

Minutes of Committee Meeting, 7th May 2024

The Red Gate Inn, Mansfield

Present:

Julie Casey, Helen Cornwell, Pete Dring, Alex Ellis, Denise Garley, Martyn Gill, Julie Lawson, Eileen Matthews, Robert Matthews, Sue Mullen, Yvonne Rek, Sue Rick, Brian Tuffnell

Apologies:

Ann Ballinger, Stephen Bramley, Jackie Evans, Steve Evans, Diane Fern, Sharron Hartshorn, Terri Lawton, /Maureen McEvoy, Dave Moore, Dawn Morley, Stephen Price, Joy Walker, Val Woolley

Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting on 6th February 2024 we approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed by Alex Ellis, seconded by Julie Casey.

Matters Arising

Julie Lawson raised the matter that Stephen Bramley has a red table runner missing after the Burn's Night meal.

Officer Reports

Chair

Mansfield & Sherwood Chairs report May 2024

We've had a busy few months with 1 Coach holiday, 2 theatre visits & a Walk leaders training day.

Tenby Holiday

In March 48 of us headed off to Tenby in Wales for an eventful holiday. We all started the Pembrokeshire Coastal path on the Tuesday & 4 participated in a shorter walk that took in a National Trust property & a walk to Wiseman's Bridge before catching a bus to Saundersfoot for a visit before catching the bus back to Tenby. We had a quiz on the way there with Mary winning first prize of a Meal voucher at The Redgate. 2nd prize of an Easter Goodie Bag went to Julie L, 3rd prize of The Toffee hut voucher went to Jane & Peter, runner's up prizes of boot cleaning packs went to Steve Price & Sue Rick.

20 decided to do the medium walk to Saundersfoot with a few having an adventure getting back to Tenby on the local bus!

Another 20 did the longer walk back to Tenby & ended the walk back along North beach to the hotel.

Unfortunately, one of the ladies slipped & broke her ankle, the hotel staff were excellent providing a hot 3 course meal when they returned from hospital & trying to locate a wheelchair.

On Wednesday we headed to St David's for a coach trip. A short 4 mile walk was led by Merv & Hazel before visiting the Cathedral & town.

The staff at the Cathedral very kindly lent us a wheelchair for Bev & gave her a lift back to the town after the visit.

On Thursday 25 ventured out on a very stormy day to walk from Manorbier to along the strenuous coastal path to Tenby stopping at Lydstep for lunch. We had 4 seasons in one day with gale force winds, driving rain, sleet, and lovely sunshine at the last third of the walk.

That evening several of enjoyed a ghost walk around Tenby. On the way home we had a quick vote as to where the next holiday should be & as a result Brian has now booked Ilfracombe with Alpha in October.

Walk leaders training day.

Walk Leaders training day; 20 people attended the training on 13th April at Pleasley Visitor centre from 9.30am -1pm. Training included group management, equipment needed, map reading, how to use a compass & accessing the Ramblers app. Thanks to Brian for the technical support which was very informative even though we didn't have the projector. Thanks also to Steve for helping with the map reading & practical. Evaluation forms were distributed & most people thought the venue was ideal, the timing just about right & they learned how to use the app.

Going forward we will put another training session on later in the year with emphasis on smaller groups for map reading & compass work, for this we need some support to deliver this, Merv Hughes has offered to help with map reading & I will arrange some practical sessions for a maximum of 4 people at one time.

We have looked into First Aid training with St John, ambulance but for 20 people that ran into thousands of pounds which we don't have.

Thank you to all who gave up their Saturday morning to take part.

Coach Trips

We had another £1000 donation last year to be used for coach trips etc.

I have booked a coach to Brimham Rocks, Fountains Abbey & Studley water Gardens on 30th June. This is a free trip for M&S members, we currently have 35 people booked on with 15 spare places. If the bus is not full by 31st May we will open it up to other groups.

Please note there is an entrance fee to Fountains Abbey for National Trust or English Heritage members. We can get a slightly reduced rate for groups of 14 or more pre-booked.

We will visit Brimham Rocks for about 1.30 hours before heading to Fountains Abbey. There will be a 5 mile walk around the grounds on the day.

If anyone has any suggestions for further coach trips, please let me know.

Rights of Way

We are looking for someone to check the local planning applications to see if they affect Rights of Way if you are interested in helping, please let me know.

