

The Dales Way Association
Committee Meeting – Thursday 25th August 2016
11am Friends Meeting House, Settle

Present: Colin Speakman (Chair) Alex McManus, Donald Holliday, Chris Grogan, Gordon Tasker, Kath Doyle (Minutes).

1- Apologies: Frank Sanderson, Tony Hill, Tony Grogan.

2-Minutes of the Committee Meeting of 21 April 2016 were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

3-Matters arising. Chris stated that the accommodation website had been updated to show Mosedale Hall still trading, included in the price is a lift to Kendal for an evening meal. Gauber Bunk Barn at Ribbleshead is a welcome addition for walkers who are backpacking. Colin commented on the very successful visit to Burneside by the DWA Committee and recorded his thanks to all involved including the Parish Councillors who had kindly taken the time to join us on the walk.

4- Footpath Officers Report. Alex stated that all the information regarding the impact of last December's floods was on the Web Page.

Briggflatts is restored, **Chapel Beck** footbridge resited and footpath reinstated. **Sprint Mill Footbridge** Bridge restoration is with the owner's insurers and alternative routes in place. **Sprint Road Bridge** closed with alternatives detailed at start of the DW in Ilkley and on our website.

Alex has informed Geoff Fewkes that the DWA contribution for the flood scheme at **Greenhead Farm** is still available. This work will be completed and provide a slight detour before reaching the muddy area before farm.

At **Grayrigg Foot** the bridge is to be renewed and the "definitive line" currently over the ford will be diverted to go over the bridge.

Ben Heyes of the **Bolton Abbey Estate** has received a quotation for the restoration of the chipping staithe and is seeking the support of the DWA.

Action: Alex is to prepare a response to share with committee members for comments before replying to Ben Heyes request. This to include a request for a path through the woods for walkers.

Alex reported that the storm damage photos had been added to the DVD. 15 have been sold since October.

5- Finance Report. Donald shared the accounts with the committee and reported that the current balance was £5699. Chris stated that there was £650 in our PayPal account which would be drawn down at the year end.

Chris sought clarification on the Postage and Stationery entry and Donald confirmed this included the annual cost of our PO Box and the redirection of post fee.

Action: Donald to show a breakdown in the statement for the AGM.

6- AGM and walk. Date of the AGM confirmed as Saturday 15th October 2015, upstairs at the Flying Duck, 16 Church Street, Ilkley LS29 9DR.

Prior to the meeting Colin will lead a walk from Burley in Wharfedale along the Dales Way Leeds Link route to Ilkley. The walk is approximately 4.5 miles with two steep climbs and some rugged moorland terrain we expect to be back in Ilkley by 1.30pm. A light lunch of sandwiches and chips will be provided in the pub for walkers and drinks will be available to purchase. The AGM will commence at 2pm and finish by 4pm.

It was confirmed that this will be our 24th AGM and 25 years since the inauguration of the Dales Way Association. To celebrate it was agreed that we would have a cake made. The design to include "25" and the DWA Logo with a walker.

Action: Gordon to investigate costs and design and agree with committee members before ordering.

Colin requested that a special invitation be issued to Judith Smith. **Action:** Colin

7- Newsletter Kath thanked everyone for their contributions received towards the Autumn newsletter. The content was discussed.

Action: Gordon to provide Kath with a photo of the Cow and Calf

Action: Kath to produce the newsletter and send final version to Tony Grogan by close Monday 5th September for publication on the website etc.

8- Bin on the Dales Way

Chris reported she had received correspondence from Susan Gledhill a DWA member regarding the lack of a bin on Stourton Road and asking for DWA financial support towards the cost of providing a bin. The committee felt that walkers on that stretch should be actively encouraged to take their litter home with them as bin placement brings its own set of issues.

Action: Chris to reply stating that we are unable to contribute financially however we would be happy to become a member of the Friends of Ilkley Riverside, if it is formed and add our support to the preservation of this stretch of the DW.

9-Accommodation, Web and Membership Reports

Chris reported that planning permission had been granted to create a large campsite at Buckden which was good news for walkers.

Membership remains steady. Where walkers are requesting a certificate on completion of the DW to download from the DW website Chris is encouraging them to join the DWA or make a donation towards the upkeep of the walk. We have 809 Facebook fans and the website receives an average of 6,300 visits per month.

10-Date of next committee meeting Thursday 19th January 2017 at 11am in the Friends Meeting House, Settle.

11- Any other business Colin stated he had been having problems receiving emails.

Action: Alex to send email to Colin to check if receiving ok.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 12.50 pm