

MINUTES

Date: 3rd September 2019

Ipswich Ramblers

Note: it was decided that a July meeting was not required, therefore the meeting planned for July was cancelled.

	Present: Ian Gosden (Chair). Jo Mann. Rumana Zuberi. Ann Buckles. Keith Moxon. Geoff Knight. Paul Buckles. Sandra Summers. Rob Young.	Actions (initials)
	Apologies: none	
1	Minutes of last meeting	
	The minutes of the meeting held 22 nd May 2019 were agreed	
2	Matters Arising / Actions completed if not covered elsewhere in agenda	
	- New members welcome letter to include details of drink and cake walk – AB/PB- actioned. Plans are in place for another new walk on 7th Sept, poop uptake. Lots of chasing emails. Will do a third walk end Oct / early Nov and then review benefit. - Contact RoW to see how footpath closures should be signposted – GK. Details from RoW, who were contacted, were unclear regarding Network Rail diversion signposts. Some are better than others depending on who is. - Summer picnic email to be sent – JM – actioned. Event went well, better turnout being on a Wednesday. Possibly better to have morning walk and picnic so people don't feel they have to clear up / rush off. - Suggested location for AGM – all. See point 7 below.	
3	Finance Report - Rumana	
	£914.42 includes money for London trip. £500.43 ramblers balance. RZ has asked area for 2nd tranche. The trip has a cut off date 18th Sept for payment, there are still some outstanding, trip leader is chasing. The group has not applied for any extra money for specific projects. RZ has investigated having a petty cash facility by getting cash from Nat West. Committee agreed. The group agreed that some funds can be designated to go towards the Geoff Pratt memorial, maximum £200 agreed. RZ to ask Pene Frost to be auditor.	
4	Membership Report - Ann	
	End of August – 320. The email permissions have been reviewed and updated. Emails for 140 members on Mailchimp.	
5	Area Matters	
	<i>Report from August meeting attended by Geoff was emailed to the committee. (see below)</i> Geoff Pratt memorial funds allocated to add to collection for a bench. Area are taking forward./	

	Ramblers App / Facebook discussed. At present the committee feel that individuals could use the App, maybe mention at the AGM however a Facebook page was not deemed to be needed at this time.	
6	Footpath Report – Geoff (see part of Area report below)	
	Fynn Valley path adoption. Group have agreed up to £100 to enable this to be adopted, walked / maintained. The path would be walked at least once a year through planned group walks or individuals. Officially from Winesham to Woodbridge however ESTA East Suffolk Travel Association Group have added from Westerfield station to Woodbridge station to make it a line walk.	
7	AGM	
	<i>Wednesday 30th October. To discuss if people willing to restand for election and succession planning for all roles.</i> All willing to restand. Succession planning website could be a problem but Keith willing to continue.	
8	2020 Holiday	
	Suggestions for location. Shropshire – Ludlow. Winchester - ---- committee to investigate. Sunday 21st June Dorset – Wareham? Bridport Accommodation is a key element for towns to be based at.	
9	Programme	
	Only 11 walks for the next two months. To be mentioned at the start of walks. Message to be put at the top of the website.	KM
10	AOB	
	<i>New Year Lunch. Thursday 9th January. Fynn Valley has been revamped, can be investigated.</i> <i>Tuddenham fountain</i> <i>Seckford golf club</i> <i>First Aid training https://www.ramblers.org.uk/volunteer-zone/support-and-development/first-aid/first-aid-training.aspx</i> <i>26th Sept. 9.30am individuals to book if they wish. Feedback to Ramblers – info</i>	JM

Next meeting Tuesday 15th Oct – focus Finance. holiday decision. AGM running order.

GDPR – Committee members consented to their names being included in the minutes above.

First aid book contents

Low adherent dressings / gauze swabs	Triangular bandage(s)
Wound dressings (various sizes)	Woven bandage(s)
Latex free plasters	CPR disposable face shield

Compeed / blister plasters	Foil survival blanket
Micropore tape	Antiseptic wipes
Nitrile or vinyl gloves	Aspirin, paracetamol & ibuprofen
Safety pins	Scissors
Tweezers	Burn dressing

General advice on Ramblers website - <https://www.ramblers.org.uk/volunteer-zone/support-and-development/first-aid/first-aid-advice.aspx>

August 2019 Report from Area plus Footpath Matters

Extracts from Area RA Meeting on 19th August 2019

“7 Coastal Access Officer’s Report. Nigel’s report had already been circulated. Area Council agreed the delay in completing the coastal access was regretful, but it was accepted we were always going to have difficulties because of our estuaries. We will look forward to its launch, which it was agreed must have the Ramblers contribution highlighted. At the appropriate time we would look for support in this from Central Office. RS said he would be happy to be facilitate.”