Ploughing & cropping NCC are looking for people to do some training & help with the Ploughing & Cropping Surveys.

Membership Secretary

Terri Lawton was elected as the Membership Secretary at the last A.G.M. but has found that time commitments with work & training she can no longer carry on with the role. Many thanks to Terri for her contribution.

Julie Casey has offered to be co-opted in as Membership Secretary.

Sue Rick

Chair

Finance

Please refer to the summary below. This shows the current surplus on the Social Account. There is an outstanding amount to be transferred to the Unity Trust Bank Account because an expense claim was incorrectly paid from that account.

SOCIAL ACCOUNT SUMMARY

Balance B/F from 2022/23	400.19
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Completed Activities Surpluses:

Kendal	20.38	
AGM	115.50	
Christmas	217.46	
Burns Night	90.48	
Tenby	61.98	505.80

Current Activities:

Greyhounds	3.00CR	
Hypnosis	0.00	
Ecton	200.00	
(still to pay for)		
Ilfracombe	900.00	1097.00
Donation	950.00	2952.99
(£525 to pay for 30/6/24 Brimham Trip)		

Total in Bank 2952.99

Mansfield & Sherwood Ramble SOCIAL ACCOUNT

Statement Date:

06/05/2024

[Bankline - Login \(natwest.com\)](#)

Martyn Gill, Treasurer								
19 Lower Meadow Lane, Huthwaite, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts. NG17 2TH								
NG17 2TH								
DATE	Cheque No.	PAYEE	ACTIVITY	CREDITS	DEBITS	BALANCE	Receipt	NOTES
01/10/2023			Activity Credit 2022-2023			£400.19		b/f from 2022-2023
16/10/2023		Kendal		£15,565.00	£15,544.62	£20.38		Completed
31/10/2023		Papplewick		£288.00	£288.00	£0.00		Completed
14/11/2023		AGM		£115.50	£0.00	£115.50		Raffle £88.00 : Bring & Buy £27.50
02/01/2024		Xmas23		£611.00	£393.54	£217.46		Completed
		Donation Dec 23		£1,000.00	£50.00	£950.00		
25/01/2024		Burns 24		£1,141.00	£1,050.52	£90.48		Completed
03/02/2024		Panto		£300.00	£300.00	£0.00		Completed
17/02/2024		HMS Pinafore		£108.00	£108.00	£0.00		Completed
07/03/2024		Kinky		£494.00	£494.00	£0.00		Completed
07/03/2024		AndWhyNot		£85.00	£85.00	£0.00		Completed
25/03/2024		Tenby 24		£14,710.00	£14,648.02	£61.98		Completed
18/04/2024		Calendar Girls		£486.00	£486.00	£0.00		Completed
18/04/2024		Alex Meal		£110.00	£110.00	£0.00		Completed
27/04/2024		Bus		£184.00	£184.00	£0.00		Completed
27/04/2024		Dance		£270.00	£270.00	£0.00		Completed
20/05/2024		Dogs		£396.00	£399.00	-£3.00		
27/07/2024		Hypnosis		£120.00	£120.00	£0.00		
07/09/2024		Ecton Mines		£200.00	£0.00	£200.00		
Oct-24		Devon		£1,050.00	£150.00	£900.00		
BALANCE						£2,952.99		
NAT WEST BALANCE						£2,952.99		
DISCREPANCY						£0.00		

Unity Trust account has a balance of £271.10 which includes the latest quarterly funding allocation of £62.50.

Martyn Gill
Treasurer

Sue explained that Unity Trust is the main Ramblers account, and the money is to be used for running the group, including things such as meeting costs and member expenses for walk recces.

Footpaths

The footpath between Market Warsop and Warsop Vale has now been re-opened. Having checked the latest planning applications there are none that impact upon any footpaths/bridleways in our area.

Dave Moore

Litter Pickers

Mansfield and Sherwood Ramblers two years ago received funding to purchase Litter Picking Equipment.

We purchased gloves, litter pickers, hi vis jackets, bin bags rings.

We asked our walkers who would like to pick we organised one Friday in the month, picked a location within the Mansfield Area. We meet up have a walk and then pick litter.

Locations.

