

# LDWA WEST LANCASHIRE GROUP

Committee and Group Meeting  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at the Sea View

## Minutes

	<p><b>Apologies:</b> Neil, Ann, Andy, Jane</p> <p><b>In attendance:</b> Ian, David, Karen, Mike, John Gareth and Doreen, Shirley, Pat, Kate, Dave and Sheila, Gaynor</p> <p>Standing items: The Club is committed to litter picking at car parks. Associated membership of the Ramblers and looking after the Trig point at Darwen. Car sharing if possible. Due to Neil's absence on holiday, John Clarke kindly agreed to Chair this meeting.</p>
1	<p><b>Introduction.</b></p> <p>Minutes of the Last Meeting in June 2023.</p> <p>Matters arising:</p> <p>The Banners have to be ordered. The Comedy Way has been completed. The GM Ringway has been completed. Neil sent out an email prior to going on holiday about some vacancies on the Sandstone Trail.</p> <p>Re the Kanters, Neil apologised he has not contacted Enid, however she has passed these onto the club. Members discussed the Kanters, several people have completed them. Ian to check routes and report back.</p> <p>Succession: David confirmed he would be standing down after the next AGM at some point. Neil is standing down as Chair, however he has indicated he is willing to co-ordinate the longer walks programme. He is keen to keep the longer walks programme, between April and October and one longer Tuesday walk.</p> <p>John Clarke has indicated he is willing to take on the role of Chair. This was gratefully received at tonight's meeting.</p> <p>Jane is standing down, as her operation is pending.</p> <p>There was a general group discussion about trying to recruit a member to take on the Tuesday walk programme. Ideally, this should be someone who walks regularly with the Tuesday group, as this is where Jane has recruited and asked for walk leaders.</p> <p>Karen had contacted Jane prior to the meeting.</p> <p>The following dates are vacant on the Tuesday programme, however, on the night the following were filled</p> <p>28<sup>th</sup> October – Gareth and Doreen 7<sup>th</sup> November – John C 14<sup>th</sup> November – Glyn 28<sup>th</sup> November – Robb 12<sup>th</sup> December - Ian and Karen 19<sup>th</sup> December - Now filled</p> <p>Other vacancies on the Committee were discussed and it was agreed to talk with members on walks to gauge their interest in joining the Committee.</p>

2	<p><b>Membership</b></p> <p>Action: Neil has agreed to contact new members who join a walk directly afterwards for feedback and to emphasise our welcome. Neil to feedback at the AGM.</p> <p>John led a discussion at this meeting on the future of the Club and the legacy going forward?</p> <p>John had asked David for some statistics in regard to weekend walks? It might be that East and West Lancs walks clash at the weekends?</p> <p>A discussion took place in regard to whether Saturday or Sunday walks are more popular?</p> <p>One member felt that the majority of walks should be on a Saturday with some on a Sunday.</p> <p>John and Gaynor's walk attracted 14 people, the highest number during this quarter. There was a new member on this walk, and others that we subsequently have not seen. The question was asked whether these people should be contacted after the walk? For further discussion.</p> <p>The group talked about the competition from Meet Up groups, where attendance on a longer Monday walk is high.</p> <p>There are 25 walking groups in the area and our group should use the present members to maintain interest in the walks and the programme.</p> <p>Ian suggested that the Club return to more open and social meetings, where anyone can turn up, but the discussion to centre around the walk programme.</p> <p>Karen had contacted four speakers who all talk about their travel adventures, they could be booked individually for future meetings.</p> <p>It was acknowledged that everyone, lots of groups, have the same issues. John is to attend the Group Meetings forum in November, he can report back on current issues. There was a discussion about the email to all members last week about walk leaders having qualifications to lead walks. There was a resounding 'no' to any suggestion that this was a way forward. One member stated 'they trusted the walk leader implicitly'.</p> <p>The group discussed a long trail for next year.</p> <p>Doreen and Gareth had completed the 'Two Toms trail' recently, between Erby and Whalley and although they had used public transport, the group felt that some club funds could be used for the transport. It is 14 miles one day and 12 the next, so would be good for the majority of members.</p> <p>To discuss further.</p>
3	<p><b>Social events:</b></p> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>There had been a social evening and Quiz hosted by Kate and Mike on the 17<sup>th</sup> April, this was an enjoyable evening.</p> <p>Ann led a walk on the 26<sup>th</sup> July from the Cross Keys, despite a very wet afternoon, more than 20 turned up for the walk and a great meal at the Cross Keys.</p> <p><b>Christmas Meal</b></p> <p>It was decided to go ahead with the booking on the 17<sup>th</sup> December at the Cavendish Arms, Brindle. 12 – 2.30. The Club can have the sole use of the venue. Karen to chase up menu's. Kate asked for a future Christmas meal to be at the Cross Keys.</p>

