Thursday September 19th 2024 at 7pm				

[illegible]