

MINUTES OF THE DALES WAY ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING

held at 2.00 pm on Saturday 10 January 2009 in the St Chads Parish Centre, Leeds

- 1 Present:** D. Cossar, W.K. Griffiths, A. McManus, C. Speakman, S. Taylor, R. Thornton, N Trask.
- 1 Apologies:** C. Musson, P Robertshaw, F.Sanderson.
- 2 Minutes of the last meeting** held on 5 October 2008 were accepted.
- 3 Matters Arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere:**
- The Chairman reported that he would try to get additional publicity for the Anniversary Celebrations in the 'Dalesman' and the magazine of the Yorkshire Dales Society
- 4 General Secretary's Report:**
The report concentrated on the arrangements for the Anniversary Celebrations. The dates for the walks are: 24 April, 16 May, 6 June, 17 June, 11 July, 25 July, 25 August, 12 September.
- *It was decided* that it would be best to offer hot drinks at the village hall at Bolton Abbey at the end of the first walk on Saturday 25 of April. Lunch would be the customary "DIY" and would be followed by the AGM. A small exhibition about the Dales Way would also be mounted.
 - Details would be given in the April Newsletter.
 - Timely additional publicity about the Anniversary walks would be contained in handouts distributed at the A.G.M of the West Riding RA.
- 5 Treasurer's Report:(circulated)**
Finances: Between August and December 2008, the income (£1532.31) was £206.21 less than the expenditure. Most of this expenditure was due to postage costs. There was additional expenditure for the new DW sign and in the setting up of the new membership records based on an industry standard system using XCL software. It was noted that postage costs when communicating with each of the 12 members overseas was greater than their individual subscriptions but *the Committee decided* that the Association would cover these costs. It also noted that it was much cheaper to buy and stick stamps rather than uses a franking system. *It was recommended* to buy stamps in advance of the forthcoming increase in prices. .
- Banking:** The name of the deposit account had been established although the bank had not as yet provided details. It was expected that these would be available with the statement due in April.
- Membership:** There were 479 members.
The committee expressed its thanks particularly for the work in setting up the database.
- 6 Web Master's Report: (Circulated).** The large number of hits to the DW website may be attributable to the intention of people to take more home based holidays. The fees payable to QDK were noted.
- 7 Footpath Officer's Report:(circulated)**
Of particular note was the feeling that the availability of a footpath between Lob Wood and Bolton Bridge was a very distant prospect and that Bradford City Council had deferred a decision on the proposal to utilize the old railway route as a cycle

route/footpath between Ilkley and Bolton Bridge. There was still strong opposition to this plan from landowners including the Devonshire Estate.

A new footpath had been waymarked through the forest at Cam Houses.

The Footpath Officer would contact a member of the Ilkley Parish Council who had expressed concern about the fading of the DW board at the Old Bridge. The possibility of providing a new board, better sited would be explored.

8 Handbook:

- Only about 15% of accommodation providers had sent details of their new prices to the Editor and it was decided to highlight these entries in the new edition of the Handbook and use the 2008 details for the other providers.
- In the future the Treasurer will send a pro-forma to accommodation providers and advertisers.
- Douglas Cossar will give to the General Secretary details of the organizations that have taken copies of the Handbook in previous years.
- The General Secretary will arrange receipt of the new Handbook from the same printers that have produced earlier editions.
- No conclusion was reached on whether to keep the current price of £2.
- The current editor Rhona Thornton indicated her wish to retire from this role after the production of the 2009 Handbook. Douglas Cossar indicated that he would be prepared to resume that role.

9 Future meetings:

Date of the next Committee Meeting:

It was decided that it was unnecessary to hold a committee meeting before the AGM though the meetings of the sub committee to plan the anniversary celebrations could deal with any unexpected matters.

Date of the 2009 AGM:

Saturday April 25 2009 at 2.00 p.m. in the village hall at Bolton Abbey.

Any Other Business:

- The Meetings Secretary would be unable to be present at the AGM and the General Secretary agreed to act in his place.
- The Meetings Secretary reaffirmed his intention to stand down not later than the 2010 AGM. He drew attention to the fact that it would be to the benefit of the Association if steps were taken to find a new secretary before that 2010 date.
- It was agreed that St Chads was a good location of as a meeting place for the committee and that the cost was quite acceptable.

The meeting closed at 16.15