

South Yorkshire and North east Derbyshire Area

Area Council

6th June 2016

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

Present

Allen Pestell (Chair), David Gadd (Secretary), Terry Howard, Jez Kenyon, Christine Hewitt, Nicki Speakman, John Newrick, Philip Ryder.

Apologies

Gavin Johns (Treasurer), Les Seaman, Judy Gathercole, Angela Coles, Cynthia Ashton, Mark Hodgkinson, Basil Merry, Cath MacKay.

Minutes of the meeting of 8th February, 2016

These were agreed as being correct.

Matters arising from those minutes

TH reported that the *Spirit of Kinder* event in Hayfield had been very successful.

Group reports

The CNED Group continues to have problems in its relationship with the National Park RoW management.

Officer's Reports:

Secretary:

The correspondence list was distributed.

The membership figures list was distributed. There was some discussion on whether 'gains' and 'losses' should be included, although PR said that Groups can extract that information from their own monthly membership figures.

Treasurer

DG distributed the Treasurer's Report.

There was no further information on the inheritance.

It was proposed by GJ and seconded by DG that Area purchase a digital projector for use by Area and the Groups. Agreed unanimously.

Information Officer

DG praised Christine Whittaker's work in maintaining the Area website. She uploads a lot of information relating to our Area.

2016 General Council

AP said that it was a strange GC, with the SYNED proposal being passed easily and therefore leading to ill-feeling from central office. Benedict Southworth's resignation as CEO had been announced. CH said that she had appreciated the opportunity to attend and that she had found it to be a very interesting experience.

Next year's GC will be in Southampton.

Composition of Area Council and Increasing Participation

We had a wide-ranging discussion on how this Area and our Groups could be more effective. JK said that the way different Areas functioned throughout the country was huge. A major problem is never-ending one of the relatively few members who want to accept any positions of responsibility, with the same minority performing most of the roles. A common and important issue is communication, although it is recognised that many members are only interested in walking. The success of the CNED Newsflashes might be a way for other Groups to make contact with their wider mem-

bership, or of course emails. JK suggested that the way to involve more members was to ask for help with very specific issues i.e. to organise a weekend away, to help with one maintenance project, etc.

We discussed developing a list, or a matrix, of everything that Area and Groups could and, ideally, should do, from organising a walking programme, to being represented on Local Access Forums, etc and then trying to fill these roles.

Lost Ways

DG said that the Doncaster Group's Lost Ways committee had initially agreed to list the lost ways in one parish, Tickhill. This had been done comparing the 1903 OS map of Sheffield and Doncaster with the current OS map, listing them as suggested in *Rights of Way: Restoring the Record* by Bucks and Wadey. This was followed by an afternoon at the Doncaster Archives, seeking more evidence. Some evidence was found, making a trip to the West Riding Archives the next step. Bucks and Wadey suggest that map evidence is worth 2 points, with 7 points being the suggested minimum for making a claim. Full details of each lost way are recorded on a master-sheet, with evidence added as it is found.

The lost ways committee had written to all 42 town/parish councils in DMBC and asked if they would suggest a local person who could liaise with us. Only four councils have responded.

Having heard of a situation in Doncaster where a quarry company was asked if a footpath could be created on its re-claimed land, (and it agreed) it occurred to us that it may be feasible to prepare a case to reclaim a lost way for the parish council, in the hope that the council would ask the appropriate landowner if he would agree to an old route being re-claimed.

AOB

None

2016 Meetings: ACROW meetings start at 6.30pm and Area Council meetings start at 7.30pm
All meetings are held in the Quaker Meeting House, St James Street, Sheffield S1 2EW.

5th September, 2016

21st November, 2016

2017 AGM:

28th January

Sheffield 40s Group to host

Bradfield Village Hall

The Sands

Low Bradfield

Sheffield, S6 6LB

Area website: www.synedramblers.org.uk

National website: www.ramblers.org.uk