

Ipswich & District Ramblers

AGM Minutes

6th November 2024

	Welcome. There were 40 members in attendance.	Actions <i>(initials)</i>
	Apologies: Frances Curwen, Nora Hydes, David & Lucy Powell, Colin Webb, Sue & Brian Anstey.	
1	Approval of last years AGM Report	
	The report and minutes from 2023 were approved.	
2	Matters Arising / Actions completed	
	No matters arising	
3	Presentation of the annual report	
	Ian presented the report, see below. There were no comments or questions. Details of the 2025 holiday to Swanage were given and members need to register their interest via email by 30 th November.	
4	Presentation of Statement of Account	
	Lionel presented the report, see below. There were no comments or questions.	
5	Presentation of the Footpath Sub Committee Report	
	Helen presented the report, see below. There were no comments or questions.	
6	Appoint Officer Holders and Committee	
	Paul Buckles nominated Ian Gosden as Chair, Gareth Evans seconded. There being no other nominations Ian was appointed chair. The rest of the committee were willing to restand so were nominated en masse by Pene Frost and seconded by Sue Haslam. There being no other nominations the other committee members were appointed as follows Jo Mann – Secretary Lionel MacKay - Treasurer Ann Buckles – Membership Secretary Keith Moxon – Webmaster Helen Howe – Footpath Secretary Paul Buckles – Co-opted Rob Young – Co-opted	
7	Appoint an Independent Examiner	
	Mark Haslam agreed to be the independent examiner again.	
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	
	There being no other questions or comments Ian thanked the members for attending and closed the meeting.	

AGM 2024

CHAIR'S ANNUAL STATEMENT

Welcome every one to the 2024 AGM and thank you all for joining us today.

Membership of the group stands at 321, this is an increase of 1 over the number reported last year. Ann has advised that we have had 35 new members over the last 12 months but unfortunately with system changes being implemented it is not possible to tell who the leavers were. HO has been asked if this will be available in the future.

The group still aims to maintain 2 walks a week, but it seems each year that this becomes increasingly harder. We are very fortunate to have some leaders who generously give their time to fill in gaps in the program so that the rest of us can continue to enjoy walking. We thank them again for their time and commitment. If you are still thinking about leading a walk don't keep thinking about it, just look on the Ipswich Ramblers website and from the menu click on for Walk Leaders and read The Walk Leader Guidance. You can of course just speak to a committee member for more information on having a buddy or doing a short walk which are popular with a lot of walkers.

Over the last couple of months Paul has arranged 5 linear walks to complete the 60 miles "Sandlings Walk" from Ipswich to Southwold. This involved not only the checking of the maps and routes but also coordinating and arranging who would park where and the movement of people to and from start and finish. Average attendance was about 16 per walk and several people managed to complete all 5 sections. Others of us managed to achieve 3 or 4 sections. Everyone really enjoyed the experience and all arrangements went to plan. I would like to thank Paul on behalf of the group for his time and commitment to the project. If anyone has an idea for a similar project for next year let us know.

Membership of the Facebook group remains fairly constant around 75. Nearly every walk is now covered with some photos and comments. It is also used more now for passing information about events or changes to walks in real time.

During the year we held a soup walk and a cake walk. These were both well attended and enjoyed by all. The annual Holiday was based in Bakewell and we were blessed with some of the first fine weather of the summer. With a mix of long and short walks on two of the days everyone seemed to be happy with their choices. As always our thanks go to everyone who contributes and assists with the organising of these events.

We still have the Lawford Church carol service to come on December 8th. Details are on the walks program. The mince pie walk will be Wednesday Dec 18th, the location still to be announced and the annual Christmas/New Year lunch is planned for Thursday January 9th at the Deben Seal in Woodbridge. For those who may not know this used to be the Duke of York and was re branded as part of the Ego restaurant chain.

