



North of Scotland LDWA committee meeting

Thursday 22nd May 2025 7.00pm (on Whatsapp video call)

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

Apologies: Roger Boston (RB) Bea Jefferson (BJ) Karen Meikle (KM)

Chair: PM
Recorded by: AC

Agenda:

1. Apologies
2. Committee update/matters arising
3. Membership update
4. Treasurers update
5. Social walks
6. Challenge events
- Coast to Coast
7. Annual Joint Walking weekend
8. Feedback from Bi-monthly April meeting
9. AOB
10. Date and time of next meeting.

			who	when	Status	Comment
1	Apologies	PM Welcomed everyone. Apologies noted as above.	PM			
2	Committee update / matters arising	These will be discussed as we go through the Agenda	PM			
3	Membership update	109 members.	AC			

4	Treasures update	Current status £5974.11 Received £3672.50 from SI Entries. We are expecting £7785 in total. SI Entries send the money 25% at a time, and keep 25% until after the event. Service charge £4.25 x 3 months. LS requested that we do not use cheques as this leads to a fee.	LS		On going	
5	Social Walks	PM had sent an updated programme of walks by email before the meeting. The Strider deadline is 6th June, so details of walks not on the web site are requested from walk leaders. We also need the walks to be organised for the Joint Walking Weekend (27th/28th September) RB is doing this. We also need a walk for the AGM which will be on Sunday 26th October. PM suggested Edinkillie Village Hall with a virtual link for members who live a long distance away. BJ is happy to take over the role of social walks secretary. PM will liase with BJ about this.	PM			Walk to be organised for the AGM 26.10.2025 Details of walks to be forwarded if not on the web site
6	Challenge events	Our group is looking for a challenge event co-ordinator as JC is stepping down. JC has materials, files and folders and is happy to help with the handover. JC said that it is easier to re-run an old challenge event than to start a new one. GS was asked about LDWA Challenge events in the Heart of Scotland and South of Scotland groups next year, GS said that there both groups were considering putting on challenge events next year. PM wished all 6 members from the North of Scotland group good luck in the Flower of suffolk 100. JC had emailed Katie who is organising the event wishing them all the best on behalf of our group.				Looking for a Challenge event co-ordinator
	Coast to Coast	JC reported that there was a successful recce of the event in Ullapool where some committee members were present. JH has organised portaloos. There are 187 participants and 9 on the waiting list. JC will reopen entries for a week to accept another 10. There are 12 spaces on the coach. Folks on the waiting list have been sent 4 emails and they have been informed if they do not reply by the 24th May they will loose their	GS JC			JC will reopen entries for a week. JH to contact portaloos

	space. Refunds are given for those who cancel, 50% refunds until the end of June, then no refunds will be given for cancellations. JC had sent out a proposed budget which was discussed. JC had been in contact with Richard May from IT regarding coverage. He said there was no coverage for the first third of the walk and the final third of the walk is on a road. It is a straight forward route and it will be daylight and we have sweepers, so it was decided that trackers were not needed. Regarding badges, JC felt that participants to the event have travelled long distances and had to pay accommodation costs so the badge should be free along with the certificate. A £5 contribution is to be asked for the cost of the coach for the Marshals' walk. JC will have to purchase a gas cannister for her camper van to prepare hot food and drinks for the Marshals' walk. PM asked about reimbursing volunteers for travel expenses. This will be subject to their being a reasonable surplus at the end of the event. JC asked LS about paying for the food and drink, we have no debit card so money will be transferred to JC in batches of £400. £1200 budget for food and drink. JC to email both PM and LS well in advance of when she needs the transfer. PM will ask Rachel Mitchell to help with the certificates and tallies. PM asking for good photographs of the route. JH will take some as he is going there tomorrow. JC will print out the tallies as waterproof paper is needed. A participant's pack will be sent out to the participants of the Marshals event at the end of May. There are 15 on the Marshalls' walk, 2 are going straight from Ullapool. PM will pass the road crossings signs, arrow markers and emergency phone to AC to take to the start of the main event. GS said that on the Budget £300 was mentioned for checkpoints as a donation. We are only using the School house bothy and other checkpoints are outside. So he suggested a donation of £100 to MBA.				company regarding payment. PM to give AC road crossing signs, arrow signs and emergency phone to take to the event.
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		GS said that he felt that participants should be charged for badges. But it had been decided earlier in the meeting not to do this. That arrow signs were needed to keep participants on the right path after the schoolhouse bothy. GS thanked JC for all her work. LS asked about payments for the Portaloos (£912). She has 3 invoices and is wondering if she needs to pay 3 bills. JH will check this. Delivery of the portaloos will be on the Tuesday/Wednesday and they will be locked with keys being passed onto checkpoint leads. JC thanked JH for sorting out the portaloos.				
7	The joint walking weekend	The joint walking weekend will be on the 27/28th September in Grantown -on -Spey. RB has kindly agreed to plan, one mountain walk, one low level walk and an alternative walk in case of bad weather for the mountain day. RB will not be available to lead these walks as he will be away. AC is happy to lead the low level walk. We are looking for a leader for the mountain day.	AC			AC to try to organise a walk leader for the mountain walk.
8	Bi monthly meeting feedback	PM attended the April meeting. PM felt that it was not very useful. Notes from the meeting were sent in an email; - There will be a local groups weekend in Leamington Spa. - Walk attendance data to be sent to Chris Burrell for all walks in 2024. PM agreed to do this. - Vacant post of Secretary on the NEC.	AC PM			PM to send walk attendance data to Chris Burrell for 2024
9	AOB	GS said that it was agreed at the last meeting that walks start at 10.00am for folks travelling long distances. This has not happened. He requested that the 10th Anniversary walk start at 10.00. PM said that it is up to the walk leaders when a walk starts.	GS			
		JA said that she thought our Coast to Coast challenge event was very cheap compared to other non LDWA events.	JA			
		PM congratulated GS on becoming chair of South of Scotland LDWA	PM			
10	Date and time of next meeting	Tuesday 19th August at 7pm on WhatsApp video call				

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