Group: West Lancs
Meeting Type: Committee Meeting
Date: 17/09/2026
Time: 7.00pm – 8.45 pm
Location / Platform: Chairmans Home
Chair: John Clark
Minute Taker: Gaynor Wilkinson
Attendees:
John Clarke (Chairman)

Gaynor Wilkinson (Secretary)

Si Jones (Walk Secretary)

Ian Wardle (Challenge Walk Co-ordinator)

Neil Harwood (Web Master)

David Whittaker

Mike Motley

Diane Gordan

Apologies:
Ann Holden (Treasurer), Steve Martin

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1. Welcome and Introductions

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2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Were the previous minutes approved?

1. Christmas Meal Booked for 13th December at the Lay Inn – A save the date has gone out again today 17/09/2026. Gaynor now has a copy of the Festive menu it will be forwarded shortly to confirm menu numbers and their food choice for the event. Committee members are happy to do a walk. Leader and walk to be arranged. - ONGOING

2. Cost of the Hot Pot provided at the Sea View Inn was expensive; should we look for another venue? This was discussed but as yet another has not been identified. Continue looking for venues. ONGOING

3. The future of the short walk programme was discussed. The view is to continue with the short walk programme as it brings in new walkers. Si Jones to monitor the numbers on the short walk programme. YES

4. Walk leaders Incentives suggested: The committee discussed and decided that incentives were not required at this stage but could be reviewed in the future. The successful introduction of joint walks with our neighbouring groups may help with the issue of walk leader numbers. YES

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3. Main Agenda Items

1. Treasurers Report – Send to all committee members.

Current balance is a positive. Financial we are in a strong. £1500 agreed for new storage shed for equipment storage.

2. Walk Reports – Si Jones

61 walks for the year includes the Isle of Man walks. Numbers of walkers are up for the longer weekend walk and the short walks although slightly lower on the Tuesday Social walks from last year.

3. Amble Reports – Ian Wardle

Construction work is to be done at Entwistle. We will need to divert the long route, plus we won't be able to use the car park at Entwistle. A short detour was proposed and agreed. Unfortunately, there will be no space for a gazebo, therefore this will now be a grab and go station (refreshments will be adjusted accordingly) A map and adjustments will be circulated and all entrees will be informed.

Going forward a new system for asking permission now needs to go through a new system. Ian will monitor this. SI entries are open in July. As Si will be taking over from Ian from next year's Amble (2026). He will complete the application for usage of United Utility land for 2028's Amble.

Certificates in progress (Si)

Recce for Amble is arranged for 19th December.

Item	Discussion	Action/Decision	Responsible	Deadline
1	First Aid Training (Gaynor Wilkinson) Course for 12 people initially. Who is the course available to and at what cost?	Possible date 21st November and 22nd November. Ask regular members and walk leaders to show interest give a date. The group will cover the cost of the course for LDWA members.	Gaynor – sent initial letter of interest out to walk leaders. 27.9.2026	Mid October
2	Is the checkpoint for the Lakeland group for committee members only or open to other members.	Any volunteers not just committee members are welcome to help. Ask Lakeland if they need anymore help prior to ask members. Checkpoint cover by committee members.	John to send email out to our LDWA. If anyone is interested in helping to contact Lakeland personally	Mid Oct
3	Are we continuing with the discount for the Christmas meal for walkers who have lead walk or helped the Amble?	Sunday 13th December - Yes	Menu to be collated and sent to The Ley Inn	Mid Nov
4	AGM – committee members?	Both David Whittaker (committee member for 10 years) and Ian Wardle (committee member and organiser and lead on Amble for 20 years) are both stepping down as committee members. Gaynor to check constitution for number of committee members	John to send out an email for new committee members Gaynor for members	Mid Oct ASAP – checked 10 members

5	Need to assign someone to take over the SI Entries.	Si Jones will take over this role.	Ian will organise how to transfer over to Si.	After Amble 2027

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4. Any Other Business (AOB)

- Update on Parking Fees at Rivington - The introduction of parking fees at Rivington is on hold at the minute, but we are aware that this will be up for review. Diane will watch out for this meeting, and a representative will be sent from the LDWA if this is an open meeting.

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5. Date of Next Meeting

- To be arranged after the AGM.