“11 Social Media/Ramblers App. Gavin gave an update on Digital Technology and the enquiries he has already made into this. Version 2 of the App will soon be available. It will provide, in addition to its current features, Ramblers Routes and Pathwatch. This was definitely the way forward and what new younger members would be expecting. It was acknowledged some older members may be resistant. It was important that time was taken to carefully explain to doubters what was involved and the benefits available. One area of difficulty was in getting some members to give consent to their details appearing, e.g. when they were acting as a Walk Leader and a contact point was required. It was difficult to imagine a system where you published only some walks but not all.

GM asked for approval to set up a County Facebook page and to join ‘Meet Up’. Some discussion took place about how this would be achieved, who would participate and the cost. It was agreed that both issues should be taken forward. RS said GM should continue to use his contacts within Central Office, but he would help if needed in any way. A budget of £500 was agreed. As a basis to start it was suggested that GM would find out which Groups were interested and what their

current position was. Further discussion of how this would be achieved took place under item 12. “

“14 Fynn Valley Path - Geoff Pratt Memorial. Geoff Knight explained the background and the proposal to fund new signage for the Fynn Valley Path. The Ipswich Group were also willing to adopt the path in the same way that the Bury Group supported the St Edmunds Way. MM said she is involved with the East Suffolk Line Walks and SCC had financed new signage which members of that group were going to erect. Roley confirmed that he had recently spoken to David Faulk who was enthusiastic about a proposal for Ipswich to adopt this route. It has been suggested it could become a more widely promoted route which would acknowledge the Ramblers involvement. A suggestion was made that finance for a bench with an appropriate plaque, in a location to be agreed, would be an asset to the trail. DF has a source that can provide carved tree trunk style benches that blend very nicely in with the environment. The Treasurer asked how much, including the legacy, should be put aside for this. It is not known what the cost of a bench would be. GK asked for a sum of £300 to which the Ipswich Group would add money if necessary. This was agreed. GK will speak to DF about the bench and adopting the route. GK

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15 Angels Way Update. David Har reported that following successful meetings an agreement had been reached. The fallen bridge on the Norfolk side will be removed from the water and replaced with a new wooden structure. The metal bridge on the Suffolk side, whilst still intact, is in need of renovation. It will also be removed and replaced with a wooden one. This means that the original path of the Angels Way in that particular section will not change. This work should all be completed by Sept 2020. David Har was thanked for his hard work and perseverance that had achieved this result. Roley suggested once the route was reinstated it would be timely to re-establish the earlier joint group with Norfolk that had been formed to promote and look after the trail. It could become another route the Ramblers could adopt and be acknowledged for.

16 Network Rail. This had been covered in the reports of the Chair and Footpath Secretary. It was noted the Needham Market Enquiry had been postponed due to errors in the supply of papers. The threats to crossings as a result of the Sizewell construction were in abeyance and may not now take place. There was no indication of when we would hear the results of Suffolk's major enquiry.”

Other Footpath Matters Meeting Thursday 29th at Melton

It is worth recording that ESTA [the East Suffolk Travel Association Group], which is now improving signposting on the Fynn Valley Walk, also organise led walks along the length of the East Suffolk Line. Each group could potentially

publicise the other where walks overlap. Were we to do this a form of caveat would perhaps need to be included “This walk is led by the ...RA / ESTA Group” They have attracted many walkers through the use of Social Media. Of their representatives, Roger Wolfe is one of our members and Mary Moore is on Area Council, having previously had an admin post with IBC.

Their booklet of walks has been much improved.

I was given to understand that the Sizewell – rail option – is looking increasingly unlikely, but await confirmation of this.

As the Signing of the Fynn Valley Path is under way, it was suggested that a Bench of some character in design and construction might be installed in memory of Geoff Pratt and a suitable place along the walk found for this. Landowner co-operation would be necessary. It would be appropriately marked with his name etc. There is already a bench for his wife Jean Pratt, who died in 1998, at Melton Picnic Site. I will contact family when Project Bench has progresses.

David Falk is to advise me of possible constructors and installers. The SWT have some excellent benches at one of their Reserves I am told.

There have been a number of phone calls on footpath issues, which I am happy to answer. I take the view that anyone legally using or trying to use a footpath ought to be encouraged.

”Walking is good for Everyone!”

Geoff Knight 30/8/19 E.&O.E.