

South Yorkshire and North East Derbyshire Area

Area Council

21st November, 2016

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

Present

Terry Howard (Acting Chair), David Gadd (Secretary), Gavin Johns (Treasurer), Nicki Speakman (Barnsley and Penistone), Philip Ryder (Rotherham Metro), Lizzie Jone (Sheffield 20s), Wayne Groundsel and Jez Kenyon (Sheffield 40s), Phil Lee (Dearne Valley), Judy Gathercole (Sheffield), Cath MacKay (MWPf), Cynthia Ashton (Co-opted), Christine Whittaker (Information Officer).

Apologies

Allen Pestell (Chair), Les Seaman (Access), Basil Merry (CNED), Christine Hewitt (Sheffield VI), Angela Coles (Sheffield).

Minutes of the meeting of 5th September.

Agreed as being correct.

Matters arising from those minutes.

None.

Group Reports

The three Sheffield Groups are going to explore various ways of increasing co-operation on path work.

Officer's Reports

Secretary/Membership Secretary

The latest membership figures had been sent out by email, with the 1.11.16 figures being dated 1.10.16 in error.

The Correspondence list was distributed.

A lengthy discussion took place re the distribution by email, to those members with email, of the annual Newsletter and the issues involved with distributing other information such as requests to respond to consultations on, for example TROs, and the possibility of an Area Newsletter being sent out, perhaps quarterly. It was agreed that it would be important to give people the chance to unsubscribe, and also to request members with the information to pass it on to members without the information. DG agreed to write an explanatory document to be presented to the AGM.

Treasurer

GJ said that accounts from all Groups had been audited and signed off.

The Dearne Valley Group had requested £993 to purchase a GPS, a laminator, way marking discs and funding for a First Aid course. The request was approved.

The recent bequest was now shown in the accounts. It was explained that this money is for the SYNED Groups to spend, and that it will not be forwarded to Central Office at any time. Money can be given to other charities providing that those charities meet Ramblers' aims. £4000 had previously been allocated to fund the Clarion project. No further requests for money from the bequest had been received so far.

Information Officer

CW explained that the Area Newsletter was late in being printed because of waiting for information from Central Office. Arrangements had been made with Groups for the delivery/collection of the Newsletters.

CW said that she would be very happy to stand down as Information Officer at the AGM if somebody else would take over the position.

Digital projector, etc.

PL gave information on costs of a digital projector, loudspeakers, screen and a dedicated laptop and agreed to purchase these before the AGM. NS agreed to store them (in Sheffield). TH raised the issue of the actual use of this equipment but it was thought that Area Council and the Groups would make good use of them and justify the expense.

Lost Ways

The report on the recent seminar arranged by Central Office in Birmingham had previously been circulated. Arising from the seminar DG raised the issue of whether lost ways research would be best coming under the local Local Access Forum umbrellas to reduce the chances of efforts being duplicated. TH said that the Sheffield and Peak District LAFs would not be directly involved. DG also raised the issue of what an Area should do if a Group in the Area did not do anything about Lost Ways. This issue was not resolved, except that DG agreed to attend committee meetings of any Groups who needed advice on starting Lost Ways work.

AGM

WG said that the Sheffield 40s Group were happy with the arrangements for the AGM.

DG said that Roly Smith would be one speaker and speak specifically about the re-wetting of the moors and the Clarion Ramblers project. DG would ask if some slides from the project could be shown.

The other speaker, Robert Peel, a trustee, had recently been confirmed by Central Office. He had been asked to speak about the regional Newsletter that he has been involved in setting up.

AOB

None

If members need to offer a late apology for non-attendance at a meeting they are welcome to phone the secretary on 07841 254095. The secretary would prefer advance apologies by email.

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.

2017 AGM:	2.00pm, Saturday, 28th January Sheffield 40s Group to host Bradfield Village Hall The Sands Low Bradfield Sheffield, S6 6LB The walk will be preceded by a 5-6 mile walk from the venue.
2017	6th February 5th June 4th September 20th November
2017 "Spirit of Kinder"	2.00pm, Edale Village Hall
2018 AGM:	2.00pm, Saturday, 27th January Rotherham Metro to host.
Area website:	www.synedramblers.org.uk
National website:	www.ramblers.org.uk