

## **MINUTES OF DALES WAY ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

**The meeting took place at 1.30pm on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2005 at 67, Grove Road, Ilkley.**

**Present:** Colin Speakman, David Smith, Douglas Cossar, Chris Musson, Alex McManus, Pat Hickman, Ken & Margaret Staines.

**Apologies:** Frank Sanderson, Bill Griffiths.

**Minutes of last meeting:** There is one amendment under the heading Finance - £1500 should read £10,400

**Matters arising from last minutes:** a) Our new handbook is available now, copies were given out at the meeting. 970 out of the 1000 printed have already gone out. b) AGM is all in hand. Linton Village Hall has been booked for the 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2005 at 1.30pm. The Agenda is shown in the new newsletter.

**Correspondence:** None

**Officers' reports:** a) **Sales** – David is still handling the sales and coping well enough but we must keep looking for someone to take on this job. b) **Footpath** – Pat had nothing to report. The way finding problem through Cam Fell Forest was once again broached. David said he would put up some 'Dalesway' waymarks diagonally through the forest to try and keep walkers on route. A letter had been received from Kate Rhodes via Ranger Phil Richards. Kate Rhodes reported a problem with the footpath near Gamsworth Farm, Barden Bridge. The National Park is working on a regeneration project in the area at the present time, so hopefully the problem will solve itself. c) **Membership** – we have approx. 435 members, a reasonable amount of new members make up this number. d) **Finance** – it is nearly the end of year and detailed accounts will be available at the AGM. Because of the Grant we received, our outlay for the Interpretation Boards, posters and postcards was only £109. We spent £600 on the new leaflets. £9078 total in accounts. There is no need to increase subscriptions. e) **Web Secretary** – on the 17<sup>th</sup> February David and Chris visited Phil Barlow at GDK to discuss alterations to our Website. The alterations are now on our Website. Accommodation Providers have been updated. Chris was not sure if there is a charge for these alterations. We are linked to the YHA who will pay us a commission for everyone who joins the YHA via our Website. The Sales page needs looking at as its format is very amateurish. Eagle Publishing has asked to be linked to us. Chris is able to add news items and new Links but cannot make alterations or changes to the main body of the site, these have to be done by GDK. Douglas commented the local Ramblers Association needs to be shown.

**Accommodation Providers:** There was no representative at the meeting. David reported the increase to £10 subscription for Accommodation Providers has been a disaster. It has

created a lot of work with Standing Orders and we have lost some because of it. When the next reminders go out we could lose more. After much discussion it was decided to reverse the decision as we did not need the money and we are giving a service to members. The decision to keep the Accommodation Providers in line with other members at £4 was proposed by Douglas and seconded by David. It was a unanimous decision taken by the whole committee.

**New addresses:** A list of new Accommodation Providers addresses has been made and letters will be sent out very soon. Margaret & Ken are to keep the list of Accommodation Providers and will make any amendments during the year ready for insertion in the next handbook.

**Interpretation Boards:** A photograph of the Harrogate Board in situ was passed round the meeting. Ilkley is already in place, Leeds will be erected in April, Alan Hulme has passed three Boards on to his Wardens ready for erection and Bradford will be erected in the very near future. An e-mail was received from Frank stating that Windermere Town Council have backed having a Board erected somewhere in Bowness. Frank has written to the National Park asking for it to be erected in Bowness, but has not received a reply to date. A4 copies of the posters were passed round the meeting, it was agreed to go ahead with getting quotes for these and also quotes for reprinting the postcards. The last of the postcards for the B&B's will be delivered at the beginning of April.

**User Survey:** Douglas agreed to sit, possibly at Beckermonds, and talk to Dales Way walkers during the week 20<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> June. He will speak to Alan Hulme re costs. Volunteers are required – 2 people minimum a day. The questionnaire needs amending to make it shorter.

**Any other business:** Proof of the new Speakman Gemmel Guide was available at the meeting. Most of the proof reading has been completed and Douglas took on board one or two comments made and will amend accordingly.

**Date and time of next meeting is the AGM on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May at Linton Village Hall at 1.30pm.**

Everyone was thanked for attending the meeting. Colin closed the meeting at 4.15pm. Our thanks to Colin and Fleur for their hospitality.