

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Thursday, 19 November 2020**

**Zoom Meeting – 1930 hrs**

### Minutes

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| <p><b>Present:</b>      <u>Committee Members</u></p> <p>Steve Nicholas                      - Chair<br/> Neil Elder                                - Treasurer<br/> Neil Pritchard                        - Walks Co-Ordinator<br/> Jan Wilson                              - Membership Secretary<br/> Mandy Norris                         - Secretary</p> <p><u>Members:</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Richard Boardman</td> <td>Jo Sofaer</td> <td>Dave Morris</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Goodall</td> <td>Sandra Pru</td> <td>Miranda Shoebridge</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maggie Snow</td> <td>Vivienne Scales</td> <td>John Kent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Julian Frankish</td> <td>Vanessa Crookes</td> <td>Kasia Trojan-Mizzi</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jane Hudson</td> <td>Richard Bass</td> <td>Stephen Cocks</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Apologies:</b>      None</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                    | Richard Boardman | Jo Sofaer | Dave Morris | John Goodall | Sandra Pru | Miranda Shoebridge | Maggie Snow | Vivienne Scales | John Kent | Julian Frankish | Vanessa Crookes | Kasia Trojan-Mizzi | Jane Hudson | Richard Bass | Stephen Cocks |
| Richard Boardman                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Jo Sofaer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Dave Morris        |                  |           |             |              |            |                    |             |                 |           |                 |                 |                    |             |              |               |
| John Goodall                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Sandra Pru                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Miranda Shoebridge |                  |           |             |              |            |                    |             |                 |           |                 |                 |                    |             |              |               |
| Maggie Snow                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Vivienne Scales                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | John Kent          |                  |           |             |              |            |                    |             |                 |           |                 |                 |                    |             |              |               |
| Julian Frankish                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Vanessa Crookes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Kasia Trojan-Mizzi |                  |           |             |              |            |                    |             |                 |           |                 |                 |                    |             |              |               |
| Jane Hudson                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Richard Bass                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Stephen Cocks      |                  |           |             |              |            |                    |             |                 |           |                 |                 |                    |             |              |               |
| 1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p><b>Welcome</b></p> <p>Steve Nicholas opened the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and thanked Richard Bass for hosting the AGM Zoom meeting.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                    |                  |           |             |              |            |                    |             |                 |           |                 |                 |                    |             |              |               |
| 2.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p><b>Approval of AGM Minutes &amp; Matters Arising</b></p> <p>The Minutes of 02/11/19 were accepted as an accurate record.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                    |                  |           |             |              |            |                    |             |                 |           |                 |                 |                    |             |              |               |
| 3.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p><b>Annual Report – November 2019 to November 2020</b></p> <p><u>Chairman's Report</u></p> <p>Steve started by recognising what an unusual year it had been, with a very wet and muddy 2019/20 winter, followed by the Covid-19 pandemic from March 2020 onwards, resulting in walks being cancelled from late March through to July and resuming again from the beginning of July with a limit of 6, rising to 30 by the end of that month, with pre-registration being required.</p> <p>It was good to see that the group continued successfully after the break, with lots of new faces, and everyone benefitting from walking and enjoying the outdoors.</p> <p>Steve thanked all the walk leaders for putting on a great schedule across Hampshire and further afield.</p> <p>Steve thanked members of the Committee who had continued supporting the group with meetings taking place on-line which had saved travel costs and pollution and had enabled quick responses to the ever changing situation as a result of the pandemic.</p> |                    |                  |           |             |              |            |                    |             |                 |           |                 |                 |                    |             |              |               |

Steve thanked Jan for organising a lovely Christmas Party in 2019 which was well attended, great fun and gave everyone the opportunity to dress up for the night. He also thanked Jan for organising this year's party which was unfortunately cancelled due to the pandemic restrictions.

Steve thanked Neil and Jane for organising the Malvern Hills weekend when there was much fun for everyone who attended, despite the weather.

Steve hoped that, subject to Ramblers guidance and the developing situation, 2021 would enable lots more walks to be enjoyed by everyone.