4	<p><b>The Walks Programme</b> David, prior to the meeting had sent out the Walk statistics.</p> <p>Walk Stats from 1.6.23 to 3.9.23</p> <p>Longer Walks</p> <p>19 walks, including 9 GM Ringway walks, with an average of 19.6 miles and an average of 6.2 walkers. The 7 weekend walks averaged 8.1 walkers and the 12 mid-week walks averaged 5.2 walkers. In the first five months of this year 14 longer walks averaged 12.3 walkers and in previous years the average has been between 10 and 13 walkers.</p> <p>Tuesday Social Walks 9 walks with an average of 11 miles and an average of 16 walkers. In previous years the average has been 18 walkers.</p> <p>The Walks Programme is on the website, with David sending out Monthly walks.</p> <p>Discussion From previous Minutes: It was not just the length of the walk, but the quality of walks as well. It was noted in previous discussions that both David and Jane try to vary the programme, in that they try and avoid repetition in regard to areas frequently visited.</p> <p>Previous decisions remain in that the format for the Tuesday social, 10 mile plus walk, was not to change.</p> <p>Standing Item</p> <p><b>Actions for those leading a walk, relevant for walk leaders</b></p> <p>There needs to be a brief description of the walk, so walkers know what to expect ie the time, length, ascent and terrain of the walk. This will continue. A more detailed description, might encourage more people to attend walks and know what walks would be appropriate for them. Neil's request that all our walks be on our website past walks database, with a description (can be brief) and report of the walk, a route GPX file with map and photos has now been achieved.</p>
5	<p><b>Finances</b> Ann had provided a spreadsheet summary of the Club's finances before the meeting. £8,443.00, less £350.00 for the Sandstone Trail. Income from the Amble SI Entries : £127.00. This equates to 39 entries.</p>

	<p>The group discussed if there was anything needed for the Amble? The general consensus was ‘no’.</p> <p>In relation to the finances, one member asked whether the donations would be discussed at the AGM? This is a standing item.</p> <p><b>SI Entries</b>  Ian reported Ann now had access to the financial details on Entries.  The Amble and the Barbondale Round are both ‘live’.</p> <p><b>Outstanding financial Actions:</b>  A member has asked the club to fund a Northern Peaks sign. These are £385.00 plus VAT and installation. <b>Action:</b> On hold at present.</p> <p><b>Emergency Tags</b>  These are available to Primary members. 24 members so far have tags. This is still open to any Primary member.</p>
6	<p><b>AGM</b></p> <p>6<sup>th</sup> November 2023 AGM at the Sea View</p>
7	<p><b>AOB carried forward.</b></p> <p>Karen suggested the idea of having a West Lancs walking day, perhaps next year with 3 walks on offer from one venue. To be discussed further.</p> <p>Meeting closed</p> <p>Doreen and Gareth kindly gave a brief talk about their Trig Point adventures in Lancashire.</p> <p>They have completed and recorded 101 Trigs in 12 months. They are now on with the Yorkshire Dales, completing 20 of the 111 already. As Doreen has stated ‘they are addictive’. Thanks to Doreen and Gareth.</p> <p>Meeting Closed.</p>