Mansfield Way, Timberland Trail, Fisher Park, Carrs, Kings Res, Quarry Lane, Archaeology Way are just some of our picks.

We found we were indeed of some more equipment leading to some longer litter picks a small cart for larger items and hi vis with Ramblers printed on the back. Councillor Sharron Hartshorn is backing us with bin bags and the collection of our rubbish bags which can be as many as 10 on a pick and also items from people fly tipping. We have collected car parts, suitcases, chairs, clothes, children's toys, glass. It comes as no surprise as to what we pick up.

We have discussed setting up another group in the week to accommodate our volunteers who cannot do a Friday spot more info to come.

We as Ramblers wish to keep our footpaths and trails free of litter not just for the environment but also for our wildlife our paths are thriving with insects, animals and birds and we have future generations to think about if we don't keep litter down, we will not have the wildlife it will become extinct.

We as Ramblers love the environment and wish to keep it free of litter.

So anyone can help.

Membership

Membership currently stands at 168.

We have had 3 affiliates, 15 new members & 4 reinstated since 2/2/2024.

We have 2 lapsed, 1 left group & 5 resigned.

All the Ravenshead & Hucknall members which were erroneously transferred to us have now been moved.

It is very cheering that new members are joining our groups after coming on one of our walks even though they aren't in our geographical area because we as a group make them so welcome, well done everyone.

Sue Rick

Publicity

Reach	weekly	annually
Ramblers Website		
Facebook	525	27,300
Instagram Brian?		
Newsletter Sue?		
LinkedIn	3,000	156,000
Total		183,300
With no shares		
Chad News		
Chad Fb	58,000.	3 mil
Chad X	13,000	700,000
Instagram	5,000	260,000
LinkedIn	22	1,144
Total		3,961,144
News J	5,000	260,000
New J Fb	2,500	130,000
Instagram	1,500	78,000
LinkedIn	120	1,440
Total		400,000

Overall Potential annual Reach 5 mil

Ramblers Potential Reach

Each Facebook member has an average of 200 friends x 27,000 by 52 weeks = 1.4 mil

Litter picks monthly x 10

Good exposure in News Journal and Chad

Leaflets on display in Pleasley Pit and Mansfield Library

Social Events

Looking back over the past events since the last meeting.

Thurs 29 Feb Behind the scenes at Amazon Distribution Centre, East Midlands Airport. 12 of us were enlightened to the amazing automation at Amazon. Unfortunately, we did not do a walk as when Diane and Yvonne did the recce, it was not found suitable. Hopefully we will be able to sort one in the future where we can incorporate a visit to the air museum. Thanks to Diane and Yvonne for their help.

Tues 5 Mar Churt Mine Trip, Near Bakewell unfortunately had to be cancelled due to issues with a walk leader. Hopefully we can do this sometime in the future. Thanks to Julie Casey for trying to sort this one.

Thurs 7 Mar Kinky Boots Play by Mansfield Operatic Society at Palace Theatre – 26 of us had a thoroughly enjoyable evening with a meal at Andywhynot beforehand for some of us.

Mon 25- Fri 29 March

Tenby Coach Holiday – 41 enjoyed a brilliant holiday despite the mud and weather. Lots of good walk, good food and dubious entertainment. Good fun was had by all. Unfortunately, Bev broke her ankle but still managed to keep smiling. Thanks to Barbara for being her carer!

Huge thanks to Sue and Brian for all the organising and Merv for the walks.

Sat 13th April Walk Leader Training Course at Pleasley Pit. Thanks to Sue and Brian for this event which I am assured everyone enjoyed and benefitted from the information.

Thurs 18 April Calendar Girls Play at Palace Theatre. 25 of us really enjoyed this one with some having a pre-theatre meal at Andywhynot. Another great night out. Will we be producing a Ramblers Calendar??

Sat 27 April Barn/Ceilidh Dance at Loundsley Community Centre. Chesterfield

34 joined in to celebrate my Retirement and 65th Birthday as well as taking part in the Scottish Spring Ceilidh dressed as Cowboys/Girls.

Thanks everyone for my lovely card and gifts and cake.

Future Events

Fri 17 May Litter Picking at Selwyn Street along the Timberland Trail. Thanks to Alex and Denise for continuing to organise the litter picks. If anyone else wants to join us or organise a litter pick on a different day, please let us know.

