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## Minutes of the Eighth Annual General Meeting of the Dales Way Association

This Meeting took place on **Sunday 8th May 2000** at 1.30 pm in Linton Village Hall.

**Present:-** Pam & Jeff Appleton, John Dent, Paul Haxby, Pat Hickman, Keith James, Chris Musson, David Smith, Colin Speakman, Ken & Margaret Staines. The Meeting was chaired by Colin Speakman.

1. **Apologies** from Douglas Cossar & Joan & Russel Jamieson.
2. **Minutes** of the 2000 AGM were agreed to be a true record.
3. **Arising from the AGM Minutes.**

The situation at the Quaker Meeting House at Farfield was queried. David Smith reported that the site of the proposed picnic area had been cleared for a long while now. However future action is unknown and David Smith is to contact those concerned to find out what action is now proposed. It was agreed that it could be worthwhile to propose that a 'stile' be created onto the road so the Dales Way would cross this directly into the picnic area.

Interpretative Board at Ilkley Old Bridge. Consideration of this had temporarily been put aside pending an investigation into the feasibility of creating a common design that could be used at a number of suitable sites along the walk.

4. The **Minutes** of the last ordinary Committee Meeting were considered and will be agreed at the next such meeting.
5. The only **matter arising** from the ordinary minutes was the disappointing absence from the AGM of two volunteers who had contacted David Smith expressing quite keen interest in joining the Committee. These were Chris Firth and Kevin Ogden. David Smith will contact them to see if they remain interested.
6. **President's Report.** In the absence of the President, Frank Sanderson, Colin Speakman presented a report on the past year. Firstly he expressed thanks for all Committee Members who had carried out so much valuable work furthering the cause of the Association. He stressed the significant progress that had been achieved and singled out in particular the important meeting that had been held with the Yorkshire Dales National Park. This had shown that at last their and our aspirations for the Dales Way were similar and that real progress would be made in the future.
7. **Officers Reports.**

**Sales.** Margaret Staines reported that sales had been slow over the winter months - the best months in the year being June & July. Sales by the Tourist Office at Bowness were disappointing. The latter had still not resolved the problem of a significant amount of stock that they had mislaid. They did however accept that they had received this and it is hoped that this can be cleared up before much longer - even if we just have to invoice them for the total amount lost. Overall sales continued to make a very worthwhile contribution to the finances of the Association.

**Footpath.** Pat Hickman submitted her report which is attached as an addendum to these minutes. The only additional matters regarded Brackensgill Bridge in Dentdale. After some discussion it was agreed that this would in future be regarded as the official line for the Dales Way. Pat is to notify the Park of the decision and David Smith will notify guide book writers etc. It was confirmed that the way through the forestry above Cam

Houses could now be followed, although the track was not in an ideal condition. It was confirmed that work that had been seen on the path between Ilkley and Addingham was indeed for the provision of a path on the line of the definitive right of way.

**Membership & Finance.** David Smith reported the current membership to have risen to 479. However 109 renewal notices for Quarter 2 would be sent out in the next few weeks. Assuming just 50% rejoined (normal) this would bring the total down to about 425. Long term commitment to the Association was indicated by 144 Members who paid by Standing Order.

There was little to report on the financial side. Income and Expenditure had been generally similar to previous years with a surplus in the region of £2,000. Stock was currently a little on the high side due to recent reordering and the need to have two stocks - one held by the Tourist Office in Bowness. The cost of photo copying was down - but this was due to the Spring 2000 Newsletter being produced later than previously.

8. **Election of Officers & Committee.** There being no other nominations, all the existing Officers & Committee Members were re elected for the current year. These were as listed in the AGM Agenda. However, although remaining on the Committee, Margaret Staines is having to relinquish the handling of Sales. We are very grateful that Joan Jamieson has agreed to take this on. The change over will be agreed between them. One advantage of the change is that Joan & Russell live on the Dales Way and will be able to promote sales 'on the ground'. David Smith will arrange the printing of new Order Forms with changed address. Before doing this however he asked that the opportunity be taken to review pricing.

9. **Any Other Business.**

David Smith reported on a new Member who handled Maps and Guide Books and offered Members a 10% discount on these. This will be noted in the Autumn Newsletter and they will probably have an advert in future Handbooks.

David Smith will be contacting Committee Members with suggested dates for the next ordinary Committee meeting in the next month or so.

David Smith