

NORTH YORKSHIRE LDWA – Committee Meeting via Zoom

MINUTES: 05 01 26

The meeting began at 19.45

In attendance: Robert Cope, Christine Stopford, Steve Hall, Roger Wandless, Lynn Hathaway, Dave Jacques, Malcolm & Sue Reid.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence:

Apologies for absence were received from JK. RC welcomed everyone to the meeting, wishing JK well and offering LH the sympathies of the meeting.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting (13 10 25):

RW proposed and DJ seconded that the minutes were a correct record of the meeting. Agreed.

3. Matters arising:

Any matter arising would be dealt with in the course of the meeting.

4. Chair's update:

RC had attended the October meeting of the Yorkshire Dales National Park management plan group and will circulate notes to anyone interested.

The Christmas walk and meal had been a success. RC suggested that the question of attendance at and subsidising the cost of the meal be discussed at a future meeting.

RC thanked all committee members for their support and help during the past year.

5. Treasurer's update:

SH reported that there had been several transactions since the last meeting, mostly concerning the Kilburn Kanter and the Christmas meal. The cost of subsidising the meal had been £329.50. CS travel expenses for attending the Local Groups' weekend were £115.20, and the current balance was £2012.62. It was noted that no invoice had been received from Cold Kirby village hall in relation to the Kilburn.

6. Secretary's update:

CS had previously circulated notes from the last Local Groups' zoom meeting (14 10 25) and from the Local Groups' weekend, and informed the meeting of some of the ideas arising from the event, particularly in relation to volunteers. It was agreed to take up the suggestion of setting up a WhatsApp group for volunteers/marshals on the Kilburn Kanter to facilitate communication and feedback. Other items from the Local Groups' weekend included overall NEC finances, a report on the research into the 'leans', and forthcoming 100 events. The LDWA priorities for the coming years were Long Distance Paths database, IT, and supporting volunteers.

RC reminded the meeting of the requirement for local groups to submit AGM minutes and annual accounts to the NEC. The North Yorkshire group had an excellent record for submitting walk registers.

7. Walks Secretary's update:

LH reported that there were 2 walks per month for the next few months. The recent trial of a Thursday walk had gone well and would be repeated. RC commented on the increasing number of joint walks, in particular with W Yorkshire and Nidderdale groups, and suggested formalising this by agreeing dates of joint walks with Nidderdale in advance. RC to discuss with Susan Wilkinson. LH warned against groups becoming too large as this made walks increasingly difficult to manage.

8. Walk Leaders' travel expenses:

£10 was currently offered to walk leaders to cover the expense of receiving and leading a walk.

Nothing had been paid out in the current year. It was agreed to increase this to £20, payable once the walk register was submitted by the walk leader. This item would be formalised at the AGM.

9. Data Protection update:

RC had briefly read the lengthy document produced by the NEC regarding local groups' responsibilities in relation to data protection. He offered to work through the document in detail and email officers to inform them of their specific responsibilities. Some examples included data retention times on challenge events, deleting medical information the day after any event, no ICE data on walk registers etc. Once officers had agreed to conform to the requirements, RC would confirm at the AGM that the group as a whole was adhering to the LDWA's data protection policy.

10. Kilburn Kanter 2025 feedback:

RW thanked everyone involved in the Kilburn Kanter which had been extremely successful again. The 25% figure for no-shows was more or less static since 2011; the 70%/30% split of walkers to runners was also very stable. The 2025 provisional surplus was £1100. All the feedback received had been very positive. It was agreed to move the N Yorkshire banner from Hawnby to Sutton Bank given the level of enquiries about the event and the LDWA received at the Sutton Bank CP from members of the public. Maintaining the number of starters at around 150 was necessary in order to avoid parking issues. DJ recommended an additional parking marshal be allocated to Carr Lane.

11. Martyn Greaves Bench:

Installation of the bench was still awaited but anticipated in the next two to three weeks. RC had circulated a proposed 10 mile walk route to incorporate the inauguration of the bench. The bench was 2.7 miles from Cold Kirby village hall on the walking route, or 1 mile from Sutton Bank visitor centre car park for those not undertaking the walk. Madeleine Watson (LDWA Chair) had been invited to the event (including AGM and meal), but there were no surviving relatives of Martyn Greaves to be invited. Thanks were conveyed to Caroline W who had offered to prepare pie and peas, and crumble and custard after the walk. RC would publicise the event on the North Yorkshire website: walk – 8.30am (10 miles); inauguration of bench – 9.30am; meal at CKVH – 1.00pm; AGM – 2.00pm; short committee meeting – 2.30pm. RW to extend hall booking to 4.00pm. The meeting discussed advertising the event and the existence of the new bench through the National Park Visitor Centre at Sutton Bank – possibly via newsletter / poster / Facebook.

12. AGM (22 02 26) arrangements:

It was confirmed that all officers and committee members were happy to stand for re-election, but also some committee members would stand down in the event of other successful nominations. Notification of the AGM to be given 42 days in advance of the meeting (ie 11 01 26); nominations for officer/committee roles to be received 14 days in advance of the meeting (08 02 26), with proposer and seconder. Written reports to be emailed to CS by the end of January (Chair, Treasurer, Walks Secretary, Secretary), for circulation together with the agenda, 14 days prior to the AGM.

13. Honeypot 100: 2026 update; other challenge events:

RW commented on the lack of information on the Honeypot 100 website. North Yorkshire would be manning CP11 (83 miles) at a sports pavilion (rather small – so may have outdoor overspill). RW, CW, SH, Janice Barker, DJ, Roy all confirmed they would be marshaling, along with two West Yorkshire members (Ralph Warman and Roger Mahony). No further marshals were required. RW to establish what facilities would be available for marshals. The North Yorkshire CP on the 2027 100 would be at 80 miles, but no further information is available yet. DJ conveyed the thanks of the Flower of Suffolk 100 organisers to North Yorkshire marshals.

Afoot in Two Dales takes place on 18/19 July 2026; the North Yorkshire group will be manning the CP at Bainbridge, open from 2.00pm – 10.30pm; possible marshals – CS, RC, DJ and SH – to be confirmed, as well as CP 2 at Haverdale House, with the usual team of 8 to man the checkpoint.

14. Any Other Business:

RC expressed an interest in attending the national AGM in March 2026; DJ also attending. The group would subsidise the accommodation costs of two representatives.

15. Date of Next Meeting:

Sunday 22 February 2026, 2.30pm, following the AGM at Cold Kirby Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.42pm