

Minutes of Committee Meeting, 6th August 2024

The Red Gate Inn, Mansfield

Present:

Roy Adkins, Stephen Bramley, Julie Casey, Pete Dring, Alex Ellis, Diane Fern, Denise Garley, Martyn Gill, Heather Jowett, Julie Lawson, Eileen Matthews, Robert Matthews, Jan Rek, Yvonne Rek, David Revuelta, Brian Tuffnell, Val Woolley

Apologies:

Sharron Hartshorn, Dave Moore, Vanessa McGrath, Dawn Morley, Sue Mullen, Russ Osborne, Joy Walker

Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting on 8th May 2024 we approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed by Julie Lawson, seconded by Eileen Matthews.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the last meeting.

Officer Reports

Chair/Secretary

No report received.

Finance

UNITY TRUST

Account has a balance of £384.08 which includes the latest quarterly funding allocation of £62.50. The next quarterly funding will be in the new financial year in October.

On 18/6/24 an amount of £135.53 was transferred from the NatWest Account to Unity Trust. This payment was authorised at the Committee barbecue on 6/6/24. It corrects a number of incorrectly posted amounts which were wrongly posted to the social account. This ensures that our closing bank balances in October will now match those of the Area when we do the Annual Return.

The Area Treasurer has requested that we give a third person access to the account, to cover any possible future absences by myself or Brian.

BUDGET

This was submitted to the Area Treasurer Neil Stafford on 7/7/24.

The total of the 4 quarterly funding allocation amounts will increase from £250 to £265 in the new financial year. I have asked for a total of £595 which includes £300 for some First Aid Training and another £30 for an anticipated increase in mileage claims.

I have not yet heard whether this has been accepted.

NATWEST SOCIAL ACCOUNT

The current balance on the Social Account is £3676.96.

Please refer to the attached Summary of Activities.

I have set up a new Activity called Member Support to cover items such as sympathy flowers.

With regard to our current activities, payment for the Eagles tribute went through yesterday after I had updated the bank spreadsheet and payment for the Ecton mines visit will be actioned after this meeting. This only leaves the Ilfracombe holiday as an outstanding activity. I will be liaising with Julie Lawson to chase up outstanding payments in the next few weeks.

Please note that we still have a balance of £475 on the anonymous donation from December.

Martyn Gill, Treasurer

Footpaths

No report received but Dave has investigated a number of footpath issues in our area. Sadly, Dave has decided to resign as Footpaths Secretary.

Litter Pickers

Alex gave an update on the litter pickers activities. Julie L added that there was little interest in arranging another day other than Friday for litter picking. Alex said that there was enough equipment for now but that some eye protection would be advisable and possible a sharps box, although no sharps have been collected so far on the litter picks.

Membership

Membership currently stands at 167 and 1 affiliate.

We have 7 new member, 2 rejoined, 6 lapsed, 2 left the area, 6 resigned and 1 deceased.

Publicity

Promoting Mansfield and Sherwood continues through the usual channels.

Facebook being the most effective.

The Chad and News Journal continue regularly to share our progress of the litter pick group.

I have submitted a news story to The Chad regarding the work of local and national Ramblers to add a different flavour.

Going forward

1. I would appreciate more leaflets for:

Pleasley Pit Country Park

Mansfield Museum

Mansfield Library

2. Would all members please send information to me for other articles they would like publishing.

3. Litter picking group- would you please send data related to monthly and annual amounts picked. I am eager to show the wider impact you are doing year on year.

Social Events

Looking back over the past events since the last meeting

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| Fri 17 May | Litter Picking at Selwyn Street along the Timberland Trail. Following being rained off last time, we managed another good litter pick. Thanks to Alex and Denise for continuing to organise the litter picks. We did look into doing it on different days, but Friday still seems to be the favourite. |
| Mon 20 May | Greyhound Racing at Colwick. Thanks to Denise for sorting this. 18 of us went. Some winning considerably more than others. Nevertheless, a good night out and a nice meal. |
| Thurs 30 – Sat 1 June | Pendle Hill – 15 of us enjoyed good walks, nice meals and good company staying at The Barley Mow, Pendle Inn and Oaks Hotel. Thanks to Brian for sorting the walks. |
| Sat 1 June | John Alvey's Surprise 70 th Party at Cakefields, Pleasley. What a great night which 20 of us attended. Well done Sharron for arraign such a great party. Not sure about the weird raffle! |
| Mon 3 June | Disc Golf at King George V Playing fields - 12 people took part in the exciting disc golf competition. Pete Dring gained first place followed by Brian then Steve Evans. Not sure how much cheating went on though!! Thanks to Linda for organising this. |
| Sat 22 June | Archery at King's Clipstone. 12 tried their luck at archery. Thanks to Diane for arranging this. Something that might be repeated in the future as everyone really enjoyed it. Thanks to Diane for arranging. |
| Sat 30 June | Brimham Rocks and Fountains Abbey – Free bus trip to our members. 40 went on our annual trip. Thanks to Sue and Brian for organising. |

