

Ipswich & District Ramblers

AGM MINUTES

DATE 3rd November 2021

Tuddenham village hall

Walk 10am, AGM 12noon followed by soup lunch

	Welcome 36 members enjoyed the walk and attended the AGM, with 1 additional member via video	Actions <i>(initials)</i>
	Apologies: Geoff Knight. Pauline Hammond. Janice Williamson. Val Duffell. Hazel Brierley.	
1	Approval of last years AGM Report The AGM minutes from 2020 were approved	
2	Matters Arising / Actions completed No matters arising	
3	Presentation of the annual report Ian Gosden See below.	
4	Presentation of Statement of Account Rumana Zuberi See accounts below. Thanks were given to Pene Frost for auditing the accounts. No questions were raised. Thanks were given to Rumana for the accounts	
5	Presentation of the Footpath Sub Committee Report Geoff Knight, Sub committee Chair. Geoff was unable to attend the AGM but had sent a report, see below. Thanks were given to Geoff for his work during the year. No questions were raised	
6	Appoint Officer Holders and Committee There have been no new nominations for office holder or committee members. Sandra Summers is standing down as co-opted member. Although no nominations have been received for this vacancy, co-opted members can join the committee at any time. All other current members are willing to re stand so can be proposed and voted for en masse. Chair - Ian Gosden Secretary – Jo Mann Treasurer – Rumana Zuberi Membership Secretary – Ann Buckles Footpath Secretary – Geoff Knight. Sub committee – Paul Buckles. Helen Howe. Webmaster – Keith Moxon 2x Co- Opted members – Paul Buckles. Rob Young. Isla Clough nominated the committee, Pene Frost seconded, carried unanimously.	
7	Appoint an Independent Examiner Pene Frost will be the examiner again next year.	
8	GDPR To record that the Committee agree for their name to appear in all future Minutes and also that they are in agreement for their personal information : name, role on Committee, email address, telephone number, to appear in the Area Directory.	

9	Any Other Business	
	- Holiday – 2022. Shrewsbury in Shropshire, from a show of hands the holiday will go ahead, with individuals taking responsibility to book accommodation with the awareness of possible cancellation in relation to COVID. Names emailed to Jo Mann, first come first served with a maximum of 25. Dates- Monday 27th June – Thursday 30th June 2022 - Members were reminded not to walk in front of the leader. - Isla wished to thank the committee for their hard work and especially Ann and Paul in the way they welcome new members.	

The meeting closed at 12:25

Ipswich and District Ramblers

AGM Notes

3rd November 2021, Tuddenham

Chair's Annual Statement

Welcome to you all and thank you for attending this years AGM in person. It appears we are not out of the Covid woods yet, but it seems we are all learning to live with the inconveniences the virus throws at us. It all now part of our daily life style.

Our Membership now stands at 347, which is an increase of 24 during the year. We have actually had 48 new members join. The difference is accounted for by people leaving and unfortunately the death of two members. Dave Mundy, who passed away in the early part of the year and Eileen Trenter who passed away recently in September. Messages of sympathy were passed on to family and friends. The new members have been people looking at our website and then joining up for a walk or two before becoming members or through attending the stand we had at Murray Park Community Fun Day on August 7th of this year. Some of the new members are single and are keen to meet up with other people in an outside location and enjoy the company of others again. Hopefully they have been encouraged enough to join us on a more frequent basis in the future. Welcome to you all.

As a committee we have wanted to offer as many walks as possible during the lockdown restrictions and used a booking system to control numbers at the walk leaders discretion. This seems to have worked well for us. This system was used in November and December 2020 when 11 walks were arranged and averaged 6 members per walk. During January, February and most of March of this year we were unable to offer walks. We started offering booked walks again at the end of March as the national restrictions were eased. During the period up until June 1st we arranged 22 booked walks with an average of 7 members per walk. Since removing the booking requirement on June 1st, we have to date arranged 39 walks with an average attendance over 15. the last two months have seen us back to arranging 2 walks per week and attendances are now over 20 and on a couple of occasions over 25. In total for the last 12 months we have arranged 72 walks, which according to RA Assemble System stats put us in 14th position out of about 170 groups nationwide. I and the committee would like to thank all the 18 walk leaders who have contributed to keeping us walking this year. It is never too late to give leading a walk a try. We thank two members who recently successfully led their first walks.

Hopefully confidence is returning to more of our members as we move forward through the pandemic and its relaxing rules. We hope to maintain the number of walks we are offering and again ask those who have led walks in the past to continue and some who have not led to have a go at leading. There are plenty of people happy to help with the arranging and publishing of your walk and the taking of the register on the day of the walk can be shared.