Mon 20 May Greyhound Racing at Colwick. Thanks to Denise for sorting this.

18 of us going. Still to sort 8-seater minibus or 2 cars.

Thurs 30 – Sat 1 June Pendle Hill – 15 going so far booked in The Barley Mow, Pendle Inn and Oaks Hotel. If anyone else wants to join us, let me know.

Mon 3 June Disc Golf at King George V Playing fields - £3. Game last 90 minutes to 2 hours. 15 people so far interested. 4 people per team. 4 teams so far. Thanks to Linda Kennedy for sorting. Need to collect money in soon. Does anyone else want to join us?

Sat 30 June Brimham Rocks and Fountains Abbey – Free bus trip 36 booked on so far so 8 more places. Please book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. Thanks to Sue and Brian for organising this.

Fri 26 July Comedy Hypnosis at Cakefield Cake Tea Rooms, Pleasley, £15. 10 going so far. Thanks to Sharron for sorting tickets.

Sat 7 Sept Ecton Mine Trip, near Hartington – Steve Bramley has kindly arranged this for us. 21 going so far so only 9 places left. £10.

Sat 5 – Wed 9 October Ilfracombe holiday. 37 booked so far. We have 2 standard double rooms £349, 2 double sea view rooms £374 and 3 standard twin rooms. £349 left. All single rooms will be allocated tonight.

Future Ideas

20 July Grove Farm (Holymoorside) Open gardens Day 11am – 5pm ish in support of Pathways – Chesterfield's homeless charity and Chesterfield and Hope Valley Food Banks.

Quite in the garden 11 am – 2pm, music and performance by Brampton Community Band 2 – 4pm, Old fashioned Ceilidh 4pm onwards. Cakes available. Anyone interested in sorting/attending this Chesterfield Canal Narrowboat Trip £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.

3 Yorkshire Peaks over a weekend - Steve Dobbs offered to lead walks.

Churt Mine Trip near Bakewell – Hopefully we can resolve this one.

Other ideas

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. I just wanted to point out that once you have booked a place on an event, if you cancel and I am unable to resell your place, unfortunately you will lose your money. I do always try my best though to get you a refund.

Looking forward to another varied and fun filled social year in between the excellent walks.

Julie Lawson

Walks

Since our last meeting we have had 16 walks led walks, including the ones in Tenby, and one training walk. These walks have been led by 10 different leaders, totalled over 130 miles, and attended by 330 walkers. After a gentle introduction to walk leading Karen went all out for her second walk pulling in our largest group of 30 walkers.

It is encouraging to see that we have walks planned up the 7th July, including some evening walks with our first one being tomorrow. This Saturday Julie Casey will be leading a walk into Hardwick to see the 80th Anniversary Para Parade and service. There is a sheet available if anyone would like to put their name down to lead a walk. Our annual Alex Staniforth memorial walk is planned for the 18th August.

As always, please feel free to organise a walk on any day of the week.

Brian Tuffnell

Next Year's Budget

Sue informed the meeting that we need to look at formulating our budget for next year by July as this needs to be presented to the Area Treasurer for submission to Central Office. It was suggested to include the first aid training costs and a contribution to the additional litter picking equipment.

We need to be careful not to build up excess funds as they will be returned to Central Office if not used. Sue will look at buying some maps.

Planning Applications

Sue was going to ask for help at looking if any local planning applications would have any impact upon footpaths in our area, but Dave Moore seems to have this in hand. She explained that there is a request for help with the Trent Valley Way checking accessibility, safety, and route markers. Anyone willing to help please get in touch.

Warsop Carnival

Sue has applied for a stand at the carnival, and this is being considered by the event organisers. If we are putting a walk on the day we will need someone not involved in manning the stand to lead the walk.

A.O.B

Brian suggested that our next AGM be held at Annesley and Felley Parish Hall. The cost is similar to last year's venue and has good access to footpaths for pre meeting walks. It was agreed that this would be acceptable.

Sue and Julie L suggested that for our Christmas Party this year we should consider a venue that offers live music rather than a disco, which seemed a little expensive for last year's party. It was agreed that Sue and Julie should make enquires.

Next Meeting

Tuesday 6th August 2024 at The Red Gate Inn.

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Brian Tuffnell  
Group Secretary, Mansfield & Sherwood Group

E&OE