

# **NORTH YORKSHIRE LDWA – COMMITTEE MEETING**

## **Minutes**

**Thursday 7 January 2021**

### **Opening**

The meeting (conducted via Zoom for the first time) commenced at 7:30 pm. As Zoom host Caroline was also asked to Chair the meeting. Robert to take minutes.

### **Present**

Robert Cope | Dave Jacques | Jon & Wendy Leete | Andy Miller | Malcolm & Sue Reid | Caroline & Roger Wandless

### **Pre-Agenda Items**

1. The Committee wished to formally record its appreciation and thanks to both Andy Ward and Birgitte Harvey for their valued contributions to the Group over the past several years.
2. Robert was thanked for offering to fulfil Andy's Secretary roles in the interim.

### **Agenda Topics**

#### **1. Interim Secretary / Walk Secretary Arrangements**

- 1.1. Robert confirmed willingness to take on both Secretary roles on an interim basis. Absent of other nominations would also consider Walk Secretary for the longer-term (but not Secretary). However, he reminded the Committee of unresolved issues that preclude his remaining on the Committee beyond the next AGM.
- 1.2. Andy had approached another member (sorry name not noted) but he had declined to be considered for either of these roles
- 1.3. Robert's appointment to both positions was approved on an "acting" basis and justified constitutionally (being outside an AGM) as interim measures only. Proposed Caroline/ Seconded Dave.

#### **2. The Kettlewell (2021 & 2022)**

- 2.1. It was agreed the March 2021 event should be cancelled
- 2.2. Given current uncertainties and limited alternative dates in 2021, Andy had pre-emptively secured the Kettlewell Village Hall for 19 March 2022 (deposit already paid and carried over from the original 2020 event so no additional cost)
- 2.3. Andy was confident he could secure enough volunteers to support the event
- 2.4. The Kettlewell 19 March 2022 was therefore agreed and confirmed as follows:
  - 2.4.1. Publish revised arrangements on SI Entries, Website and with Tim Glenn
  - 2.4.2. No new entries until 1 September (and also see how the Kilburn goes)
  - 2.4.3. Existing entrants (138) offered either a refund or roll-over to the new date
- 2.5. Roger offered to take over Website maintenance for our two Challenge events – declined initially by Robert but on reflection accepted with thanks in a subsequent conversation

### 3. Walks Programme

An open discussion took place on the future evolution of our walks programme as and when we are able to ease out of Covid lockdowns and eventually towards normal times again. The following comments, though not exhaustive, were noted:

- 3.1. In the near term it was acknowledged that any new social walks can only be published on the Website (the normal Strider process and deadlines are simply not practical). But such walks would be official LDWA walks, and subject to LDWA insurance and prevailing guidelines etc. They would be advertised at short notice by ad hoc bulk emails.
- 3.2. Robert favours this Website method for the longer term as well, being much more flexible and not bound by Strider deadlines (Northumbria Group operates this way).
- 3.3. Wendy suggested that if new walks remain restricted (say to 6 max) why not consider two walks on the same date (from two quite different locations) in order to encourage greater overall walker numbers and re-build North Yorks momentum
- 3.4. In support of Wendy's suggestion above, Robert hoped that "private and closed" alternative arrangements by former walk leaders would be discouraged and not re-emerge in competition with (and to the detriment of) those that North Yorks would otherwise like to organise and promote for the benefit of all Group members
- 3.5. Wendy felt that 2 walks per month should be our goal (sometimes we've had 3-4 one month and then only 1 another month). Dave added that this had been the objective some time ago and was generally considered a good proposal by all

### 4. Annual General Meeting

**Background:** An AGM should be held between 1 January and 28 February each year with at least 21 days' notice being given to the Group's Members (both Primary and Associate). Amongst other things, the AGM elects the Committee every year which implies that all its members (Officers and Ordinary Members) must retire each year, but are eligible for re-election. Only Primary Members may vote or be appointed to the Committee. The quorum for an AGM is 8 Primary Members (not 5 as stated at the meeting) including at least 2 Officers. If any of the posts of Chair, Secretary or Treasurer cannot be filled, or a quorum is not achieved then the AGM should be adjourned and reconvened within 8 weeks.

The meeting considered alternatives for holding an AGM given the current Covid circumstances. The following was discussed (and where applicable, agreed):

- 4.1. West Yorks are holding a Zoom AGM on Wednesday 13 January and Robert is planning to attend as an observer. All Group members have been invited by bulk email but only those who actually request attendance get a Zoom invite. All Officer's reports will be posted on the website in advance, potentially shortening the meeting duration. We could consider something similar, broadly following the West Yorks' template.
- 4.2. A Zoom AGM might (?) attract some "new blood" interest from members who would not normally attend an actual meeting.
- 4.3. By delaying the AGM for a couple of months there might (?) be greater visibility of the Covid situation and a more optimistic outlook - and therefore greater interest
- 4.4. It was agreed to hold the AGM via Zoom on Thursday 11 March at 7:30 pm. Officers' reports would need to be prepared and posted on our Website beforehand which should enable the meeting to be conducted within the free 40-minute time limit. Though not discussed it was assumed that Caroline would be the Zoom host.

### **Any Other Business**

1. A bulk email should be sent to inform the Group on the meeting's agreed Committee personnel changes, the plans for a Zoom AGM and any other relevant updates
2. Dave proposed we should get together for an informal meal when such a gathering is safe and allowable
3. Roger & Caroline are willing to offer to support participants in the LDWA virtual 100 challenge on 29-31 May and enquired whether anyone was aware of such plans for any of our members. Andy advised that he is involved in coordinating a group of 6 walkers to do their own North Yorks 100 route on the weekend of 29 May. Dave asked if virtual 100 entrants would be covered by LDWA insurance. [Subsequent to the meeting Roger has posted a couple of questions about insurance cover on the virtual 100 Forum].

### **Action Items**

	<u>Who</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1. Email Andy & Birgitte with Committee's thanks	RC	Done 8/1
2. Secure Secretary log-ins + update Strider contact details	RC	Done 9/1
3. Update SI Entries & Website with revised Kettlewell details	RW	Done 8/1
4. Update Tim Glenn with revised Kettlewell details	RC	
5. Feedback on West Yorks Zoom AGM	RC	
6. Bulk email for AOB Item 1	RC	
7. Zoom AGM bulk email notice to be issued no later than 18 February	RC	

### **Closing & Date of Next Meeting:**

The meeting closed at 8:40 pm. No date was set for the next Committee meeting, but should one be required before the AGM this could now be called at short notice via Zoom. Caroline was thanked for her hosting and chairing of our first Zoom meeting.