Area Council

23rd November, 2015

Quaker Meeting House, St James Street, Sheffield, S1 2EW

Present: Allen Pestell (Chair), David Gadd (Secretary), Gavin Johns (Treasurer), Cath Mackay (MWPF), Rosemary Boyle (Rotherham Metro), Jez Kenyon (Sheffield 40s), Judy Gathercole (Sheffield), BasilMerry (CNED), Nikki Speakman (Barnsley and Penistone), Philip Lee (Dearne Valley), Cynthia Ashton (Coopted), Lizzie Joyce (Sheffield 20s), Christine Whittaker (Information Officer), Angela Coles (Sheffield), Terry Howard (MWPF).

Apologies: Les Seaman (Access), Philip Ryder (Rotherham Metro).

Minutes of the meeting 7th September 2015

These were agreed as being correct.

Matters arising

None.

Group reports

None.

Officer's Reports:

Chair

AP reported on the previous ACROW meeting. There were no comments or questions.

Secretary

DG apologised for recent technical problems with emailed documents.

The correspondence list was distributed, attention being drawn to the issue of the Central Office speaker for the AGM being still unknown and the lack of response from the Duke of Edinburgh enquiry. Members wanting any of these email re-sending should contact DG.

Latest membership figures are available and show no significant change.

Treasurer

GJ presented the treasurer's report as at 23 November 2015. He said that all Group and Area accounts had been sent to Central Office, with one exception, and been approved by the independent examiner. SYNED would be a beneficiary of the Ivy Cowan legacy in due course, but he had no idea how much money would be received.

TH said that allocated funding for the Fox House Area walks booklet was no longer needed. BM said that allocated funding for Elkington FP 34 was not needed since Derbyshire CC had the matter in hand

TH suggested that money from the Herbert Proctor legacy be donated to the Stanage North Lees fund, to contribute to improving conditions for walking in the area. GJ pointed out that this money can only be spent on countryside matters i.e. not on administration. CM pointed out that, as a charity, we can donate to any organisation which has similar aims to ourselves.

It was proposed by DG and seconded by GJ that we donate £532 to the Stanage North Lees fund. This was agreed.

Information Officer

CW reported that the SYNED website is getting a significant number of 'hits'. We discussed whether the site should be changed to align it with Ramblers-aligned sites such as the Doncaster and Rotherham Metro Groups and the Derbyshire Area.

Review of role of Area

A discussion took place regarding the draft document previously circulated and various changes were suggested. The revised document is distributed with these minutes. Any further suggestions for change should be sent to DG as soon as possible.

The revised document will be presented to members at the AGM on 23rd January.

AGM

The AGM will be held at the Tickhill Methodist Hall, Northgate, Tickhill, Doncaster, DN11 9HY, on Saturday, 23rd January, 2016. The start time is 2.00pm.

The walk will be preceded by a 7-mile walk, starting from the venue at 10.30. The walk is called The Historical Landscape Around Tickhill. Tea/coffee will be available from 1.00pm.

Stanage Forum Steering Group

This important forum does not have a representative from Ramblers. A rep from the Derbyshire Area previously attended but has ceased. The Derbyshire Area have been contacted, and agreed that SYNED can provide a representative. Lizzie Joyce volunteered and was accepted.

AOB

None.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Subsequent to the meeting, speakers at the AGM were confirmed as Mike Rhodes, Access and Rights of Way Manager, and Alex Manning, Honorary Treasurer at Ramblers. Further details to follow, plus the AGM agenda.

ACROW (6.30pm) and Area Council (7.30pm) meetings:

8th February 2016 6th June 2016 5th September 2016 21st November 2016

2017 AGM: 21st January 2017