- Fri 12 July Litter picking at Tesco, Oak Tree Lane. Keep up the good work Alex and Denise.
- Tues 16 July Sue Rick's funeral and a celebration of a life well lived. She will be so missed by us all. Thanks to all who attended. The family really appreciate our support and the Guard of Honour.
- Sat 20 July Grove Farm Open Day at Holymoorside. in support of Pathways – Chesterfield's homeless charity and Chesterfield and Hope Valley Food Banks.? 13 went. Thanks, Martyn, for leading a walk beforehand. Hope you all had a good day and enjoyed the Ceilidh.
- Fri 26 July Comedy Hypnosis at Cakefield Cake Tea Rooms, Pleasley. 11 went for this amusing evening. Thanks to Sharron for sorting.
- Sat 3 August Soul night and 3 course meal at The Hostess. 10 places booked. Thanks, Steve, for arranging this one.

Future Plans

- Fri 9 Aug Litter Picking – Venue to be decided.
- Sat 10 Aug Chesterfield Canal Narrowboat Trip. 24 of us booked on. £35 for 7 hours - 6 locks Carolgate Bridge (Aldi) heading west towards Retford. Bring your own picnic and have a go at steering and operating locks under supervision.
- Tues 20 Aug Notts Guided Walk round the Park of Mansfield led by me.
- Sun 25 to Tues 27 Aug 3 Yorkshire Peaks, one a day. Thanks to Martyn, Brian and Steve Dobbs for offering to lead the walks. 12 of us booked in the YHA, The Wheatsheaf Pub and a B&B. Thanks to Eileen for booking the evening meals.
- Sat 7 Sept Ecton Mine Trip, near Hartington – Steve Bramley has kindly arranged this for us. 22 going.
- Fri 13 Sept Litter Picking – Area to be decided.
- Sat 5 – Wed 9 October Ilfracombe holiday. 38 booked so far. We have 2 standard double rooms £349, 2 double sea view rooms £374 and 3 standard twin rooms. £349 left. I am still looking for someone to share my twin room.

Future Ideas

Churt Mine Trip near Bakewell Barley Mow, Quiz Night, Bat Walk, Observatory Visit, Newark Civil War Centre, Sunrise/Sunset Walk, Sound Bath/Reki, Newstead Abbey, Beamish Museum, Summer/Winter Solstice Walk, Night Walk, Creswell Craggs Cave Tour, Workhouse Visit, Mini weekend cruise to Amsterdam - House of Anne Frank, Games Day, Pétanque, Weekends Away, Day Trips, Coach Holidays. Long distance holidays. All suggestions and help welcome.

Thanks again for all your support and prompt payment. Since my retirement, I have joined you on less and less walks and with my increased busy social life I have hardly attended any walks am finding it more difficult to spend time planning social events. I would like to thank all those who have helped this year but feel that after 21 years as Social Secretary, it is time I stepped down and therefore I intend to resign as Social Secretary at the AGM. I will still be happy to help out but feel I should pass the baton to a more active member.

Walks

No report given but Brian told the meeting that he planned to hold a separate meeting just for walk leaders.

Area Council

Brian explained that each group can send two representatives to the Area Council meeting which take place each quarter. Previously those places had been taken by him and Sue, but since becoming Area Webmaster and Chair were on the council and so could not represent Mansfield in any decisions made by council. Brian suggested that we could have a rota of people willing to attend for maybe just one meeting per year so as not to be a burden on anyone. Heather, Julie C, Eileen, Val and Yvonne offered to attend. Heather agreed to attend the next council meeting on 16th October.

AGM

This year's AGM will be held on Sunday 3rd November at the Edwinstowe Cricket Club. There will be two walks on offer, long led by Keith Walker and short led by David Revuelta. Joy Walker has arranged the venue and has some catering options to discuss. Help may be needed in setting up the room ready for the AGM.

Christmas Party

This year's Christmas Party has been booked for Friday 20th December at Triple S in Skegby. There will be entertainment, food and a complementary drink. The venue can hold 150 people. Tickets will be £5 per person. It was agreed that we should fill the venue to make it a good night therefore everyone will be allowed to bring up to three guests. The ticket will also act as a raffle ticket for a place on a free coach outing next year.

A.O.B

Alex has obtained costings for first aid training which comes to £70 per person. This is at Shirebrook Kissingate Centre. With the amount that has been asked for in our budget for next year this would cover four attendees. It was suggested we find out which of our members already have first aid training/qualifications.

David raised a possible issue regarding parking for the AGM. This will be checked with Joy to see if the venue has offered any parking options.

Diane asked whether the group would be interested in sharing a coach with Sutton Ramblers, maybe once a quarter. She will bring a list of dates to the walks meeting that is being arranged.

Next Meeting

During our holiday in Ilfracombe in October.

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Brian Tuffnell  
Group Secretary, Mansfield & Sherwood Group

E&OE