#### Treasurers Report

Neil circulated a copy of the Income and Expenditure Accounts to 30/09/20 which has been independently examined and signed off by Matthew Child, Auditor, and submitted to the Ramblers. Neil highlighted the following:-

- The balance in the main account at 30/09/20 was £245.34 after payment of the hire fees for the hall for the 2019 AGM and following receipt of income in the form of £70 holiday incentive.
- The balance in the surplus account at 30/09/20 was £751.74, however, funds will need to be returned to all those who paid for tickets to the Christmas Party which has been cancelled and the deposit will be returned by the hotel, after which the balance is expected to be £182.69.
- It is proposed and agreed that the Group does not claim the next six month grant on the basis that there is expected to be no significant expenditure.

There was discussion about how the funds could be used but nothing was proposed at this time. Any future ideas can be submitted to the Committee for approval throughout the year.

#### Membership Secretary's Report

Jan said that membership remains a very healthy 175 which is up by 5 people from last year, however, there is a core group of 50-60 regular walkers. Jan sends new members a welcome letter if they consent to being e-mailed.

There is a much larger number of members on the Facebook group page but not all are paid up members of Ramblers or designated to H40+ membership in terms of funding.

Steve reminded Walk Leaders of the importance of keeping registers for Track and Trace and pre-registration. He also confirmed that Ramblers are trialling an app to record walk attendance through scanning membership cards and one of the reasons is that Ramblers want to have more data on who is regularly walking from the overall membership.

#### Walk Co-Ordinator's Report

Neil said that 2020 has been a very challenging year! There was a very promising walks schedule at the beginning of the year then Covid-19 impacted.

Neil has reviewed walks information and there were 88 walks from 1 January to 19 November 2019, however, due to the pandemic this fell to 39 walks for the same period in 2020.

A 'big thank you' was given to all Walk Leaders for their contributions. There were lots of new faces attending walks and it is hoped that vaccines will be available soon so that everyone can get back to walking regularly in 2021 and we are in a better place.

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|    | <p><u>Web Master Report</u><br/>Stephen confirmed the website has been going well. He has been working on improving the look of the web site. Please send any feedback to him asap.</p> <p><u>Social Events</u><br/>It is possible that a Christmas Party can be held in 2021. There was a suggestion of a Summer Ball, however, it was agreed that decisions can only be made once the pandemic situation becomes clearer in due course.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
| 4. | <p><b>Election of Committee Members</b></p> <p>All Committee Members stepped down and roles were agreed for the next year as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steve Nicholas - Chair (Proposed by Mandy Norris. Seconded by Neil Pritchard.)</li> <li>• Mandy Norris - Secretary (Proposed by Jo Sofaer. Seconded by Neil Pritchard.)</li> <li>• Neil Elder – Treasurer (Proposed by Vivienne Scales. Seconded by Jane Hudson.)</li> <li>• Jan Wilson – Membership Secretary (Proposed by Vivienne Scales. Seconded by Miranda Shoebridge.)</li> <li>• Neil Pritchard – Walks Co-ordinator (Proposed by John Goodall. Seconded by Jane Hudson.)</li> <li>• Richard Boardman – Footpath Representative</li> </ul> <p>In addition, Stephen Cocks agreed to continue in the role of Web Master outside of the formal Committee structure. John Goodall agreed to support Stephen as required.</p>                                                     |  |
| 5. | <p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steve agreed to draft a message for the Walk Leaders page to confirm their responsibilities in terms of keeping registration lists for Track &amp; Trace; to remind walkers at the start of walks that in the event they become unwell, to inform the Walk Leader at the earliest opportunity; and the importance of maintaining 2m social distancing and using hand sanitisers at touch points such as kissing gates.</li> <li>• There was discussion about the possibility of challenge to Walk Leaders from members of the public whilst leading walks and it was recognised that people may not be happy about Ramblers leading walks with large numbers of people. It was agreed that Walk Leaders could have to hand on their phone, or download, information from Ramblers confirming the rules and Walk Leaders could also take H40+ business cards to identify themselves.</li> </ul> |  |