

South Yorkshire and North East Derbyshire

Area Council Meeting

24th September 2012

Scout HQ, Trippet Lane, Sheffield, S1 4EL

Officers Present: Allen Pestell (Chair), David Gadd (Secretary), Terry Howard (Area President and MWPF), Christine Whittaker (Information Officer), Les Seaman (Access).

Group Reps Present: Basil Merry (Chesterfield), John Newrick (Chesterfield), Marion Thompson (Doncaster), Chris Greig (Dearne Valley), Cynthia Ashton (Co-operative Ramblers).

Apologies: Cath MacKay (MWPF), Philip Ryder (Rotherham), Nichola Farmery (Barnsley and Penistone), Gavin Johns (Treasurer).

- 1 Minutes of the meeting of 11th June 2012.
Terry Howard's name was corrected in item 1 and the minutes were approved by Allen Pestell and seconded by Terry Howard.
- 2 Matters Arising from those minutes.
John Newrick explained that the decision by the Peak District Green Lanes Alliance to stop asking for annual subscriptions was made in the interests of fairness, and requests for funds would be made if and when necessary.
- 3 Group Reports
 - .1 Chesterfield and NE Derbyshire
BM reported that they had had a meeting with the Head of the RoW Dept, where their forthright views were expressed.
Members had recently attended a training day organised by Ramblers for the Ramblers Routes project, which BM believes will be very successful.
 - .2 Dearne Valley
Chris Greig said that he had replaced Diane Parkin, who had resigned for family reasons. Area Council welcomed Chris, and expressed best wishes to Diane.
 - .3 Sheffield
TH said that the Group is trying hard to move into the 21st century and is in the process of establishing a website.
- 4 Officer's Reports
 - .1 President
TH said that he had now sent out two sets of President's Notes and that his intention was to raise important issues. The first had addressed the issue of woodlands in local areas, and the need for these to be dedicated for access. BM said that he had taken action and that Derbyshire CC were going to dedicate woodlands. The second set of Notes was to ask Groups to consider ways on increasing the number of members who involve themselves in reporting footpath problems.
 - .2 Chair
AP said that in the SYNED Area membership numbers were broadly holding up, despite expectations that a fall was more likely. The fact that the direct debit scheme was in place might be a factor. It was noted, however, that problems were still occurring with new members and renewals.
 - .3 Secretary
DG said that the correspondence list had been circulated recently.
It was noted that the letter sent to the Chief Executive on 22nd June re Area's concerns over

on the introduction of flexigroups had received no response. Neither had a reminder, emailed 3rd September. It was agreed that this was appalling, and that the secretary should write again, expressing Area Council's feelings, with a copy to the Ramblers President.

.4 Access

LS said that a draft management plan for the Sheffield Moors Partnership was under consultation, along with several roadshows. The plan was almost the same as the Easter Moors Partnership and they aimed to maintain the present situation, although increasing cycling and horse-riding access. A request had been made to have access agreements shown on OS maps.

.5 Countryside

AP said that threats existed to the Green Belt and possibly to the suggested temporary withdrawal of the need for planning permission for house extensions.

.6 Information Officer

Groups are reminded that the deadline for Annual Reports is 15th October. It was agreed that Groups will be asked how many of their members are prepared to receive copies of the Area Annual Report by email.

Groups should collect their hard copies of the Report at the next Area Council meeting. Address labels and sufficient envelopes will be distributed.

5 2013 AGM

The 2013 AGM will be on Saturday, 26th January at 2.00pm. It will be held in:

Coal Aston Village Hall

Eckington Road

Dronfield

Derbyshire S18 3AX. Email: www.coalastonhall.org.uk.

There will be two guest speakers. One will be from the Macmillan Trust to talk about the walks for health scheme. The second will be Simon Barnett, Head of Walking Promotions and Programmes, from central office.

As usual, the AGM will be preceded by a walk in the morning.

6 AOB

.1 JN said that Newsletters from the Peak District Green Lanes Alliance could only be distributed electronically. Members were asked to pass copies on to members without email facility.

.2 Individual Ramblers, and Groups, as well as Area, were asked to respond to consultations concerning Traffic Regulation Orders on Long Causeway and the Roych.

Full details are on the PDNP's website: www.peakdistrict.gov.uk

Either email: long.causeway@peakdistrict.gov.uk

and roych@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Or write to: Rights of Way Dept
Peak District National Park Authority HQ
Aldern House
Baslow Road
Bakewell
DE45 1AE

Next meetings: ACROW 6.45pm, 24th September
Area Council 7.30pm, Monday, 24th November