

# MINUTES OF A DALES WAY ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING

The meeting took place on Sunday 15th September, 2002 at 2.00pm at 67 Grove Road, Ilkley.

Present: Colin Speakman, David Smith, Douglas Cossar, Chris. Musson, Pat Hickman, Pauline Robertshaw and Margaret & Ken Staines.

1. Apologies: Frank Sanderson, Rita Smith and Pam Knowles-Fitton.

Colin opened the meeting by welcoming Pauline Robertshaw to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting (AGM) were agreed to be a true record.

3. Matters arising: These are covered later on.

4. Correspondence: A letter from Dalesman Publishing was read concerning future sales of Colin's new Dalesway guide. It was decided to take up their offer of directly selling them postage free to our members. We would advertise this in our newsletters. Members to quote their membership number when contacting them.

5. Officers' reports:

**Membership:** Building up after the Foot & Mouth crisis. David believes we are at a record high with 468 members of which approximately 100 are accommodation providers. There has been 84 new members this year. Only 45 have not renewed. It is believed the two relaunches and the new leaflet have made a difference. More leaflets were available for distribution.

**Finance:** The accounts are substantially influenced by the cost of relaunches and the printing of the leaflets at a cost of £2000. Cash to hand is £8611.99. With subs and donations coming in we should break even by the end of the year. David provided a breakdown.

**Sales:** Picking up again, sales to date total £805 - purchases for re-sale total £414. Rita Smith is now handling sales at Dent Stores, a report and cash from her was handed to David, this not being included in the above figures. This arrangement seems to be working well. David will contact Rita in the near future. As there is no price increase for sweatshirts etc. in the near future it was decided to use up the altered order forms. Douglas reported he has nearly sold out of handbooks. Northern Map Distributors recently asked for another 60. Douglas kept 25 in case of emergency. i.e. 1200 handbooks have been distributed. David also has a few. 2/3 per week go out via David.

**Footpath:** Pat has arranged the annual meeting with the YDNP at Grassington on Thursday 26th September. Pat will contact us with the time. Suggestions for the agenda were: Waymarking at Brackensgill, National Trails Trust, Dales Way map monitoring, Grassington diversion, and road walking at Hubberholme, Oughtershaw and Lincoln's Inn. Pat received confirmation of new footpath diversion at Grassington now in operation and also the railway crossing at Grayrigg Foot. We felt the Grassington diversion was not working well, especially as there is already a green lane which could be used. Andy Riley has been involved in a survey of the Dales Way. A form will go out with every Harvey map. Feedback will be sent to David.

6. **National Trails Trust:** The Countryside Agency is thinking of setting up a National Trails Trust. Interested parties include County Councils and National Trail Associations. David contacted them to ask if we could participate and made the point that the Dales Way should be a National Trail. David received a report of their meeting. Present National Trails are to be sorted out, after which new ones will be considered. David will respond to the report. The Countryside Agency would give all monies designated for National Trails to the National Trails Trust

**Any other business:** It was agreed it would be useful to look into having our own Website. We are to contact a new firm called 'Daelnet' regarding setting one up. Chris showed interest in keeping it up to date. Pauline mentioned the website [walk.yorkshire.dot.com](http://walk.yorkshire.dot.com). did not mention the Dales Way. Colin thought it was because they may charge a large amount for inclusion. Speakman Gemmel guide - Even though Colin has donated his interest in guide to the Dales Way, it does need updating. There are enough copies left to last this year only. Much discussion is needed before a new guide can be printed. Colin to report back. David was asked to send an updated list of committee members to everyone. Colin has discovered a file dating back to the beginning of the Dales Way. Margaret was asked to put it in order.

As there was no other business, Colin was thanked for his hospitality and the meeting was closed.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER, 2002 AT 67 GROVE ROAD, ILKLEY AT 1.30pm.