The Facebook app, which the group started up in March 2020 now has 75 members and is well used for posting photos and comments of recent walks or events. For those who do not use it I remind you it will never have information on future walks or activities, these are always distributed through our website or e mail. I should remind you that the Flickr platform for posting photographs is still available through the website. Please contact Keith Moxon or Jo Mann if you wish to use this facility. Whilst on the subject of systems you may have seen that the Ramblers Association is going to rebrand itself in the early months of next year. This will include updated walk publishing system, GWEM and other system changes. Any information we may receive prior to general release of further details we will place on our website.

It is hoped that moving forward we will be able to arrange more of our out of county walks, social and picnic walks that we have all enjoyed in recent years.

I just have to thank all the committee for their time and energy in keeping the group running through the ups and downs of the last year.

Sandra Summers has decided after 4 years that the time has come to stand down from her co opted role on the committee. She has quietly and uncomplainingly beavered away at making all the social gatherings and holidays we have held over the last years a success. We thank her for all her effort and time. Don't worry she has still offered to help out. As a voluntary organisation we should never look a gift horse in the mouth. Thank you Sandra.

In summary thank you to all members for helping to make this group the success I believe it is, both through the walks and organised events. Let's put our best foot forward.

ACCOUNTS

<u>Receipts</u>		2020 / 2021	2019 / 2020
RA Allocations		411.00	421.24
Donations		40.00	180.00
Self Funded Trips / Socials		0.00	727.85
Other		50.00	0.00
	Total Receipts	501.00	1329.09
<u>Payments</u>			
Walks Related Socials		111.00	33.00
Walks Related Other		52.10	275.35
Publicity		55.88	38.97
AGM Costs		29.37	126.49
Self Funded Trips / Events		0.00	764.85
Admin Costs		88.60	28.59
	Total Payments	336.95	1267.25
	<i>Surplus / (Deficit)</i>	<i>164.05</i>	<i>61.84</i>
	Total	501.00	1329.09

Accounts for Year Ending 30 September 2021

<u>Receipts</u>		£
RA Allocations		411.00
Donations		40.00
Other	(Refund from Little Bealings Village Hall Hire for Cake Walk)	50.00
	Total Receipts	501.00
<u>Payments</u>		
Walks Related Socials	(Welcome Back Cake Walk)	111.00
Walks Related Other	(London Trip Pre-Walk; Pruner for Footpath Clearing)	52.10
Publicity	(Flickr Pro Subscription)	55.88
2020 AGM Costs	(1 Month Zoom Subscription; Reimbursement for Printing)	29.37
Admin Costs	(Area Survey; Reimbursement for Printing)	88.60
	Total Payments	336.95
	<i>Surplus / (Deficit)</i>	<i>164.05</i>
	Total	501.00

Balance at 30 Sept 2020

659.96

Balance at 30 Sept 2021

824.01

Suffolk Area RA. Ipswich & District Group

Year 2020-21 to 30th October

FP Sec Yearly Report

It has been another unusual year. We were walking – with restrictions until Christmas, then not, then resuming. Paths in our Group were themselves much walked – where people knew of their existence, and especially where near to populated areas.

I have, as secretary, been asked to look at paths in Hintlesham, Lt. Blakenham, Holbrook, Melton, Trimley, and Newbourne. Others I have found for myself.

I have given advice where Rights of Way, SCC should be contacted – parish councils too. Brightwell and Newbourne needed equipment we do not possess

The Suffolk Network Rail Mainline Inquiry has reported – largely in our favour. Rejoicing!! Somewhat later it became clear that, for reasons of Public Safety some paths were still not open – a matter which makes something of a mockery of the Legal System. Following somewhat unpromising contact with SCC ROW we have now pressed them to take a more active role in this affair..

On a personal note I am now only able to lead shorter walks.

The process of keeping informed of Diversions, Temporary Closures and Developments affecting Footpaths now involves navigation of District Council Websites and I am very appreciative of the work of Paul Buckles whose abilities here outshine mine. When a survey needs to be made Paul B. and Helen Howe are able to boldly go when I cannot, Thanks again are due.

We continue as a threesome / collective which should keep the position filled at least pro-tem.

I thank members who have brought path problems to our attention, and those who have wielded secateurs and shears.

It has been a good growing year for nettles, roses, thistles and bracken.

Geoff Knight FP Secretary, with helpers

2nd October 2021