

## Minutes of a Dales Way Association Committee Meeting

This was held at the Bridge Hotel, Ingleton on the evening of 11th March 1994. (Postponed from 8th March).

Present: Douglas Cossar, Colin Speakman & David Smith.

1. Apologies were received from Paul Hannon.
2. The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed to be an accurate record.
3. Arising from the Minutes. These are all covered in the following items on the Agenda.
4. Active Members needed!

The fact that ALL current Committee Members have to be present to achieve a quorum underlines the lack of members taking any active part in the running of the Association. On this occasion, despite having to rearrange the date to try and achieve this, only 3 were able to attend.

General pleas in Newsletters & correspondence have failed to get any response & the one member who had been recruited on to the Committee at the 1993 AGM had been unable to attend meetings & resigned.

It was agreed that specific requests for volunteers to do particular jobs might be more successful. These would be detailed in the Spring Newsletter & followed up at the AGM.

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These would include volunteers to take responsibility for sections of the route. They would send in reports for each Committee meeting unless they were themselves on the Committee - in which case they could report verbally. It was agreed that the route be divided into quite short sections for this purpose but that individuals could be responsible for more than one section.

It was agreed that an attempt should be made to get a Member who offers accommodation on the route to join the Committee.

Another Committee post of Meets Organiser would be desirable. It is not anticipated at this time that there would be a great number of meets - but their development would depend upon response.

David Smith continues to act as Secretary, Treasurer, Sales, Membership & Newsletter Editor & agreed that this is possible. However basically he is only able to handle the inside work of correspondence, records, accounts etc. In reality an active Secretary is urgently needed to represent the Association with other Organisations & to further the aims of the Association with them.

5. Membership & Finance.

a. Membership.

Current membership totalled 223.

Of these 120 offered accommodation along the route.

In addition there were 17 members who had not renewed their subscriptions due in the first quarter of 1994. Possibly a few more of these would eventually do so.

Members are sent a letter in the quarter that their Subscription is due for renewal. It was agreed not to be practicable to send out reminders unless there were some special reason.

It had to be accepted that a significant number of people would only join the Association for the one year during which they walked the Dales Way.

It was important that every effort be made to ensure that details of the Association appeared in Guide Books, Handbooks etc so that anyone planning the walk would be made aware of our existence.

b. Finance.

The current balance in our Bank Account is slightly above £1000. This figure includes payment to the Ramblers for the supply of the 1994 Handbook for issue to Members. The only significant known liability is for a new batch of badges purchased by Frank Sanderson (possibly as much as £300).

Full details for the financial year (April 93 to March 94) will be presented at the forthcoming AGM.

6. Actions agreed at the last Committee Meeting.

Handbook. Actions taken are covered in the next item.

Way Marking. Colin Speakman has been unable to contact the appropriate person on Bradford Council as the known contact has moved on. No other action has been taken. It is inferred that as Colin cannot do this that David Smith try writing to Bradford Council & N.Yorkshire Council on the matter. An approach could also be made to the Countryside Commission.

Route Improvements. No response had been received from the Committee on possible changes to the route. It had been agreed that all efforts be made to reduce to a minimum any road walking - particularly on main roads. Failing any response from the Committee it seems that this initiative is now in abeyance.

7. Handbook. The 1994 edition has been received & circulated to all paid up members. Douglas Cossar was congratulated on improvements made.

Following action agreed at the last Committee meeting, all accommodation listed in the Handbook is now run by members of the Association. This has the dual benefit of, hopefully, ensuring that details remain up to date & also involving those with a first hand knowledge of the route. This has resulted in fewer entries this year (120) but they are well spread out along the Way & it is hoped to build the list up again slowly. (Personal recommendations etc).

8. David Smith now handles the majority of sales by the Association. It should be noted that Badges & Handbooks are also on sale from other outlets. (TIC's etc).

Badges. The profit to date is nearly £100. (£98.93). Stock still held total 72 & as their sale will be ALL profit now they represent an additional profit of £108 when sold.

Handbooks. A certain number of Handbooks are held which can be sold to non members. As these are provided by the Ramblers at a generous discount we do make some profit - approx £18 in 1993.

Certificates. It is not possible to assess profit made on these as their purchase goes back before our records. However sales have totalled just over £100 during 1993.

It must be noted that indications of profit above are a bit optimistic as they do not allow for postage. As an example if we take this into account, the profit on Handbooks reduces from about £18 to less than £12.

9. Future Actions.

These are largely covered in items above.

10. Any Other Business.

It is hoped to start preparation of the Spring Newsletter very shortly. Regrettably it seems unlikely that this will be achieved before Easter which puts it back to mid April. This may mean that a calling notice for the AGM will have to be posted separately to the membership. Nothing has been received from anybody for inclusion although Colin Speakman has said that he would do a note on the 25th Anniversary of the Dales Way.

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3) A suggestion was made that a weekend meet be arranged early in September 1994 with accommodation to be arranged at Cam Houses. This has to be noted in the Spring Newsletter. As it will be quite impossible to finalise details for this it will have to be limited to a request for interested members to make contact. Full details can be sent to them at a later date. Suggested weekends are September 3/4 or September 10/11.

11. Date for next Meeting.

In fact this is the AGM arranged for Saturday 23rd April. Arrangements will be exactly as for the 1993 AGM although Colin Speakman will lead the morning walk.

The next ordinary Committee meeting will be on **Thursday, October 6th 1994.**

David Smith  
14 March 1994