We have been asked to host the Area AGM in 2025 and this will be held at Grundisburgh Village Hall on Saturday February 8th between 10:00 and 14:00. We would like to ask if any members would be available to help us set out the hall and help out with pre meeting refreshments before the 11:00 meeting. It is hoped that a guest speaker from HO will be able to attend. Attendees will

bring their own packed lunch. It is usual to have a short walk of 3 to 4 miles after lunch, at about 13:30. We would also ask a volunteer to lead please.

Anyone who is willing to help out please let us know as soon as you can thankyou.

Next years summer holiday will be based around Swanage, Dorset and will be Monday 23rd to Thursday June 26th. There will be a maximum of 25 people and we would like a show of interest by email to Jo Mann by November 30th.

I would like to thank all the committee members for their time and commitment during the year in keeping the group running smoothly.

Thank you for attending and happy walking for the next year.

Ipswich and District Ramblers Group

Treasurer's report 2023-24

The accounts for the year show a deficit of £71 on the Main Fund compared with £340 for 2022-23. The main reason for the difference is that we received £205 funding from the Area (last year we did not require any funding); this is 50% of the total available allocation. Other income totalling £70 was made up of an annual gift of £50 from the Suffolk Rambling Club and £20 commission from Rambling Worldwide Holidays.

Expenditure from the Main Fund was split evenly between the costs of recces for walks in London and Colchester (£105), soup and mulled wine walk costs (£118) and AGM costs (£107).

The balance of the Main Fund is £190 which is 55% of the year's expenditure (the target is between 40% and 100%).

Self-funded costs were £544; this was the cost of the group meal during the Bakewell holiday, and was fully covered by contributions from those taking part.

The Self-Funded balance remains at £97; this is an amount that has been reported to us by Central Office as going back a number of years.

Lionel Mackay.

Independently Audited by Mark Haslam

Receipts	2023-24	2022-23
Main		
Ramblers Area (funding\	205.00	-
Donations	50.00	50.00
Fundraising	20.00	-
Other	-	70.00
	275.00	120.00

Self- funded

Holidays	543.90	-
Socials	-	595.90
	543.90	595.90

Total income

818.90	715.90
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Payments**Main**

Walks related – recces	104.55	-
Walks related – social	118.10	254.92
Walks related – other	-	10.00
AGM expenses	106.57	110.70
Committee meetings	16.00	-
Administration expenses	0.30	84.42
	345.52	460.04

Self- funded

Holidays	543.90	-
Socials	-	595.90
	543.90	595.90

Total payments

889.42	1,055.94
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Surplus / (Deficit)

Main	(70.52)	(340.04)
Self-funded	-	-
	(70.52)	(340.04)

Opening balance 1st October

Main	260.46	600.50
Self-funded	97.15	97.15
Total	357.61	697.65

Closing balance 30th September

Main	189.94	260.46
Self-funded	97.15	97.15
Total	287.09	357.61

Treasurer: Lionel Mackay
5 October 2024

FOOTPATH REPORT

1. Brockley Wood Quarry

Proposal to excavate a quarry between Belstead and Bentley had been approved but the decision was overturned on an appeal. However, the quarry developers have amended their plans and re-submitted them for approval.

2. Melton footpath 22

This path has been a problem for some time. A local walker has raised the issue of the lack of a discernible path. Melton Parish Council would like to have the path cleared and the correct route marked but Suffolk County Council have not acted to get the path accessible.

3. Raydon footpath 21

This path passes through three private gardens. The householder of the first garden had tried to obstruct the path. They have been instructed by Suffolk Rights of Way that the path must not be blocked. I have used the path and told the householder that I intended to walk on the public ROW. I will continue to monitor this path.

4. Railway crossing closure

The East Anglian Daily Times reported that a footpath crossing of the railway line at Playford had been closed. This was not correct. It was a crossing in Rushmere parish, which was not a path on the definitive map of paths.

5. National Grid

The plans for pylons and associated structures across East Anglia are being dealt with by Ramblers groups in the area.

I would like to thank Paul Buckles for his help in checking planning applications.