
Minutes of a Dales Way Association Committee Meeting.

This Meeting took place on **Sunday 6th December 1998** at 1.30 pm in 67 Grove Road, Ilkley.

Present:- Martin Collison, Pat Hickman, David Smith, Colin Speakman, Ken & Margaret Staines.

The Meeting was chaired by Colin Speakman.

1. **Apologies** from Joan & Russel Jmieson and Frank Sanderson.
2. **Minutes** of the previous meeting held on 19th September were agreed to be a true record.
3. **Arisings from the Minutes.** There was nothing that is not covered elsewhere in the Agenda.
4. **Officers Reports.**

Sales

Margaret Staines reported steady, but unspectacular, sales either directly or through the Lake District Park Centre. David Smith stated that total receipts from sales so far in the financial year were £1,758 although actual profit was of course only a relatively small percentage of this. Of this total some £440 had come from sales by the Lakes National Park (including badges which are sold directly to them). Sales were clearly making a significant contribution to the Association funds as well as promoting its presence. (Note that figures in this paragraph do not include significant additional sales reported by Margaret Staines at the meeting and cheques handed to the Treasurer at that time).

Footpath.

Pat Hickman reported on a meeting held with Bradford Council representatives near Lobwood House to resolve the problem finger post which was misleading to walkers arriving at the road from Addingham direction. This was resolved satisfactorily. The misleading 'finger' will be sawn off and it will be clearly indicated that the route goes back left at that point so as to enter the drive of the House.

Pat was also in touch with the National Park to try and get clarification on the position in the forestry above Cam Houses which was still reported to be impassable.

David Smith reported that the new length of path avoiding the dangerous road walking near Cleabarrow was presently being constructed and could well be completed by the time of the meeting. This followed the side of the wall away from the road and lay between it and a new fence. Access at both ends was by stiles. A publicity meeting had been arranged on site by Clare Owen. This was attended by the local Press and Radio together with ourselves and other interested parties. The responses all round, including from local people, was very positive. Our contribution to the cost was money well spent. It remains to ascertain whether this will have right of way status or just be permissive.

This leaves the remaining dangerous road which has to be followed heading from Brigflatts towards the Lune. A report from Rae Lonsdale about this had appeared in the Autumn Newsletter and Pat Hickman agreed to follow this up.

David Smith had viewed work on the route upstream from Burnsall with Ann Quigley of the Millenium Trust. A stretch had now been completed and has had to be constructed in concrete although this is coloured dark. It is not yet continuous, but should enable a circuit round by the Church to be open for wheelchairs etc in the foreseeable future. Eventually it is hoped that disabled access will extend to the suspension bridge.

Unfortunately David Smith had been unable to regain contact with the new owner of Cam Houses, so it looked as if this would not be able to be listed for accommodation in the 1999 Handbook. Contact had been made with the new owner of the Jolly Angler in Burneside. It seemed certain that the accommodation here would be steadily improved.

Financial.

David Smith reported Membership to remain at almost 400 with new Members appreciably greater than those not rejoining in the year to date. 111 Members now paid subscriptions by Bank Standing Order.

There was little to report on the financial side beyond the encouraging Sales performance detailed above. The total amount held in the two Bank Accounts was now over £4,500.

5. **Dales Way Seats.** In the absence of Frank Sanderson there was little to report except that the matter remained unresolved. It was hoped that Frank would be able to report at the next meeting.
6. **Accommodation List on the Internet.** This is now nearly up and running and will include reference to the Association. It is run by Simon Pitts who is now a Member of the Association. Although he is running this through his own Company, he has appeared to be very constructive and it is hoped that we will be able to cooperate in the future to the benefit of the Association. Possibly it could develop as an electronic version of the Handbook. It was however not thought that it represented any significant threat to sales of the Handbook. For the moment we wait to look at it when it comes on line.
7. **1999 Handbook.** This important item was omitted from the agenda in error and is inserted here. Douglas Cossar & David Smith will meet early in the New Year to put together changes and new information needed. Closing date for inclusion is the end of this year. It looks as if the new feature of paid for advertisements for 'Service' providers was being a success with two full page and one half page already taken up bringing in £100. Others had expressed a strong interest and were expected to take up the offer. (This included Paul Hannon). This facility is only open to Members and the rate is £40 for a full page and pro rata. This feature will add an extra sheet to the Handbook (ie 4 x A5 sides). The route amendment section would be growing and most information would have to be repeated into the indefinite future. David Smith moaned about the usual chore of extracting subscriptions from some accommodation providers. Apart from those known to no longer offer B & B there are about ten who are being sent final letters.
8. **Any Other Business.**

David Smith reported that it was becoming almost impractical to produce the biannual Newsletter manually. The quantity of about 500 copies (4,000 sides!!) was really too much for photo copying and stapling etc. Unfortunately such a print run was a bit short for economical professional printing. However it was agreed that the extra cost of this would almost certainly have to be accepted. The present cost is about £160 an issue (excluding postage) which would be roughly doubled if printed. On the plus side the standard would be improved. The present subscription rates comfortably cover the increased cost per Member.
9. **Date & Place for 1999 AGM & Next Meeting.**

The AGM is to be on **Sunday, 9th May**. Probably at Linton.

The next ordinary meeting will be on **Sunday 21st March**. Frank as yet to be asked, but if possible it would be at the Bowness end.

David Smith